



**American Shire Horse Association**  
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## Registration Rules

### I. Registration Eligibility

- A. Horses shall be eligible for registration with the American Shire Horse Association (ASHA) provided that:
  - 1. The sire and dam are registered with ASHA, Canadian Shire Horse Association (CSHA), Shire Horse Society (SHS), or Shire Horse Society of Australia (SHSA). If the dam has an A-, B- or GR- number or is among the approved dams of ½ Shires, only filly foals and geldings are eligible.
  - 2. Current ownerships of the sire and dam are properly recorded with the registry in which each horse is registered.
  - 3. If the horse is to be registered as a gray, at least one parent must be registered as a gray and it must qualify genetically as a gray (See also II.B.3.); and
  - 4. Blood or DNA types have been recorded with ASHA in accordance with the requirements established by the board.
- B. Registration of the horse is the responsibility of its first owner (the recorded owner or lessee of its dam at the time of foaling).
- C. Horses may also be registered under the rules of Section XI.

### II. Registration Requirements

- A. Applications
  - 1. All applications for registration must be accurately completed on the current ASHA form, signed by the recorded owner(s) or lessee(s) of the dam at the time of foaling, and submitted with the appropriate fee.
  - 2. Every application for registration must include either:
    - a) The certificate of breeding signed by the stallion handler (and the recorded owner or lessee of the stallion at the time of breeding, if not the handler), or
    - b) A frozen semen certificate properly signed by the owner or lessee of the stallion at the time of collection and by the owner of the dam at the time of insemination, or
    - c) The mare must appear on the relevant stallion report filed by the stallion or semen owner, with the release of breeding initialed.
  - 3. Every application for the registration of a gelding shall indicate the date on which the horse was gelded.
- B. Blood or DNA typing:

ASHA recognizes the Veterinary Genetics Laboratory (VGL) as its subject matter expert relating to genetic issues such as, but not limited to, color or

parentage verification. ASHA will not enter animals into its studbook prior to parentage being verified to the satisfaction of VGL.

1. Blood or DNA types shall be recorded at the owner's expense in accordance with the requirements established by the board of directors. Blood or DNA typing is required for the registration of:
  - a. Any foal born after 1981 and resulting from embryo transfer and its sire and dam.
  - b. Any foal born after 1981 and resulting from artificial insemination when the stallion and mare were not close enough to breed naturally, and its sire and dam.
  - c. All foals born January 1, 1989 and after, prior to registration.
  - d. Sires of all foals born after January 1, 1990 and after, prior to the registration of those foals; foals must qualify as an offspring of the sire.
  - e. Dams of all foals born after January 1, 1990 and after, prior to the registration of those foals; foals must qualify as an offspring of the dam and of the mating.
2. If the blood or DNA type of a sire or dam is not available, other evidence sufficient to qualify a horse as the offspring of a specific mating may be substituted for the usual verification of parentage. Such evidence may be derived from analysis of blood and/or DNA types of a sufficient number of siblings. All costs associated with such verification, including any costs for blood or DNA types of the parent or siblings are the responsibility of the person applying for the registration of the horse. The blood or DNA type results must be acceptable to the laboratory doing ASHA blood or DNA typing work.
3. The cost of one blood or DNA kit and its processing is included in the application fee for registration of a horse. The kits are barcoded for identification and may only be used for the horse which they are ordered. In the case of a horse to be registered as a gray, the cost of the gray color test is included so long as one parent is registered as a gray.
  - a. If a kit is lost by the applicant, there will be a charge for sending a replacement kit.
  - b. Due to the unique barcoding, if the kit is not used for the horse for which it was ordered, it cannot be transferred to another horse.
4. All blood types and DNA analysis shall be permanently recorded with ASHA, are the property of ASHA and may be used as ASHA determines appropriate.

C. Embryo Transfer:

1. There is no restriction on the number of foals per year which may be registered from a single donor mare.

### III. Registered Names

- A. The registered name of a horse may not be changed once it has been recorded with ASHA.

- B. Previously registered names may not be duplicated.
- C. Horses accepted into the ASHA studbook on the basis of prior registration with another registry must be registered with ASHA using the same name.

#### **IV. Registered Prefixes**

- A. Members may submit to the secretary prefixes for their exclusive use or the use of others with the submitting member's (or members') written permission in the registration of horses.

#### **V. Certificate of Registration**

- A. The original certificate of registration will be issued in the name of the person(s) or legal entity who was (were) the owner(s) or lessee(s) of the dam at the time of foaling.
- B. A certificate of registration verifies information contained in the records of the ASHA.
- C. ASHA will issue registration numbers in consecutive order, based upon the order in which applications are processed.
- D. Correction of color or markings - the owner of record may return a registration certificate for the correction of incorrectly recorded color(with DNA verified test at owner's expense) or markings(with photo ID proof) at the same fee as is charged for replacement papers, and a re-entry shall be made in the stud book as well. No fee is charged if the error originated in the office. Recorded coat color may be changed only if the owner requesting the change submits genetic confirmation of the requested color change.

