

Rules and Regulations

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1. Registry & Stud book

Establishment

- 1) Establishment: The Committee shall oversee the Registry and Stud Book of the Association, with all falling under the supervision of the Registrar, as directed by the Committee.
- 2) Open Registry: The ASEA Registries and Stud Book of the Australian Small Equine Association Inc. will be accessible to eligible horses in the following categories:
 - (a) Temporary registration: Applicable to horses aged from 0 to under 48 months.
 - (b) Permanent Registration: Applicable to horses 48 months and older.

For the purposes of these Rules, an eligible horse is one that complies with the Association's standards and meets the specified Breed, Registration and Height requirements outlined in the Rules and Regulations of ASEA.

- 3) Height Limitations: Horses shall not remain registered with this Association if their height exceeds the specified requirements at any time.
- 4) Temporary and Permanent Registration: Horses/Ponies will receive temporary certificates of registration from birth until they reach the age of 48 months. Upon achieving permanent status at 48 months, a permanent registration certificate will be issued.
- 5) Fee Structure: The Committee will propose a schedule of fees to the Annual General Meeting. The Committee will also periodically determine the fees and charges for registration, certificate issuance, and the provision of any other Association-related instruments or documents for both Members and Non-Members.

2. Branding and micro-chipping

- 1) All horses registered with the Association must adhere to the Association's regulations and comply with the Stock (Brands and Movement) Act applicable in the country. Regarding branding:
 - (a) The near-side shoulder should bear the registered brand of the Breeder or Stud who owns the horse at the time of birth.
 - (b) The off-side shoulder should display two numerals, one above the other, indicating the foal's birth order among others from the same Breeder or Stud during the same breeding season (e.g., 1 for the first foal) and the breeding season represented by the number below (e.g., 9 for the 1999 breeding season, covering August 1, 1999, to July 31, 2000). This system enables distinguishing horses born years apart but sharing the same breeding season number.
- 2) Branding requirements can be fulfilled through traditional branding or an optional microchip implant following approved veterinary practice, provided the microchip adheres to legislative branding requirements.
- 3) Horses must undergo branding or micro-chipping before being sold and must include either a microchip number or brand in the transfer of sale form.
- 4) Horses under 12 months of age are exempt from the branding or micro-chipping requirement before participating in shows.

3. Measurement of Horses

- 1) For the purpose of registration, horse measurements can be conducted by the owner, any Regular Member in good standing, or a Registered Veterinary Practitioner. The responsibility lies with the individual performing the measurement, be it the owner or Member, to ensure meticulousness and integrity. The measurer's name, address, and signature must be provided on all applications requesting height measurements. These details may also be documented on the horse's registration certificates for public verification. Any lameness during measurement will result in disqualification.
- 2) In the event of a horse transfer, if the Seller, Leaser, Agent, the Buyer or the Lessee cannot reach a consensus on the height and jointly sign off on it, an impartial measurement by another Member in good standing is mandatory. The National Committee retains the authority to inspect or re-measure any horse/pony at any age and at any given time.

4. Measurement Procedure at a Show

- 1) To accurately verify height using the Last Hair of the Mane method, measure the vertical distance from the base of the last hairs on the mane to the ground. Ensure the front two legs are vertical and parallel to the measuring device, with the back of the hocks aligned vertically with the buttocks. The crosspiece, arm, or bar should make firm contact with the animal, without applying additional pressure. Maintain the head and neck in a natural position, and ensure the animal stands squarely on all four feet. No allowance will be made for excessive foot, and any lameness will result in measurement disqualification.
- 2) **Highest Point of Wither**
For height verification using the Highest Point of Wither method, measure the vertical distance from the highest point of the wither to the ground. Ensure the front two legs are vertical and parallel to the measuring device, with the back of the hocks aligned vertically with the buttocks. The crosspiece, arm, or bar should have firm contact with the animal, without additional pressure. Maintain the head and neck in a natural position, and ensure the animal stands squarely on all four feet. No allowance will be made for excessive foot, and any lameness will disqualify the measurement.
- 3) After the initial measurement, horses may be remeasured no more than two (2) additional times for the same occasion. If the owner disagrees with the second or third measurement, they can either accept the final measurement (with updated papers) or withdraw the horse from the show (retaining original papers). However, if the horse measures over by more than one inch (1"), the papers will be updated regardless.
- 4) All horses, including those with a Permanent Height Card, may be subject to measurement at any ASEA Inc. event, if advised by the Committee.
- 5) Adult horses five (5) years and older, holding a Height Recording Card, are exempt from measurement at ASEA Inc. shows post-issuance of the height card (unless otherwise advertised by the Committee), provided the Height Recording Card is presented at each show. Permanent Height Cards can only be issued by a measurer nominated by the National Committee and witnessed by two others, one of whom is another Member nominated by the National Committee.

