

**The Measuring Scheme And Rules
Of
The Show Horse Council of Australasia Inc.**

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1.0 ADMINISTRATION

- 1.1 The Scheme is administered by The Show Horse Council of Australasia Inc.
- 1.2 The Show Horse Council of Australasia Inc. will recognise Official Measuring Certificates issued by other Show Horse (Hack) Councils. In the event of a dispute the Show Horse Council reserves the right to measure a horse from another State and insist the horse compete according to the Show Horse Council of Australasia measurement.
- 1.3 The Owner/Part Owner /Lessee or Professional Trainer shall be required to sign a Formal Application prior to presenting the horse for Measurement. Refer to 11.2.
- 1.4 Horses which hold a current Annual Measuring Certificate or Life Measurement Certificate issued by another Organization or Breed Society shall only be eligible to be issued with a Measuring Certificate under this Scheme PROVIDED that the Show Horse Council Measurement places the horse in the same Height Division that is recorded on the other Measuring Certificate.
- 1.5 The Show Horse Council of Australasia Inc. Measurement Certificate (either Annual and Life) shall become INVALID immediately the horse is issued with a Measurement Certificate from another Organization or Breed Society which places it in a different Height Division to that recorded on the Show Horse Council Measuring Certificate.
- 1.6 The horse's Registration Papers shall be presented at all times with the Measurement Certificate.
- 1.7 Horses which compete in Shows conducted under Show Horse Council Competition Rules should be measured by an Official Show Horse Council Measurer or hold a Height Certificate recognised by the Show Horse Council.
- 1.8 The Show Horse Council reserves the right to suspend the registration of any horse not presented for Measurement or re-measurement.
- 1.9 The basic units of measurement of horses shall be in "hands" and "inches", one "hand" is equal to four (4) inches. The metric equivalent will also be stated on the Certificate.
- 1.10 The Show Horse Council reserves the right to measure any horse, at any time.
- 1.11 Failure to comply with these Rules may result in Disciplinary action and/or the suspension of the National Saddle Horse Registration of the horse.

2.0 THE AGE OF THE HORSE

- 2.1 The age of the horse shall be reckoned from the 1st of August in the year in which it was foaled if foaled on or after that day, If foaled before that day it will be reckoned from the 1st of August in the previous year.

3.0 THE MEASURING PANEL

- 3.1 The Show Horse Council Measuring Panel shall comprise
 - a) One Chief Measurer.
 - b) Four *Official* Measurers.

The Panel may include up to three Trainee Measurers appointed from time to time by the S.H.C.

- 3.2 The Show Horse Council shall appoint the Measurers at its own discretion.
- 3.3 The Official Measurers shall be approved by the Show Horse Council.
- 3.4 No Official Measurer shall measure a horse in his ownership, or a horse belonging to his family, or a horse he is training, or a member of his family is training or in which he has a vested interest.
- 3.5 The Measurer shall ensure that accurate records pertaining to all horses measured are passed onto the Show Horse Council for inclusion on the National Saddle Horse Register.
- 3.6 *The Show Horse Council has the right to appoint a Reserve Measurer when the need arises.*

4.0 RECORDS TO BE MAINTAINED BY OFFICIAL MEASURERS

- 4.1 The Official Measurers will maintain records of all registered horses measured.
- 4.2 The measures will note the following:
- a) Name of Horse.
 - b) Name of Owner,
 - c) Registration Number.
 - d) Date of Measurement.
 - e) Venue.
 - f) Measured Height.

5.0 RECORDS TO BE MAINTAINED BY THE SHOW HORSE COUNCIL OF AUSTRALASIA

The Show Horse Council of Australasia Inc. shall maintain a Register of Hacks, which may include the current measurement of the horse.