#### **VI. Transfer of Recorded Ownership**

- A. A transfer application shall be completed and submitted, with the appropriate fee, upon every change of ownership of a registered horse when the seller wishes to change the owner of record.
- B. The official registration certificate for the horse being transferred must be submitted with the application of transfer.
- C. For transfers, membership of either the seller or the buyer will allow member-rate fees.
- D. Transfers within a family or partnership upon the death of an owner, divorce or dissolution of the partnership are eligible for reduced fees.
- E. When legal title to a registered horse passes to another person by reason of death or the recorded owner, foreclosure of any lien, by any court decree or order, or otherwise under the law, ASHA may transfer the registration of the horse to the new owner upon:
  - a. Court order or other proof of authority for the transfer;
  - b. Payment of the transfer fee; and
  - c. Satisfaction of such other requirements as may be set out by the Association.
- F. The recorded owner of a stallion or frozen semen may file a "Notice of Frozen Semen Transfer" with ASHA when selling multiple units of frozen semen to a buyer. After the date shown on the notice, the buyer will be allowed to sign as stallion owner on registration applications, file stallion service reports, and/or sell some or all of the frozen semen to another buyer.

#### **VII. Sale or Disposal Without Transfer of Registration Certificate**

- A. The recorded owner of a horse may sell the horse without transferring its registration certificate. The recorded owner of any horse sold or disposed of without registration certificate (i.e. sold without papers) shall surrender the certificate to ASHA for cancellation along with a signed written statement.

- B. After cancellation of the registration certificate, it may be reinstated and reissued only upon request of the ASHA recorded owner(s).

### **VIII. Replacement Registration Certificates**

- A. A replacement certificate may be issued to the recorded owner of a horse upon submission of a notarized statement regarding the loss of original papers and payment of appropriate fees.
- B. With issuance of a replacement certificate, all prior certificates for the horse are declared null and void.

### **IX. Reports**

- A. Death - the death of a registered horse should be recorded in Digital Horse (or by ASHA Registrar.) The registration certificate should be sent to the Registrar, but will be returned to the owner upon request following the recording of death.
- B. Castration - Castration of any registered stallion should be recorded in Digital Horse (or by the ASHA Registrar). The registration certificate should be sent to the ASHA registrar with information regarding the date of castration; it will be returned to the recorded owner stamped "Gelded" unless a new certificate is to be issued as the result of a transfer.
- C. Lease Agreements
  - a. To be recognized by ASHA, all lease agreements must be filed with ASHA showing registered name and number of the horse being leased, names and addresses of lessor(s) and lessee(s) clearly typed or printed, beginning and ending dates of the lease, and the personal signatures of the lessor(s) and lessee(s), along with the appropriate fees.
  - b. Unless otherwise specified in the recorded lease, the lessee(s) shall be considered the recorded owner(s) of a foal born to a leased mare during the term of the lease. Therefore the beginning and ending dates of any lease should conform to the intended ownership of such a foal.
  - c. A sub-lease will be recorded only upon the recorded owner(s) written consent to the sub-lease.

### **X. Registry Fees**

- A. Fees for registry services shall be set by the board of directors.
- B. Registrations or transfers will not be completed until fees are correctly submitted.
- C. If at any time fees submitted are less than required for the desired transaction, ASHA will allow 120 days for submission of the proper fees. If correct fees have not been submitted within 120 days, any increase in fees which would have applied has the transaction been started after the 120 days, shall apply.
- D. If a member and a non-member jointly own a horse, member fees shall apply.
- E. Delays in receiving documentation for SHS, CSHA or SHSA, only, shall not cause an increase in fees, provided the remainder of the application is complete and correct.

### **XI. Inter-Association Registration Rule**

- A. All horses eligible for registration under this rule must be properly registered with the CSHA, SHS or SHSA in the name(s) of the applicant(s) for ASHA papers.
- B. In the case of foreign-registered notified colts, whose sire and dam are properly registered with the foreign country, a signed registration application from these registries may substitute for the signature of the breeder when submitted in conjunction with a

properly completed ASHA application and DNA type information, rather than a completed foreign registration as required under Section XII.A.

- C. The original CSHA, SHS or SHSA papers in the name(s) of the applicant(s) must be submitted with the ASHA application form.
  - a. The original SHS papers shall be returned to the owner, cross-referenced to the new ASHA registration number.
  - b. The original CSHA or SHSA papers shall be returned to the CSHA or SHSA office, cross-referenced to the new ASHA registration number.
- D. The applicant must also submit a copy of the horse's blood or DNA typing record from an ISAG-recognized laboratory (International Society of Animal Genetics). If parentage verification has not been completed as part of the foreign registration, it must be completed for ASHA registration. Should blood or DNA typing kits be required to complete parentage verification, standard costs for these kits will be charged.
- E. The fee to be paid by the applicant shall be the same fee paid by a breeder registering a foal prior to June 1 of the year following its birth, plus appropriate fees for entering its or its parents' blood or DNA type into the database at the Veterinary Genetics Laboratory at UC Davis if necessary.
- F. When a horse is accepted on the basis of its prior registration in another registry, its registration number in that other registry shall be shown in square brackets [for CSHA], parentheses (for SHS) or braces {for SHSA}, immediately following the horse's name on the registration certificate. Numbers of other foreign-registered horses in a horse's pedigree need not be shown if those horses also have an ASHA number. Verbal descriptions of foreign-registered horses shall be repeated in ASHA descriptions.