5. Records

- 1) Individual Personal Requirements - Any individual bound by these Rules and Regulations and may be obligated to furnish information and documents, as determined by the Association, pertaining to horse registration or the transfer of registration certificates.
- 2) Record keeping - Owners of horses must maintain complete and accurate records of breeding, including both hand and pasture breeding, and foaling. These records must be in permanent form and made available to the Association as deemed necessary for horse registration or the transfer of registration certificates.
- 3) Failure to keep or show Records - If the Association finds that no systematic and satisfactory record-keeping plan is in use, or if records are not provided upon the Association's written request, the Association may temporarily refuse registration or transfer of registration certificates for up to forty-five (45) days. During this period, the owner must demonstrate compliance with the Association's request for records. Failure to do so may result in further action by the Society.
- 4) Stallion breeding reports must be submitted to the ASEA Inc office by August 1st of each year. In the event of a breeding stallion's death during the current breeding year a breeding report is still required.
- 5) A properly completed Service Certificate must be issued by the stallion owner to the owner of any mare covered by the stallion on or before August 1st of the breeding season in which the mare was served. Failure to provide a Service Certificate or include relevant details on an annual Stallion breeding report may be grounds for disciplinary action.
- 6) A Certificate of Soundness must be submitted and kept on file with the Society before a stallion is utilized for breeding purposes, competes as a senior stallion at any ASEA event, or applies for permanent registration, whichever comes first.
- 7) Right to Refuse, Deny, or Cancel Registrations - The Association will only accept horses that meet registration qualifications and may refuse, deny, or cancel registration requests under the Constitution. If such action is taken, the Association will notify the person(s) involved or the applicant in writing, allowing them to request a hearing to determine the validity of the action.
 - a) Request for hearing - The request must be in writing, stating all grounds and reasons for determining valid registration, and must be received by the Association within thirty (30) days after receiving the Notice of denial or cancellation
 - b) Burden of proof - In all disciplinary matters, the charged person bears the burden of proof. The applicant or individual seeking registration or a change in registration status must prove the horse's eligibility for registration in ASEA Inc. If no hearing request is received within the required time period, the Association decision stands as final.
- 8) Procedure for Denial or Cancellation of Registration - The Society may propose to deny or cancel the registration of a horse if there are reasonable grounds to believe
 - a) The horse does not meet registration requirements; or
 - b) The horse identified in the registration is not the same as the horse the certificate is issued to or requested for, or
 - c) Any information on the application or registration certificate is determined to be false or incorrect.
- 9) The Association will notify the recorded Owner in writing of any proposal to deny or cancel registration and the reasons supporting it. The recorded Owner has thirty (30) days to provide the ASEA Inc Registry Office with information to prevent denial or cancellation. If the information does not resolve the issue, the decision stands, and the recorded Owner may then request a hearing or appeal in accordance with the Constitution.

6. Registration Procedure

- 1) Prospective applicants are required to fill out, sign, and submit the appropriate ASEA Inc registration application forms, accompanied by two profile photographs—one from the off side and one from the near side—to the ASEA Inc Registry Office. The photographs used for registration must be devoid of any decorations, such as Show Sashes or Garlands, that, in the opinion of the Registry Office, may hinder the complete visualisation of the animal
- 2) Responsibility - The individual who is the owner/lease of the dam at the time of foaling is accountable for registering the foal. If the foal is intended to be registered in the name of a party other than the dam's owner/leasee at the time of foaling, a transfer report and fee are mandatory.
- 3) Horse Naming - The individual who is the owner/lease of the dam at the time of foaling holds the right to name the offspring. The horse's name must not duplicate any other name on the Registry records and must be distinguishable by a prefix or suffix not used by another farm or breeder. The use of names associated with established families, celebrated Miniature Horses, Studs, Prefixes, and Suffixes requires a legitimate ancestral claim. The Committee reserves the right to reject any name deemed misleading, misapplied, or contrary to the Association's interests and/or its members.
- 4) Stud Prefixes - Prefixes and suffixes must be reserved and registered by submitting a request and the requisite fee to the Association. Breeders may not register foals until they have registered a prefix or suffix with the ASEA Inc. All animals seeking registration must carry the original breeder's prefix and registered name if previously registered with another Association or Registry (e.g., AMHA) to prevent dual registration under different names.
- 5) Alteration - Names of horses cannot be altered after registration, other than to correct an error made by the office.
- 6) Breeder - The owner/leasee of the dam at the time of a foal's birth shall be listed as the breeder for all records.
- 7) Temporary Registration - Horses registered temporarily are eligible for permanent status at 48 months of age and must be granted permanent status within six (6) months of eligibility. Failure to do so will result in the revocation of temporary papers
- 8) Term of Temporary Registration - Temporary certificates will bear the following phrase on the front: "This certificate is valid until (date) unless the horse/pony exceeds height for age. Registration will be revoked six months after said date if no application is made for permanent status."
- 9) Reinstatement - Revoked registration papers may be reinstated upon payment of a nominal fee set by the National Committee, provided the horse meets height requirements
- 10) Registration Numbers - The Society will assign registration numbers in sequential order based on the processing order of applications by the Association

7. Registration of imported horses

1. Horses originating from the United States of America or any other foreign country are eligible for registration with ASEA Inc, provided that the following conditions are met:
 - a) They adhere to the height for age guidelines.
 - b) They are presently registered with an overseas association.
 - c) The importer/owner must furnish a copy of the overseas registration, featuring both the front and back to demonstrate parentage and ownership.

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- d) Stallions must possess a current certificate of soundness on ASEA Inc forms, with the exception of colts under the age of 3 years.
- e) Compliance with all other rules outlined in the Rules and Regulations is mandatory.

8. Paperwork

- 1) All details and photographs supplied for Registration and Transfers must be CURRENT, (no older than 60 days prior to being received by the Association).

