



Welcome to the *β*-Newsletter of the Miniature Horse Association of Australia Inc

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MHAA® Strong and getting stronger

... .. now leading the way as the FIRST and ONLY exclusive Miniature /Small Horse Registry, proudly celebrating 25 years servicing the needs of Members around Australia and beyond !

Dear Members,

Following our recent AGM, all reports, Audited Financial Statements etc are on the Association website under Reports.

NATIONAL COMMITTEE:

We are very pleased to confirm to Members that our National Committee Members are as under:-

President: Margaret Lawson
Vice-President: Colleen Harper
Secretary: Barb Voysey
Treasurer: Brian Neal
Registrar: position available
Fine Lines Editor: Rebecca Howe
Committee: Kerry Starling
Wendy Allenby

Contact details for all National Committee Members are on the website.

Following the recent resignation of Justin Wetzler, who held the position of Registrar, which was announced to Members at the AGM, we now have this position available and invite any Member who would like to nominate for the position to contact the National Secretary, Barb Voysey by Monday 17 November, 2014. Although backup is provided, Members considering applying for this position should have a good knowledge of the rules and be of good standing in the Membership.

National Committee would like to take this opportunity of thanking Justin for his time on National Committee and in the role of Registrar.

Equitana: We will have a Stand at the 2014 Equitana, which is being held in Melbourne this year and invite Members to take part in this fantastic promotional event. We will be handing out brochures about the Association and the wonderful world of Miniature Horses and Members can be represented and have their Stud handouts, business cards, sales lists, Stallions at Stud information or advertising their business for the reasonable fee of \$25-00. Members who want to be involved need to contact Barb Voysey asap and confirm their involvement and make arrangements to have their advertising material ready for Equitana which runs from Thursday 20 November to Sunday 23 November, 2014 inclusive. Members will need to provide however many flyers etc they want handed out and there is no limit on the number.

Studs / Members can also be represented by way of having posters or Stud photos put up in our advertising office and for this there is also the same reasonable fee of \$25-00. All visitors to Equitana are equine enthusiasts, so the opportunity to reach a huge number of people who visit our site in the Breed Village, is too good an opportunity to miss out on. If you have any queries with regards this, please don't hesitate to contact Barb Voysey to discuss. Thankyou to the Members who have already been in contact regarding this event.

If you are visiting Equitana, come along and see our display in the Breeder's Village. Twice daily we will also be taking part in Breed displays, which give us the opportunity to showcase our breed and also take part in a parade with all different breeds of Horses and the commentator will discuss each breed, its qualities etc and give details of the history of the particular breed.

A couple of important reminders for Members, as we still get queries about these all the time:

Upgrades: There is no 6 month leeway on Registration upgrades for Showing, as there is for having the upgrades recorded in the Office. Therefore if the Horse has not been upgraded by its actual birthdate, the Horse cannot be shown, nor can any transactions, ie Transfer, be done until the upgrade has been finalized. However a Transfer maybe sent in at the same time as an upgrade. Upgrades are not accepted in the Office, if sent in more than 30 days before the actual birthdate.

Photographs For Registration Certificates: Photos sent for use on Registration Certificates MUST NOT have any photo credits, i.e. name of the Photographer, on them and if you send them to the office with your Upgrade or Registration Application, these will be returned and not used. Just a reminder that when you send your photos make sure they are a clear view of the Horse, no ribbons etc must be on the Horse (no show photos) and it is preferable to have only the Horse in the photo.

Posting Paperwork to the Office: Members are reminded to post their paperwork to the office by Express Post; as although the office is not in the Express Post area, it does ensure safe delivery of the item and also gives the ability to track the mail. It is also wise to be mindful of the post these days which seems to take more time than in the past, so don't leave things to the last minute if you need upgrades or registrations done for a Show, send them in plenty of time to allow for any unexpected holdups in the mail.

Enquiries: If Members are not sure about something or have any queries with regards Registrations, Upgrades, etc, please do not hesitate to contact your National Committee at admin@mhaa.com.au and your query will be responded to promptly. The admin address is monitored several times a day, so in the event you don't get a reply, please resend, in case the original email has gone astray or into a junk folder and also include your full name, email address and phone contact details. Please do NOT send message to Committee on Facebook as these do not always get through and sometimes our Facebook pages are not checked daily.

Measuring Horses: When getting your Horses measured for registration or upgrades, always make sure that the person measuring is a current financial Member and ask to see their Membership card. Reminder that neither the owner or breeder of the Horse or anyone in the same Stud, Training establishment or Family is permitted to measure the Horse. Also a lot of Members seem unaware that you can get a vet to measure your Horse. Just make sure that when they sign the measurement declaration that they clearly note they are a Vet by putting their official stamp on the form. Also as a reminder there is no requirement to have your Horse measured on transfer, unless there is a dispute in the height of the Horse. If the buyer and the seller agree on the measurement, there is no requirement to have the Horse measured. Also there is no requirement to measure a Horse under 2 years old; the Temporary Adult Registration is the first time you have to have the Horse measured, it is not necessary for a Foal Registration, even if the Horse is a yearling and never been Foal Recorded.

Facebook Postings: It is timely to remind Members that when they are posting on Facebook they are reaching a wide audience and that even if they think twice about a posting and remove it a minute later, there is always the possibility that someone, somewhere in the world has seen that posting and copied it! Whilst the Association has no jurisdiction over your own personal Facebook pages or postings, please be aware that should you bring MHAA® into your conversation and make any derogatory remarks or inferences about the Association, other Members or their Horses, Judges, etc, then you could be held liable for defamation or worse. National Committee believes that Facebook can be used as an excellent tool to advise Members and keep in touch, but it can also be a very dangerous tool and we request that Members consider the feelings of others when posting and use Facebook to your advantage, rather than disadvantage.

Registry Office Christmas Closing Dates: Members are reminded that the Registry Offices closes over the Christmas / New Year period and therefore will be closed from normal close of business hours on **Wednesday 24 December, 2014 and reopens on the morning of Monday 5 January, 2015.**

If you have any queries about any of the above, please do not hesitate to contact the National Secretary or email admin@mhaa.com.au

Today being Remembrance day, where at the 11th hour on the 11th day of the 11th month, we remember those we lost while serving their country and saving the lives of others.

We thought it was fitting to share this wonderful tribute which was done (unfortunately not known when or where) to pay tribute to the brave Horses who also lost their lives while serving their country and their riders. Soldiers in traditional brown uniform depict the Horse head, while the bridle is depicted by soldiers with lighter or white uniforms, which make a fantastic and clever tribute.

We will remember them !

National Committee of Management

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