## **XII. Shire Sporthorse Registry**

- A. Qualifying Parents
  - a. The Shire parent must be registered with ASHA, CSHA, SHS, or SHSA.
  - b. The non-Shire parent must be a horse between 700 and 1400 lbs.
  - c. The applicant sport-horse must qualify to the Shire parent using DNA parentage verification; it must qualify to the non-Shire parent using DNA, or a penalty fee equal to the DNA fee will be assessed.
- B. Ownership
  - a. Shire Sporthorse registration papers shall show the dam's owner at the time of foaling as the first owner of a registered Shire Sporthorse.
  - b. Transfers shall be recorded with the Shire Sporthorse Registry at every change of ownership; however there will be no additional fee for transfers recorded at the time of registration.
- C. Offspring of registered Shire Sporthorses are not eligible for registration with ASHA.

## **XIII. General**

- A. The date of physical transfer of possession should generally be recorded as the transfer date or beginning date of a lease.
- B. Multiple ownerships (or lessees) require all signatures whenever the personal signatures of recorded owners or lessees are required. Multiple ownerships of horses shall be recorded as "A and B," not "A or B."
- C. The signature of an agent may be submitted for those of the recorded owner(s) or lessee(s) only if there is on file with ASHA a statement authorizing such substitution, signed by all recorded owners or lessees.

- D. When a legal entity is to be shown as recorded owner of a horse, that entity must provide ASHA with:
  - a. Proof of legal status by separate tax ID number, or other legal documentation (partnership agreement, trust documentation, etc), and
  - b. A notarized document with the signature of the individual authorized to do business on behalf of the entity.
  - c. If the entity holds a membership, member rates shall apply.
- E. Horses may not be recorded under the ownership of a farm or business name that is not a legal entity.
- F. Any member may appeal to the board in writing in case of hardship caused by strict application of these rules.
- G. Whenever a hardship appeal involves a missing signature otherwise required under these rules, a notarized "Affidavit Regarding Waiver of Signature" must be provided to the ASHA office.

### **Grading-up Program**

(Note: the following section of these rules may be modified only by a vote of the membership)  
The following requirements for entry into the grading-up registry apply to **female** Shire offspring. Only stud colts from purebred, registered Shire mares and registered Shire stallions qualify for stallion registration in the American Shire Horse Association Stud Book. A registry is also maintained for  $\frac{3}{4}$  Shire (A prefix number),  $\frac{7}{8}$  Shire (B prefix number), 15/16 Shire (C prefix number), and purebred Shire geldings.

- A.  $\frac{1}{2}$ -Shire registration - A mare qualifying for  $\frac{1}{2}$ -Shire registration (GR Prefix number) must be sired by a registered Shire stallion and be out of a grade mare or a registered mare from another draft breed, either of which mares is required to stand at least 16 hands in height and weight at least 1600 lbs. A signed statement from any licensed veterinarian certifying the dam's height and weight as recorded, and also a weight slip, must have been filed with the Registrar on or before December 31, 1991. In the case of a dam unable to meet the height and weight requirements herein set forth, an exception may be granted at the discretion of any member of the board of directors, after that person has inspected the dam and has ascertained that she is an acceptable draft type. A signed statement by the inspecting board member must have been filed with the Registrar on or before December 31, 1991. An application for  $\frac{1}{2}$ -Shire (GR prefix) registration of the dam's female offspring may then be submitted for processing. In no case will an application submitted for  $\frac{1}{2}$ -Shire (GR prefix) registration be approved unless the signed statement certifying the dam's eligibility as set forth in this rule is filed with the Registrar on or before December 31, 1991. An imported mare with  $\frac{1}{2}$ -Shire registration papers issued by the SHS of England is also eligible for entry into the grading-up program as  $\frac{1}{2}$ -Shire.
- B.  $\frac{3}{4}$  Shire Registration - A mare qualifying for  $\frac{3}{4}$ -Shire registration (A prefix number) must be out of a dam registered as  $\frac{1}{2}$  Shire and be sired by a registered Shire stallion. An imported mare with  $\frac{3}{4}$ -Shire registration papers issued by the Shire Horse Society of England is also eligible for entry into the grading-up program as a  $\frac{3}{4}$ -Shire.
- C.  $\frac{7}{8}$  Shire Registration - A mare qualifying for  $\frac{7}{8}$ -Shire registration (B prefix number) must be out of a dam registered as a  $\frac{3}{4}$ -Shire and be sired by a registered Shire stallion.

- D. A mare out of a registered  $\frac{7}{8}$ -Shire mare and sired by a registered Shire stallion qualifies for full registration.
- E. Mares out of imported dams that have been registered as  $\frac{3}{4}$ -Shire with the Shire Horse Society of England and sired by a registered Shire stallion also qualify for full registration.
- F. Mares registered as  $\frac{3}{4}$  or  $\frac{7}{8}$ -Shire may be shown alongside purebred Shire mares.