9. Certificates

- 1) The Association will issue a Certificate of Registration based on information provided on the appropriate form, verifying the eligibility for registration.
- 2) Transfer without Signature of Recorded Owner – In cases where legal ownership of a registered horse is transferred due to the death of the recorded owner, foreclosure of liens, court orders, or other legal means, the Association may transfer the registration to the new owner upon:
 - a) Presentation of a court order or satisfactory proof of authority for transfer;
 - b) Payment of the transfer fee, along with reasonable investigation costs; and
 - c) Fulfilment of any other requirements established by the Association.
- d) General Transfers of Ownership - All transfers of ownership for registered horses must be recorded on the appropriate Association transfer form and submitted, along with the required fee.
- e) Sale without Certificate of Registration - If a registered horse is sold without the certificate of registration, the recorded owner must surrender the certificate to the Association for cancellation.
- 3. Duplicate Certificates - the recorded owner must request and pay the appropriate fee, a duplicate certificate will then be issued.
- 4. Replacement Certificates - To replace a torn, mutilated, soiled, or defaced but identifiable certificate, the recorded owner must submit the original to the Association for identification and pay the replacement certificate fee.
- 5. Certificate Corrections - A recorded owner can request changes in a horse's height, markings, or colour on the certificate by submitting it to the Association with a signed affidavit or statements supporting the corrections. The fee for an amended or corrected certificate is the same as the duplicate certificate fee, unless the correction is due to an administration error by ASEA Inc, in which case there will be no charge.
- 6. After a colt or stallion is gelded, the recorded owner must submit the certificate of registration to the Association along with a gelding certificate from the veterinarian who performed the procedure, and a new certificate will be issued at no charge.
- 7. Cancellation upon Death of a Horse - Upon the death of a registered horse, the Certificate of Registration and a statement signed by the recorded owner indicating the date of death must be submitted to the Association for recording. Upon request, the Association will mark the cancellation on the front of the certificate and return it to the recorded owner.

10. Leases

- 1) In order for a horse lease to be acknowledged by the Association written notice must be lodged with the Association on the appropriate LEASE application form, whether for breeding and/or showing purposes, written notification of its existence must be submitted to ASEA Inc. This notice should be signed by both the Lessor (or their authorised agent) and Lessee (or their authorised agent), accompanied by the specified fee as outlined in the fee schedule. The notice must include the effective start date of the lease and an end date of the lease, as well as the name and registration number of the horse to be leased. Termination can occur earlier than the end date submitted through written notice, specifying the new termination date and signed by both the Lessor and Lessee, or through a properly executed ASEA Inc transfer report indicating a change of ownership from Lessor to Lessee (only), signed by both Lessor and Lessee. Any lease that reaches the submitted end date with both the Lessor and Lessee wanting to continue the Lease, should have a new application form submitted and signed by both the Lessor and Lessee with a new end date. No additional fee will be imposed for termination, whether it occurs automatically or through subsequent notice.
- 2) Recognition - The ASEA Inc will acknowledge only one lease per horse.
- 3) Recordation - Regarding Association procedures, the recordation of a notice of lease grants the Lessee the authority to execute all documents related to recognised breeding and showing activities, irrespective of any limitations stated in any actual private lease agreement. The enforcement of limitations on the horse's use against the Lessee is the sole responsibility of the Lessor. It is strongly advised that both the Lessor and Lessee seek independent legal advice when entering into a lease.
- 4) Transfer of Ownership - Throughout the effective term of the lease, ASEA Inc will not record subsequent changes in ownership until the lease is terminated. Only the Lessee (or their authorised agent) is permitted to sign breeder's certificates, stallion breeding reports, or registration applications related to the leased horse. The lessee shall not be authorised to sign sale transfers.

11. Breeding requirements

- 1) Forty-Two Day Rule - Following the exposure or breeding of a mare, whether through hand or pasture breeding, to a particular stallion, a minimum of forty-two (42) days must transpire before the mare is exposed to a different stallion.
- 2) Pasture Breeding – In pasture breeding, only one colt or stallion aged over 24 months is permitted to run with a mare or a group of mares. Excluding foals yet to be weaned. They must be enclosed by permanent fencing maintained to prevent other stallions from covering a mare.
- 3) Prohibition on Breeding Mares under Two Years - Mares are not allowed to be bred before reaching the age of two years as of their actual date of birth. If this occurs, the resulting progeny will not be eligible for registration until reaching the age of two years based on their actual birth date.
- 4) Stallion Certificate of Soundness - All stallions must possess and have recorded on the ASEA Inc registry a Certificate of Soundness before being used for breeding. If breeding occurs before obtaining the certificate, the resulting progeny will not be eligible for registration until the stallion has been certified as sound, and this information is recorded by the registry.

