



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 in our 31st year servicing the needs of Members around Australia and beyond !

Dear Members,

The events of the past couple of years have impacted our lives in ways that none of us could ever have imagined, with months of debilitating drought, followed by catastrophic fires that ravaged most of Australia, in some areas followed by devastating floods and if that wasn't enough to endure, our lives have been turned upside down with the prolonged and ongoing effects of the COVID-19 global Pandemic that has seen us forced into continued lockdowns, isolation, social distancing and the stress of not knowing what will come next; with yet more lockdowns and restrictions still in place in most States of Australia.

At the current time we still have no idea when we will be able to resume having regular Shows and it is most likely that States will vary when they can commence Shows again and we will keep Members up to date with this via state Facebook pages, websites and E-News. So if you know any Member who does not receive E-News, please get them to contact us to be added to the email list.

Therefore as Shows are on hold, so that you can be ready for when they start again, this is an ideal time to catch up on paperwork and make sure all your Horse Registrations are up to date and with this in mind, we have been contacted by Members who are wishing to upgrade their Horses, but with the current movement restrictions and safe distance regulations that are still in place, it is not feasible or sensible to have anyone come on to their property to measure their Horses for upgrade.

Therefore as National Committee want to continue to relieve as much stress as we can for Members, we are allowing ALL Members to measure their own Horse/s that need to be upgraded and/or registered; at this stage, this procedure will be in place indefinitely; so all Members need to do is send the necessary paperwork to the office and it will be processed in the normal way. Going by feedback from Members that we have received, this has been appreciated and enabled Members to keep their registrations up to date.

We also wish to remind Members with regards to the DNA of Mares that due to the additional financial burden that many of our Members have found themselves in, due to the events of the past couple of years and the number of Members who have contacted us concerned about the expense of having their Mares DNA done, that **National Committee have put in place a Committee Ruling and will be delaying the implementation of the Rule 20.II.2 (hereunder).**

RULE 20.II.2:

Every Mare is to have DNA on file, prior to a Foal being registered from that Mare. This is to come into effect for Foals Born in the 2020/21 breeding season and each season thereafter.

Committee Ruling: the implementation of this Rule has been delayed until the 2023 / 2024 Breeding Season.

If any Member has any other issues with regards registrations or upgrades, or for that matter anything you think we may be able to assist with, or want to discuss an issue you are having with your Horse registration, please do not hesitate to contact us, as we will do everything we can to assist Members through this very stressful period. Members are often surprised to find out that we can assist them with an issue that they thought was just not possible to resolve. So, with this in mind, you have nothing to lose in asking for assistance and Members can direct any queries to the National Secretary, Barb Voysey, via email admin@mhaa.com.au or mobile 0418 821100.

We also remind Members that **Stallion Breeding Reports (Stallion Returns)** must be received in the office by 1 August 2021 and *It is also timely to remind Members that Stallion Breeding Reports (Stallion Returns) MUST be printed in LANDSCAPE format, NOT portrait format. Stallion Breeding Reports (Stallion Returns) submitted in portrait format will not be accepted and will be returned.* The Report can be filled in on line and then printed off in landscape to post to the office. *If you are unsure about this, please do not hesitate to contact the National Secretary or email admin@mhaa.com.au*

With regard to your **Stallion Breeding Reports (Stallion Returns)**: always remember to include all outside Mares, as well as every Mare served, even if they are not registered MHAA® and remember to **keep a copy for your records**. A Tax Invoice/Receipt is always sent from the office on receipt of your Stallion Return. If you do not receive one within 21 days of posting your Return, contact the National Secretary or email the admin@mhaa.com.au , to make sure it has been received.

It is also timely to remind Members that if your Mare has been served by another Member's Stallion, or you purchased a Mare in Foal, make sure that you get a Service Certificate from the Stallion owner to cover the mating.

Membership Renewals are due by 1 August, 2021 and sent with this E-News is a Membership Renewal Form that can be used irrespective of how you wish to pay for your Renewal. If you are paying via EFT or credit card, all you need to do is simply email the completed Membership Form to admin@mhaa.com.au If you are paying via Cheque or Money Order, the Membership Renewal Form needs to be posted to the office with the payment.

With regard to Membership Renewals, in unprecedented times like these, your continued support is extremely important in maintaining the Association, which as a Not For Profit Member based organization, needs your support and commitment as a Member, as this is vital to assist the Association in remaining strong and financially viable into the future.

Over the last few years at Membership Renewal time, we have offered those Members who renewed their Members on or before 1 August, the opportunity to enter a draw to have half of their Membership paid in the following year which has always been popular and we are therefore going to repeat this offer again this year.

Therefore, this year all Members whose renewal is received in the office by 1st August, will go in for a draw, with 6 Membership draws from all Membership categories combined and 4 Membership draws from Youth Memberships; those whose Member number is drawn out, will only have to pay half their Membership Fee next year.

Those Members who were lucky enough to have their Membership number drawn out last year are being notified.

Thankyou to the Members who have already renewed their Membership and of course they will be included in this draw.

State Promotional Group Committee Nomination Forms are being emailed to those Members in States that are eligible; please consider nominating for one of the positions that are available, so that we can get some Shows, or Classes at Shows organized when it is safe again to do so.

If any Member has any query about anything in the E-News, please contact the National Committee via email admin@mhaa.com.au

National Committee hope you and your Families are all coping in a very different world ... remember, we are still all in this together ... so need to look out for each other, as now more than ever we still need to comply with State restrictions ... so please ... TAKE EXTRA CARE & STAY COVID SAFE ... our thoughts are with you all !!

***National Committee of Management
Miniature Horse Association of Australia Inc***

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