6.0 OFFICIAL MEASURING DAYS

- 6.1 An Official Measuring Day shall be held providing that:
- a) The Show Horse Council Executive and/or The Show Horse Council have approved the day.
 - b) Measuring is performed by at least one member of the Official measuring Panel.
 - c) *In the absence of the Chief Measurer an Official Measurer is to be designated to fulfil Chief Measurer duties for that Day.*
 - d) Conditions set down in these Measuring Rules are observed.
 - e) A person to be nominated by the Show Horse Council is present. This person shall be referred to as the Show Horse Council representative.
 - f) A minimum number of twenty horses shall be required for the holding of a Measuring Day in Country Areas.
- 6.2 Owners and/or handlers wishing to discuss the measurement of the horse are to approach the Show Horse Council Representative. The Measurers shall not discuss the measurement of any horse.

- 6.3 The Show Horse Council may appoint a Veterinary Surgeon to attend. The Veterinarian shall have the power to take a sample from any horse (both blood and urine) either before or after measurement. If a positive result is obtained the owner of the horse will be responsible for the cost of the Analysis of their horse's samples and disciplinary action may be taken by the Show Horse Council against the owners and/or the handlers of the horse.
- 6.4 The Show Horse Council shall appoint a steward who shall attend the Measuring Day. This person's duties shall include:
- a) Ensuring the accuracy of the records.
 - b) Signing Certificates and/or Papers as necessary.
 - c) Perform tasks as directed by the Show Horse Council Representative.

7.0 FEES

- 7.1 Any fee for measuring shall be paid by the owner to the Show Horse Council of Australasia Inc.
- 7.2 The fee for measuring shall be set by the Show Horse Council of Australasia Inc.

8.0 MEASURING CERTIFICATE

- 8.1 The Official Show Horse Council's Measurement Certificate, or Certificate from another Show Horse Council (refer 1.2) will be the only Certificate recognised.
- 8.2 The Certificate will detail the date of measurement, the venue of the measurement, the height measured and the signatures of at least one Official Measurer and the Steward or Show Horse Council Representative.
- 8.3 Having been officially measured and issued with a Measuring Certificate the horse shall be entered in and compete in the Class (Height Division) which corresponds to the Measure Height on the Certificate.
- 8.4 The Show Horse Council Measurement Certificate is INVALID if the horse already holds or is subsequently issued with a Measurement Certificate from another Organisation or Breed Society IF it places the horse in a different Height Division to that recorded on the Show Horse Council Measuring Certificate.
- 8.5 Annual Certificate.
- a.) The Annual Certificate is valid for twelve months from the date of measurement. The Certificate is automatically cancelled immediately a new Certificate is issued. The Show Horse Council Measuring Steward is to mark superseded Certificate with the word CANCELLED then sign and date same,
 - b) A horse may be remeasured for an Annual Certificate a minimum of nine (9) calendar months after the date of the previous Measurement Certificate.
 - c) Annual Certificate will be white in colour.
 - d) A fee may be charged for the Certificate.

- 8.6 LIFE CERTIFICATE may be issued providing that:
- a) The horse is registered.
 - b) The horse is at least eight years of age. (In the case of a horse over 16.2hh in possession of a current Measurement Certificate it may be issued with a Life Certificate under eight years of age provided that the next measurement places the horse in the same height division).
 - c) The horse shall be competing in the same class (height division) as stated in the Annual Certificate (The measured height places the horse in the same class as the previous Annual Certificate).
 - d) The horse is not being measured under a "Right of Appeal" (section 13.0) or "Remeasurement of The Horse" (section 14.0) situation.
- 8.7 A Life Certificate will be blue in colour.
- 8.8 A Fee may be charged for the Certificate.
- 8.9 A horse may be measured with or without shoes. However a shoe allowance of up to 3/8" (1.0cm) will be deducted if the horse is shod. The exact amount of the shoe allowance shall be decided by the Measurer who has the right to measure the shoe & to use his discretion as to any allowance.
- 8.10 At least one Official Measurer shall attend each Measuring Day. Where a horse is borderline or where the horse is presented a second time (refer clause 10-7) then the horse shall be measured by both measurers (except where in the absence of a second Measurer the height shall be confirmed by the Show Horse Council Steward or the Show Horse Council Representative).
- 8.11 At least one Measurer shall sign the Certificate. The second signature shall be that of the second Measurer the Show Horse Council Steward or the Show Horse Council Representative. If a Duplicate Certificate is issued then the Certificate may be signed by any of the following: Measurers, Show Horse Council Steward, Show Horse Council Representative or Show Horse Council Official.
- 8.12 Details of the horse (i.e. details of colour, brands, height, date measured etc.) shall be displayed on the Measuring Certificate.
- 8.13 Horses over 16.2hh of any age may be issued with a Life Certificate providing they meet the conditions 8.6) a), b), c) or d).
- 8.14 To be measured, a horse shall hold a Registration Certificate recognised by the Show Horse Council of Australasia Inc.