12. Artificial breeding

1) Artificial Breeding, specifically Artificial Insemination and Embryo Transfer "Fresh, chilled, or frozen," is permitted under strict limits and guidelines established by the Committee of Management. These restrictions include:

a) **Reproduction – Embryo Transfer**

- I. Donor mares face no limitation on the number of foals that can be registered in a year.
- II. Mares may be inseminated via transported fresh cooled semen, frozen semen, or natural service. All mares must be included in the annual Stallion Service Reports with ASEA.
- III. All agreements, guarantees, and representations are strictly between the stallion owner, donor mare owner, and the transfer facility. ASEA Inc does not endorse or guarantee the use or participation in any specific embryo transfer program.
- IV. All other rules and regulations regarding registration apply to the use of an embryo transfer program

b) **Artificial Insemination (A.I.)**

- I. All agreements, guarantees, and representations are strictly between the stallion owner and the mare owner. ASEA Inc does not endorse or guarantee the use or participation in any specific A.I. program.
- II. The approval of Artificial Insemination allows the use of A.I. on premises or off the farm.
- III. If A.I. and natural service are used within 42 days of each other, the resulting foal will be considered an A.I. foal unless DNA testing indicates otherwise

c) **Frozen Semen -**

- I. The use of frozen semen will be allowed under the following rules:
- a) All other rules and regulations pertaining to A.I. are applicable to the use of frozen semen.

d) **DNA Typing**

- I. DNA Typing for animals registered with ASEA can only be conducted through the official channels of the ASEA Inc. to obtain a DNA kit, including the DNA typing fee, individuals may contact ASEA at their current fee rate. The kit can be acquired by reaching out to ASEA. DNA typing will be performed by the authorized Testing Lab of ASEA Inc. or any other official approved by ASEA

e) **Cloning**

- I. Horses generated through any cloning process are ineligible for registration. Cloning is defined as any technique in which the genetic material of an unfertilized egg or an embryo is extracted, replaced with genetic material from another organism, or altered by any means to produce a live foal.

13. National Show

- 1) No ASEA Inc shows will be conducted in direct opposition to the ASEA Inc. National Show.

14. Recognised Societies

- 1) ASEA Inc maintains a roster of acknowledged Societies, Associations, and Registries. In addition to the stipulations applicable to presently recognised Australian entities, ASEA Inc mandates the submission of a Certificate of Soundness on ASEA Inc forms, duly endorsed by a Veterinarian holding current Australian qualifications. The responsibility for providing evidence of registration, encompassing but not restricted to DNA verification, rests with the Member seeking registration. Clear and legible copies of registration certificates must be furnished to the ASEA Inc Registry Office. All horses must adhere to the registry requirements set by ASEA Inc. The National Committee of ASEA Inc retains the discretionary right to deny, or suspend any registration.
- 2) Recognised societies for the purposes of registration are:
 - a) Miniature Horse Association of Australia (MHAA) Inc.
 - b) Australian Miniature Pony Society (AMPS) Inc
 - c) New Zealand Miniature Horse Association (NZMHA) Inc.
 - d) American Miniature Horse Association (AMHA) Inc.
 - e) American Shetland Pony Club (ASPC)

- f) Australian Pony Stud Book (APSB)
- g) Independent Miniature Horse Registry
- h) Arabian Horse Society of Australia
- i) Welsh Pony and Cob Society
- j) National Miniature Registry
- k) Australian Miniature and Pony Registry
- l) Australian Miniature Horse Society
- m) Riding Pony Stud book Society
- n) Australian Saddle Pony Association
- 3) Other Associations / Societies may be reviewed for recognition purposes on request

15. **Eligibility for Registration**

1) There shall be one registry of the Australian Small Equine Association and it shall recognise the following categories:

a) **Horse – This Category includes sub sections:**

- I. Miniature Horse -Horses 34 and under"
- II. Small Horse - Horses over 34" and up to 38"
- III. Little Horse - Horses over 38" and up to 42"

b) **Pony - This Category includes sub sections:**

- I. Miniature Pony - Ponies 34 and under"
- II. Small Pony - Ponies over 34" and up to 38"
- III. Little Pony - Ponies over 38" and up to 42"

c) **Show Pony**

- I. All horses and ponies over 42" and up to 50"

2) Parentage on Registration Certificates

a) For the amnesty period from 1 Dec 2023 until 1st August 2024 , parentage will be recorded on the Association stud book and registration certificates after submitting current registration papers from a recognised society. After this date, proof of parentage must be provided via stallion return, or DNA. Horses or ponies without confirmed parentage shall be listed with parentage 'unknown' until parentage is confirmed.

b) Commencing 1 August 2024, all members will be required to submit stallion breeding reports – Stallion returns before resultant progeny may be registered with parentage.

3) All Horses or ponies are required to be micro-chipped or branded for identification purposes after 12 months of age. NO permanent registration papers or transfers will be processed unless a brand or microchip number is supplied.

4) Stallions aged 2 years and over must have a Certificate of Soundness with application and before any breeding reports – stallion return can be accepted.

5) Other society studbooks may be recognised if they meet the requirements of ASEA Inc in relation to parentage

16. **Qualification for Registration**

1) To qualify for registration a horse or pony must comply with the height requirements detailed below and which conforms to the Standard of Excellence for the breed. A horse or pony may be refused registration or disqualified from registration for any of the following:

- a) Not meeting height requirements
- b) Dwarfism
- c) Overshot mouth (3mm maximum allowable)
- d) Undershot or parrot mouth (3mm maximum allowable)
- e) Monorchids or cryptorchids in stallions
- f) Lock stifle, congenital cataract, nasal disease, navicular disease or malformation of the genitals

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- g) Any other determinable genetic fault
- 2) There shall be four different categories within the ASEA registration

a) **Horse**

I. **Miniature Horse** - Horses 34 and under"

This Horse category must meet the following height requirements:
(all measurements are taken from last hair of mane)

- Weanlings (horses under 12 months) must not exceed 30."
- Yearlings (horses over 12m and under 24m) must not exceed 32."
- Two Year Old (horses over 24m and under 36m) must not exceed 33."
- Mature horses (horses 36m and over) must not exceed 34."

II. **Small Horse** - Horses over 34" and up to 38"

This Horse category must meet the following height requirements:
(all measurements are taken from last hair of mane)

- Weanlings (horses under 12 months) must not exceed 34."
- Yearlings (horses over 12m and under 24m must not exceed 36."
- Two Year Olds (horses over 24m and under 36m) must not exceed 37."
- Mature horses (horses 36m and over) must not exceed 38."

III. **Little Horse** - Horses over 38" and up to 42"

This Horse category must meet the following height requirements:
(all measurements are taken from last hair of mane)

- Weanlings (horses under 12 months) must not exceed 38."
- Yearlings (horses over 12m and under 24m) must not exceed 40."
- Two Year Olds (horses over 24m and under 36m) must not exceed 41."
- Mature horses (horses 36m and over) must not exceed 42."

General Description:

A compact and well-proportioned equine, displaying the essential conformational attributes expected across various breeds that without a size reference, the Horse could create the impression of a fully sized counterpart. The mare should exhibit refinement and femininity, while the stallion should exude boldness and masculinity, all the while maintaining an impeccable temperament. The overall impression ought to convey symmetry, strength, agility, and alertness. Given the breed's goal of achieving the smallest ideal horse, judging preference shall be accorded to the smaller horse, assuming other characteristics are reasonably equal.

Standard of Excellence:

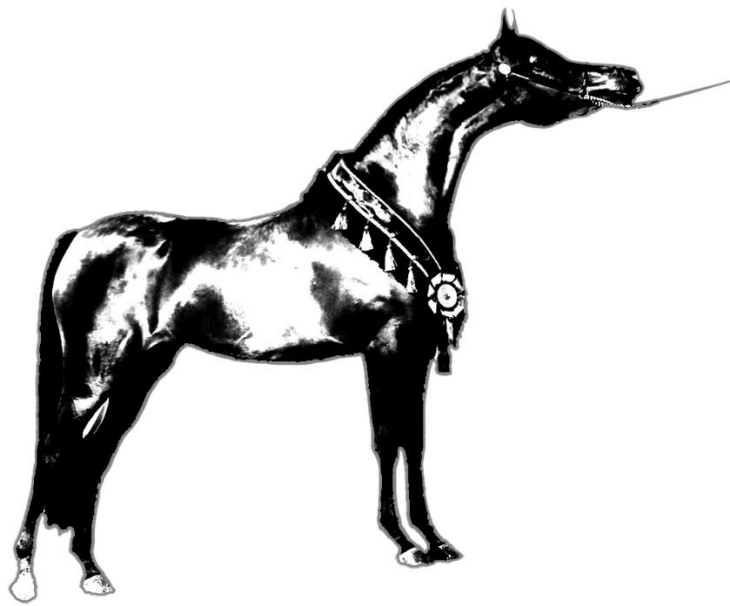
- **Head:** Proportionate to the length of the neck and body, featuring a broad forehead with large, prominent eyes set wide apart. The distance between eyes and muzzle is relatively short, with a straight or slightly concave profile below the eyes. Large, well-defined nostrils contribute to a clean and refined appearance
- **Teeth:** An even bite is essential, with no more than a 3mm deviation. An overshot or parrot mouth is grounds for disqualification.
- **Ears:** Medium-sized and pointed, carried alertly with tips curving slightly inward.
- **Throatlatch:** Clean and well-defined, allowing ample flexion at the poll.
- **Neck:** Flexible, lengthy, and proportionate to the body, blending smoothly into the withers.
- **Shoulder:** Long, sloping, and well-angulated, facilitating a free-swinging stride and an alert head/neck carriage. A well-muscled forearm complements the overall structure.
- **Body:** Well-muscled with ample bone and substance, maintaining balance and proportion. The back and loins are short in relation to the length of the underline, resulting in a smooth top-line. A deep girth and flank contribute to a trim barrel.
- **Hindquarters:** Featuring a long, well-muscled hip, thigh, and gaskin, with the highest point of the croup at the same height as the withers. The tail is set neither excessively high nor low, rounding off the rump smoothly.

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- **Legs:** Lengthy and slender, set straight and parallel when viewed from the front or back. When viewed from the side, the legs are straight, true, and squarely set, with hooves pointing directly ahead.
- **Hooves:** Pasterns slope about 45 degrees and blend smoothly, maintaining a consistent angle from hooves to the ground. Hooves should be round, compact, and trimmed as short as practical for an unshod horse.
- **Gait:** A smooth, fluid gait in motion, reflecting a naturally free-moving stride.
- **Colour:** Any colour or marking pattern, as well as any eye colour, is equally acceptable. The coat should be lustrous and silky.
- **Temperament:** A good temperament is paramount—curious, alert, intelligent, and friendly. A poor or vicious temperament is considered a fault.