9.0 CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION.

- 9.1 The original Certificate of Registration or Breed Certificate of Registration for the horse shall be presented to the Measuring Steward prior to the measuring of the horse,
- 9.2 An Official shall view the Certificate of Registration to ensure the brands, markings and other details agree with those of the horse being presented for measurement.

- 9.3 The details of the Certificate of Registration and/or Breed Certificate shall agree with the details on the "Application for Certificate of Height" which is completed by the horse's Owner/Part owner/Lessee or Trainer prior to measurement.
- 9.4 Prior to the horse being measured, the Measuring Steward shall check the papers to ensure all is in order and that the horse has not been measured within the last nine (9) months. Any problems are brought to the attention of the Show Horse Council Representative.
- The Steward shall ensure the "Application for Certificate of Height" is completed and signed.
- 9.5 Horses holding National Saddle Horse Registration and currently being shown are required to be officially measured and hold an Annual or Life S.H.C. Measuring Certificate.
- 9.6. Horses which are not registered with the National Saddle Horse Register may be measured and issued with a Certificate of Measurement providing that the Horse is registered with a recognised Breed Society or recognized Horse Register (including A.J.C.) only if
- a) The Horse is shown on the name recorded on the Registration Papers.
 - b) The Measuring Certificate is clearly marked with the Breed & Registration Number of the horse, and
 - c) The Original of the Registration Certificate is presented at the time of measurement of the horse.
 - d) the horse holds a Measuring Certificate from another Organisation or Breed Society and the SHC Measurement places it in the same Height Division as that shown on the other Measuring Certificate.
- 9.7 Where errors are found on National Saddle Horse Registration Papers the Show Horse Council Steward shall ensure that the papers are "Marked Up", signed and dated by the Show Horse Council Steward or Show Horse Council Representative. Where necessary the Show Horse Council Steward/Representative shall arrange for the issue of Duplicate Papers and ensure the Show Horse Council Office Record is correct.
- 9.8 Where errors are found on Breed or other Horse Registration Certificates the Show Horse Council Steward/Representative shall note discrepancy on Measuring Certificate.
- 9.9 The Show Horse Council Representative shall have the right to confiscate and hold the National Saddle Horse Registration Papers of any horse for a period of up to seven (7) days. The Show Horse Council Representative is not required to give any reason for holding the papers.
- 9.10 The Show Horse Council reserves the right to recall any Certificate of Registration at any time. The Show Horse Council is not required to give a reason for requesting the papers. Failure to return the papers to the Show Horse Council Office within 21 days may result in disciplinary action and/or de-registration of the horse. The Show Horse Council reserves the right to alter or add to the information on the papers. Where necessary Duplicate Papers may be issued.