General Show Rules for Horses

- The **PRESENTATION** of the horse is at the discretion of the owner, with the expectation that the horse is showcased in its optimal visual and health condition at all times, promoting the Horses positively.
- **CLIPPING AND TRIMMING:** Horses shown with unclipped ears and tactile hairs, along with a full mane, will be judged on their merits and should not face penalties. Optional removal of facial tactile hairs, trimming of ears and mane is allowed, but eyelashes should remain untouched. Horses presented in full coat will not be penalised. The horse's coat can be presented in the following ways:
 - In a natural condition.
 - Clipped with the new coat established; or
 - Freshly clipped, ensuring the horse appears neat, healthy, and well-presented in all scenarios
- **MANES AND TAILS:** Manes and tails can be shown platted or free flowing in all events. The mane and tail may be trimmed and thinned to improve the appearance. The use of false adornments in the tail, mane, and/or forelock is permitted unless specified in classes relating to manes and tails by the show organiser
- **HOOVES:** Hooves are to remain unshod in Halter and In-Hand events. Only horses that compete in harness may be shod in halter events
- **COLOUR ENHANCE:** The use of Colour Enhance products is not allowed to alter/change the horse's natural body colour (e.g., bay to black). However, these products can be used to enhance the horse's natural body colour. The horse's colours/markings, recorded on the Certificate of Registration.
- **MARKINGS:** No markings (spots, blazes, stars, etc.) should be altered, attempted to be hidden, or changed in any way, whether through surgery, dye, or any other means. Markings recorded on Registration Certificates will be used for identification purposes at ASEA Inc. events.



b) **Pony**

This Category includes sub sections:

(Height shall be taken from the highest point of the wither. There shall be no height for age in Pony Section)

- Miniature Pony - Ponies 34" and under
- Small Pony - Ponies over 34" and up to 38"
- Little Pony - Ponies over 38" and up to 42"

General Description

The Miniature/Small/Little Pony is a well-proportioned pony known for its excellent temperament. Mares exhibit refinement and femininity, while stallions exude boldness and masculinity. The pony should possess robustness suitable for pulling an adult in a small vehicle and embody the recognized characteristics of a typical pony in miniature. When all factors are equal, judging preference may be given to the smaller size.

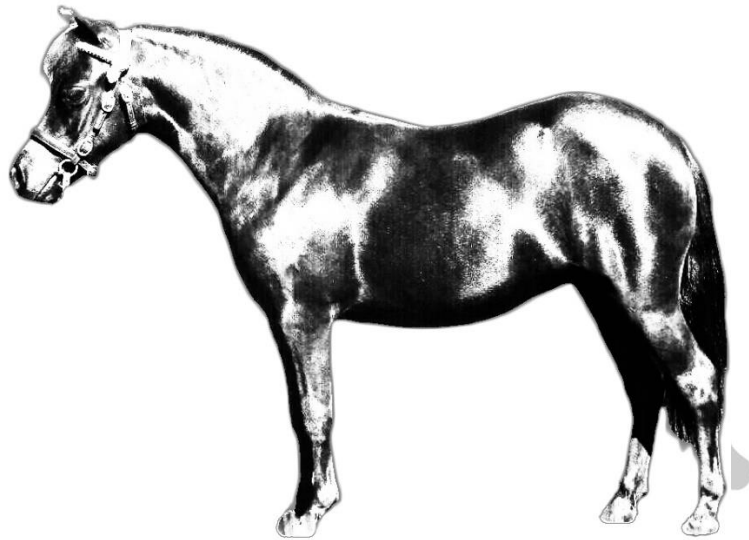
Breed Standard of Excellence

Size: Must meet height requirements above, assessed at the highest point of the wither. The pony should stand naturally, with its head held in a neutral position, and all four hooves placed squarely on the ground (not stretched).

- **Head:** Relatively small, well-proportioned to the body; a straight or slightly concave (dished) profile below the eyes; a comparably small muzzle; large, round, expressive eyes set well apart; and a relatively short distance between the eye and muzzle.
- **Teeth:** An even bite is essential, with no more than a 3mm deviation. An overshot or parrot mouth is grounds for disqualification.
- **Ears:** Small in size.
- **Neck:** Lightly crested in mares and moderately crested in stallions. The neck's length should be proportionate to the body.
- **Body:** Should feature well-sprung ribs, a generous girth, a slight natural curve in the back, and a robust, well-rounded rump. The entire body should convey a sense of balance and proportion relative to its height. Coarseness or excessive length in the body is discouraged.
- **Legs:** Straight, true, and squarely set, with straight, sound, flat bone; a strong forearm; short cannon bone; and robust, sloping pasterns.

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- **Gait:** Should exhibit smoothness, demonstrating free flexion of the joints without exaggeration.
- **Colour:** Any colour or marking pattern, along with any eye colour, is equally acceptable. The coat should display a lustrous and silky texture.
- **Temperament:** A good temperament is of utmost importance—marked by curiosity, alertness, intelligence, and friendliness. A poor or vicious temperament is considered a fault.