10.0 PRESENTATION OF HORSES

- 10.1 Horses are to be presented with their Original Registration Papers. Where the horse has been previously measured the original of the last Measurement Certificate shall also be presented.
- 10.2 All horses presented for measurement shall be in a sound, healthy & calm state. The horse shall be presented in a bridle and shall have a bit in it's mouth. The reins or lead shall be connected to the bit.
- 10.3 They shall be either wearing shoes or be barefooted.
- 10.4 Grass tips are not acceptable.
- 10.5 If the measurer is in any doubt with regard to the measurement, he should not proceed with the issue of the Measurement Certificate until the horse has been jointly measured with the other Official Measurer or (if not present:) measurement sighted and confirmed by the Show Horse Council Steward or Show Horse Council Representative.
- 10.6 Once the horse has been presented for measurement a Measurement Certificate shall be issued. The only exception to this Rule is 10.5 and 10.8.
- 10.7 THE HORSE SHALL BE MEASURED TWICE ONLY AND SHALL SPEND A MAXIMUM OF TEN (10) MINUTES IN THE MEASURING BOX ON EACH OCCASION. Where a second measurement is required, the horse shall be returned to the Official Stewards no later than one (1) hour after the time of the first measurement and be given priority over others waiting on first measurement. The period may be shortened or extended at the discretion of the Show Horse Council Representative.
- 10.8 Where the Measurer is not satisfied with the presentation/condition of the horse the matter shall be brought to the attention of the Show Horse Council Representative who shall take whatever action he deems necessary which may include requesting the Show Horse Council Official Veterinarian to take samples from the horse.
- 10.9 The Measurer has the right to refuse to measure any horse without assigning a reason.

11.0 SPECIFICATIONS OF MEASURING STAND AND BLOCK.

DECLARATION REQUIRED PRIOR TO MEASUREMENT OF A HORSE.

- 11.1 Measuring Stand and Block.
 - a) The design of the measuring stick and the use of a stick shall be approved by the Show Horse Council.
 - b) The design of the instruments shall provide the ability to find a level in a vertical and horizontal plane. The movement in the vertical plane must be able to be finely adjusted, i.e. within 0.1" (2.5mm).
 - c) The actual horizontal component of the measuring stick must not exceed 3/8" (1.0cm) in width and must form a radius where it contacts the horse.
 - d) The measuring stick/s shall be checked prior to any measurements being taken.

- e) All measuring must be undertaken on a flat level surface (e.g. concrete slab) which has been laid in a horizontal plane. The surface should be flat to within 0.25" (6.0mm), this hard surface must be located in a quiet area and be at least partly fenced by post and rails, or be enclosed totally as per Royal Shows. The entire area of the surface shall be required to conform to specifications.
- f) The Hack Association in the area shall arrange for the measuring block to be checked for conformance of specification. As of the 30th June in each and every year the block is to be checked by a qualified person (i.e. an Engineer, Surveyor, Metrologist) and a copy of the updated written report (Certificate of Compliance) on the block is to be forwarded to the Show Horse Council. The cost of the assessment of the block is to be met by the Hack Association.

11.2 Declaration of Prior Measurement,

- a) Prior to measuring, the attendant with the horse will be required to complete an Application for Measurement. This Application Form will be presented with the horse at the time of measurement. The Official Measurer will check the details of the Application, i.e. brands, colour, etc. to ensure they agree with the horse presented.
- b) Prior to measurement, the owner is required to declare if the horse has previously been submitted for measurement under this or any other measuring scheme.

12.0 MEASUREMENT OF HORSES

- 12.1 The horse shall stand up square, with legs perpendicular to the ground, the forelegs in line and the weight distributed evenly over all four legs. The horse must not be stretched out.
- 12.2 The poll must not be lower than the highest point of the wither at the time of measurement.
- 12.3 The measurement may make an allowance of up to 3/8" (1 cm) for shoes. (See 8.9)
- 12.4 The measurement should be taken when the poll is level with the withers. The measurement shall be taken at the highest point of the withers

13.0 RIGHT TO APPEAL

- 13.1 The owner of a horse has the right to appeal to the Show Horse Council against an Official Measurement. The Appeal shall be in writing within sixty days of the date of the measurement accompanied by a Fee of \$50.00. The fee is refunded if the horse is remeasured and the appeal is upheld.
- 13.2 The Appeal shall state:
 - a) Name of the horse and owner.
 - b) A photocopy of the Measuring Certificate.
 - c) The reason for the Appeal.