General Show Regulations

- **PRESENTATION:** The presentation is at the Owner/Exhibitor's discretion, allowing the pony to be displayed to its best advantage throughout the year
- **BRIDLE PATH:** The bridle path must not exceed 1".
- **FOALS:** Foals of the current season should not be shown clipped. Note: The preferred presentation for a miniature pony is in a summer coat. However, ponies that are either clipped or in heavy coat should not be excluded from showing.
- **COLTS AND STALLIONS:** All Colts & Stallions aged 2 years and older must be correctly bitted and handled by an Adult.
- **FORELOCK, MANE AND TAIL:** Manes and tails can be shown platted or free flowing in all events. The mane and tail may be trimmed and thinned to improve the appearance. The use of false adornments in the tail, mane, and/or forelock is permitted unless specified in classes relating to manes and tails by the show organiser
- **COLOUR:** Colour Enhance products should not be used to alter/change the pony's natural body colour (e.g., bay to black) but can be applied to enhance the natural body colour. The pony's colours/markings, recorded on the Certificate of Registration.
- **MARKINGS:** No markings (spots, blazes, stars, etc.) should be altered, attempted to be hidden, or changed in any way (through surgery, dye, or any other method). Markings will be recorded on Registration Certificates and utilised for pony identification at ASEA Inc. events.

c) Show Pony

This Category includes sub sections:

(Height shall be taken from the highest point of the wither)

- Weanling - Ponies 44 and under"
- Yearling - Ponies over 34" and up to 46"

ASEA Inc Rules and Regulations

- Two year old - Ponies over 46" and up to 48"
- Mature horse – Ponies not over 50"

Eligibility

- Show Pony Category is open to all horses and ponies over 42" and up to 50" 12.2 hands.

General Description

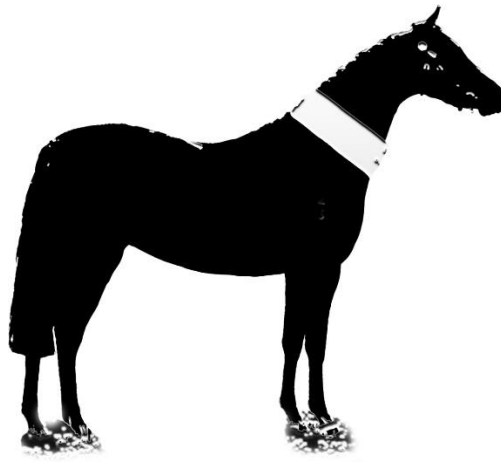
A sound, well-balanced horse with the correct conformation characteristics required of most breeds. The Show Pony should exhibit refinement and femininity in mares and boldness and masculinity in stallions, all while displaying an impeccable temperament. The overall impression should convey symmetry, strength, agility, and alertness.

Breed Standard of Perfection

- **Size:** horses are measured at the top of wither. The horse must stand naturally with its head held in a natural position and all four hoofs standing squarely on the ground (not stretched).
- **Head:** Proportionate to the length of neck and body, with a broad forehead, large prominent eyes set wide apart, a comparatively short distance between eyes and muzzle, and a profile that is straight or slightly concave below the eyes. Large nostrils and a clean, refined appearance.
- **Teeth:** An even bite is necessary, with no more than 3mm out. Overshot or parrot mouth is a disqualification.
- **Ears:** Medium in size, pointed, and carried alertly with tips curving slightly inward.
- **Throatlatch:** Clean and well-defined, allowing ample flexion at the poll.
- **Neck:** Flexible, lengthy, in proportion to the body and type, blending smoothly into the withers.
- **Shoulder:** Long, sloping, and well-angulated, allowing a free-swinging stride and alert head/neck carriage.

Well-muscled forearm.

- **Body:** Well-muscled with ample bone and substance, balanced and well-proportioned. Short back and loins in relation to the length of underline. Smooth top-line. Deep girth and flank. Trim barrel.
- **Hindquarters:** Long, well-muscled hip, thigh, and gaskin. Highest point of croup to be the same height as withers. Tail set neither excessively high nor low, but smoothly rounding off rump.
- **Legs:** Lengthy and slender in proportion to the rest of the body. Set straight and parallel when viewed from the front or back. Straight, true, and squarely set when viewed from the side, with hooves pointing directly ahead. Pasterns sloping about 45 degrees and blending smoothly, with no change of angle from the hooves to the ground. Hooves to be round and compact. Trimmed as short as practicable for an unshod horse.
- **Gait:** Smooth, fluid gait in motion. Naturally free-moving.
- **Colour:** Any colour or marking pattern, and any eye colour, is equally acceptable. The coat should be lustrous and silky.
- **Temperament:** Good temperament is of the utmost importance – curious, alert, intelligent, and friendly. Poor or vicious temperament is considered a fault.



General Show Regulations

- **PRESENTATION:** The owner has discretion in presenting the horse, but it must be showcased to its best visual and health advantage at all times to positively promote the breed.
- **CLIPPING AND TRIPPING:** Horses shown with unclipped ears and tactile hairs, along with a full mane, shall be judged on their merits and should not face penalties. Optional removal of facial tactile hairs and trimming of ears and mane is allowed, but eyelashes should remain untouched. Horses shown in full coat will not be penalised. Presentation options include:
 - In a natural condition.
 - Clipped with the new coat established.
 - Freshly clipped. In all cases, the horse must be neat, healthy, and well presented.
- **MANES AND TAILS:** For Halter Classes, manes and tails can be shown free-flowing or plaited. In Performance classes, they may be shown either plaited or unplaited, unless the class entry conditions state otherwise. False adornments are permitted in the tail, mane, and/or forelock.
- **COLOUR ENHANCE:** Products used for colour enhancement must not alter/change the horse's natural body colour (e.g., bay to black) but can be employed to enhance the horse's natural colour. The horse's colours/markings will be recorded on the Certificate of Registration.
- **MARKINGS:** No attempt should be made to alter, hide, or change markings (spots, blazes, stars, etc.) through surgery, dye, or any other method. Markings will be recorded on Registration Certificates and used for identification at ASEA Inc. events.