- 13.3 The Show Horse Council shall decide if the horse will be remeasured. An "Appeal" will not necessarily mean the horse will be remeasured. Appeals shall be tabled at a meeting of the Show Horse Council for ratification. Where the Show Horse Council decide Not to remeasure the horse the refunding or otherwise of the \$50.00 is also solely at the discretion of the Show Horse Council.
- 13.4 In the interim, the most recent Official Measurement shall stand and the horse shall be entered in and compete at the height measured.
- 13.5 Where a horse is to be remeasured it must be measured as set down in Clause 14.

14.0 REMEASUREMENT OF THE HORSE.

- 14.1 Re-measurement of a horse may be arranged as follows:
- a) On the request of the Show Horse Council of Australasia Inc. (who reserve the right to remeasure any horse at any time).
- OR
- b) Under conditions set down in Section 13.0 "Right of Appeal".
- 14.2 A Protest will not be lodged against a Current SHC Official Measurement Certificate as this defeats the purpose of holding a Certificate.
- 14.3 Where a horse is to be remeasured, the measuring will be performed by two Official Measurers, one of whom was not involved in the original Measure of the horse.
- 14.4 Where a horse is to be remeasured it may be measured barefoot, or it may be measured with shoes. If the horse is shod (refer Clause 10.3 and 10.4) then the shoes are to be measured by the Chief Measurer and the actual measured value of the shoe is deducted from the measured height.
- 14.5 A member of the Show Horse Council or a person nominated by the Show Horse Council shall be present at the horse's re-measurement. The horse's owner and the handler may be present, however no other observers are allowed.

15.0 SHOW HORSE COUNCIL MEASURING SUB COMMITTEE,

- 15.1 The Show Horse Council shall elect annually, from its members, a Measuring Sub Committee. This Sub Committee will consider matters which relate to the Measuring Scheme and the measurement of horses. The Sub Committee will make recommendations to the Show Horse Council.

16.0 GENERAL

- 16.1 Where matters are not covered by the foregoing Rules, the Show Horse Council of Australasia Inc. shall consider all the relevant facts and give such directions relating thereto as may be seem to them, in their absolute discretion, to be just and proper.
- 16.2 The above Rules apply to all horses regardless of height or Breed and "horses" always mean horses, galloways and ponies.
- 16.3 It is the responsibility of the horse's Owner/Part Owner/Lessee/Professional Trainer to obtain a current Measuring Certificate.

16.4 The term "his" in these Rules always refer to both male and female gender,

17.0 DISPUTE

17.1 Where a dispute arises between the Measurer or any other person involved with the Measuring Day or with the measurement of a particular horse, the final decision shall be made by the Show Horse Council Representative.

18.0 REPORT ON MEASURING DAY

18.1 The Show Horse Council Chief Measurer, or in his absence, the Official Measurer present on the Day shall within fourteen (14) days of the Measuring Day forward to the Show Horse Council Office a brief written Report (and records) of the Measuring Day.

19.0 EXPENSES

19.1 The travelling Expenses of the Measurers shall be paid by the Show Horse Council.

19.2 The cost of ground hire and/or equipment hire shall be the responsibility of the Show Horse Council.

19.3 Any Measuring Fees shall be paid to the Show Horse Council.

19.4 The *approved* expenses of the Show Horse Council Measuring Steward, the Show Horse Council Representative and the Official Show Horse Council Veterinarian shall be paid by the Show Horse Council.

19.5 The Hack Association in the area shall be responsible for the expenses involved in any local advertising of the day.

19.6 The Show Horse Council shall be responsible for the expense involved in advertising the day State wide.

19.7 *Unless specified to the contrary in the resolution to approve the conduct of a measuring service for any other organisation, all related costs and expenses associated with the provision of such service, including those of the Show Horse Council Officials, shall be met by that organization.*

20.0 RESPONSIBILITIES

The Association hosting this Measuring Day shall:

20.1 Supply the Measuring Area which shall be in a clean condition.

20.2 Provide Morning Tea, Lunch & Afternoon Tea for the Officials.

20.3 Billet out the Measurer/s and provide meals if accommodation is required.

20.4 Provide an Identification Steward.

20.5 Provide a suitable Recording Steward, i.e. polite and capable.