American Shetland

Purebred Qualification

- Locally bred purebred horses must originate from purebred parents registered with the ASPC and/or ASPA, or DNA parent verification for both the sire and dam to confirm their purebred status.
- Imported horses must be registered with the ASPC, and a copy of the registration certificate must be included with the registration application for verification of Purebred status. The registration certificate should provide the pedigree of the horse, including the names of the parents and grandparents.
- Foals resulting from Artificial Insemination and Embryo transplants must undergo DNA testing to verify legitimacy. Documentation supporting verification must include relevant veterinary reports, DNA reports verifiable by ASPA, ASPC Registration Certificates/Service Certificate of the donating parent(s), and any additional information deemed necessary to support Purebred status, as requested by ASEA.

17. Code of Ethics, Conduct & Bullying

General

- If a member or members are found to have violated this code of ethics, conduct, and bullying policy, their membership privileges may be denied, reviewed, or, if deemed sufficiently serious, addressed under the Constitution.
- It is deemed unethical for any Member facing a complaint to attempt to influence the Committee of Management or any other Member through duress or intimidation prior to the resolution of the complaint as per the Association's Constitution.
- All Members and Non-Members, including Spectators and Committee Members, are expected to adhere to specific criteria regarding their conduct and behaviour, encompassing all ASEA events. This includes:
 - Publicly refraining from disparaging the Association, Committee Members, and other Members in any form, including on public forums such as Facebook, Twitter, or any other social media platform.
 - Respecting the rights, dignity, and worth of others, irrespective of gender, ability, cultural background, religious/political beliefs, or sexual preferences.
 - Avoiding behaviour or language that may frighten, humiliate, belittle, criticise, harass, sledge, or degrade the Association or another person.
 - Exhibiting fairness, respect, and consideration in all interactions with other individuals, including Committee Members, Exhibitors, Members, and Non-Members, and encouraging others to do the same.
 - Never promoting or participating in any form of bullying behaviour, whether physical, written, or verbal.
 - Adhering to and upholding the Rules and Regulations of the ASEA Inc., operating within these guidelines at all times to safeguard the standing and reputation of the Association.
 - Refraining from interfering with another person's property and equipment, including horses and ponies.
 - Serving as a positive role model by consistently demonstrating the highest degree of integrity and responsibility.
 - Being mindful that actions and words set an example; these must always be positive examples and must never evoke negativity, intimidation, or offense to either the Association or others.
 - Avoiding the use of one's position within the Association to promote personal beliefs and practices.
 - Acknowledging and accepting that the welfare of the horse must always be paramount and not subject to competition or commercial influences.
 - Ensuring that bullying behaviour of any description will not be tolerated at any time.

Owners and Breeders

- Owners and Breeders are obligated to refrain from making false, misleading, or misapplied statements, advertisements, or similar representations concerning horses offered for sale or for stud purposes.
- Owners and Breeders are prohibited from publicly disparaging another Owner's or Breeder's horse, and they should not voluntarily express opinions on another Owner's horse or a transaction in which they are not involved. If asked for a private opinion and genuinely qualified to provide one, it should be given privately, with courtesy, and in an honest and integral manner.
- Owners, Breeders as well as their agents and employees must exercise reasonable care in the handling and treatment of their own horses and those entrusted to their care.

ASEA Inc Rules and Regulations

Exhibitors

- Owners and Exhibitors must maintain exemplary conduct in the ring and on the show grounds at all times.
- The conduct of any Exhibitor in the ring and on the show grounds must not adversely affect the exhibition of any other person's horse.
- Owners and Exhibitors are prohibited from attempting to influence Judges or appointed Judges by any means, either before, during or after an event.
- Non-winners of an event are required to remain in the ring or display area until dismissed, following the instructions provided by the Show Organisers.
- Genuine applause is encouraged, but it should not compromise fair competition for other horses in the event.
- Owners and Exhibitors are not allowed to accuse the Judge of favouritism or any form of bribery. If they have a legitimate protest, it must be lodged according to the procedures outlined in the Show Rules, specifically under - Judges. Owners and Exhibitors are expected to support the Judge and the judging system of the day

Judges and Stewards

- The ASEA Inc. expects all judges of approved or sponsored shows, along with their Stewards, to comprehend and adhere to the following principles:
 - The foremost responsibility of a Judge is to consistently uphold the highest standard of integrity towards the breed, the exhibited horses, and their handlers. Decisions should be free from influence, bias, reputation, or ignorance.
- Judges are obligated to possess knowledge and understanding of the relevant breed they are appointed to judge.
- Judges and Stewards are required to make a conscious effort to isolate themselves from Exhibitors and Handlers until the completion of judging for the day or the entire show.
- Judges and Stewards must promptly report any improper approaches by Exhibitors, Handlers, or Owners of any shown horse to the Event Management.

The Australian Small Equine Association Inc. emphasises that adherence to this code of ethics is crucial for the integrity of the breeds and the Association, Membership in the ASEA Inc. signifies an agreement to abide by this code of ethics, conduct, and bullying.

