



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,

Due to the slowness of the mail at the moment and the fact that we have been informed by many Members that they have only just received their Membership Renewal Forms, in some instances over three weeks after they were posted; National Committee believe that for this year only, we should extend the date for Membership Renewals, Stallion Returns, Mare Nominations etc by two weeks.

Therefore this means, this year, they must be received by the office on or before Friday 14th August, 2020.

This E-News contains some important information and updates for Members, as well as reminders with regards Membership Renewals and Returns that are due at this time of year.

Members please note the following important information regarding Mare DNA and Measuring Horses:

The events of the past year or so have impacted our lives in ways that none of us could ever have imagined, with prolonged 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 COVID-19 global Pandemic that has seen us forced into lockdown, isolation, social distancing and the stress of not knowing what will come next, with prolonged restrictions still in place in some States who are experiencing a second wave and other States under threat.

Mares: DNA: Therefore due to the additional financial burden that many of our Members have found themselves in, due to the events of the past year or so and the number of Members who have contacted us concerned about the expense of having their Mares DNA done; National Committee are putting 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 query about this, please contact the National Committee.

Measuring Horses: As Shows are still 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 relieve as much stress as we can for Members, we will allow ALL Members to measure their own Horse/s that need to be upgraded and/or registered. We are extending this date, so that at this time, this procedure will be in place until at least 31 August, 2020; so all Members need to do is send the necessary paperwork to the office and it will be processed in the normal way.

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 not only through this very stressful period, but at anytime. 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.

Membership Renewals: 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; however Members have to wait a year to benefit from it, therefore we are making a change to this so that eligible Members obtain the benefit immediately.

Therefore, this year all Members whose renewal is received in the office by 14th 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 have half their Membership for THIS year credited to their account.

If you have already renewed your Membership, you will of course be included in this draw.

As most Members are aware, Membership Renewals can now be done online and paid by direct deposit into the MHAA® Bank Account via Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) and the Online Membership Renewal Form can then be emailed. Members can also pay via Credit Card, cheque or Money Order as under:-

For Membership Renewals on line:-

If paying via Direct Deposit to the MHAA® Bank Account, ***when making the deposit, ensure that you put your MHAA® Membership Number as the reference.*** When the payment transaction has been confirmed, complete Pages 1 and 2 of the Online Membership Renewal Form on line and make sure that you enter the bank receipt number in the box at the bottom of Page 2 and when completed, email the Online Membership Renewal Form to accounts@mhaa.com.au **Please remember if you pay your Membership direct into the bank account, to email your Membership Renewal Form, otherwise your Membership cannot be renewed. Also please make sure you note the bank receipt number on the Membership Renewal Form.**

For Membership Renewals paid via Credit Card:-

If paying via Credit Card, complete Pages 1 and 2 of the Membership Application / Membership Renewal Form and email the Form to accounts@mhaa.com.au

For Membership Renewals paid via Cheque or Money Order:-

If paying by Cheque or Money Order, complete Pages 1 and 2 of the Membership Application / Membership Renewal Form and post to the Office, PO Box 454, Drouin, Victoria 3818.

For Members wishing to pay their Membership via Credit Card, cheque or Money Order, cheque or credit card, we have attached a Membership Application / Renewal Form and for those Members who wish to pay via EFT, we are attaching an online Membership Application / Renewal Form. Alternatively, Members can find this Form on the website.

Reminder when Completing the Membership Application / Renewal Form for paying on line: it can be completed online but must be saved to your computer and then attached to an email. If not saved and sent straight from the online form you will be sending a blank form.

It is also timely to remind Members that in order to maintain continuity of their Membership, this year, they must renew by the 14th August, 2020. If you have not renewed by that date, ALL Membership privileges will cease, i.e. you will not be able to Register Foals, Upgrade Horses, enter Shows (when these are able to be held), vote at State or National level, or lodge any relevant paperwork with the office. In addition to that you will not be able to nominate for, or hold a position on a State or National Committee, even if you currently hold that position, as you will have to stand down immediately from the position, if your Membership is not renewed this year, by 14th August, 2020.

Therefore, to maintain your financial Membership status: it is in your own best interest to renew your Membership this year, by the 14th August, 2020.

If you have any queries with regards paying your Membership Renewal, please contact the National Secretary, Barb Voysey
Email: tygerbar@skymesh.com.au or Mobile: 0418 821100.

Reminders:

Stallion Breeding Reports (Stallion Returns) may be sent in at any time and we recommend that as soon as you have finished mating your Mares, send the Stallion Breeding Report (Stallion Return) to the office.

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.
As a reminder, Stallion Breeding Reports(Stallion Returns) must be received in the Office, this year, by 14 August,2020.

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.

Reports that are available: Members are reminded that they can obtain a Report listing all the Horses registered in their name in the database, as well as a Report listing all the Horses bred by them. These can be requested by sending to the office a Workorder, with payment and mark the following two items:-

Item 0071	Horses owned by Member (Report)	\$16-50
Item 0072	Horses bred by Member (Report)	\$16-50

Changes of address or email: Please remember if you change your postal or email address, you need to notify the office by using the change of address form, which is on the website. Please note that when you send in your Membership Renewal Form and your details have changed from those in the data base; these will automatically be updated.

State & National Committee Nomination Forms: National Committee Nomination Forms and for those States that are eligible, State Promotional Group Nomination Forms, have been posted to Members. Please consider nominating for one of the positions that are available.

AGM: With the current situation with regards travel restrictions and State lockdowns, we are unable to set a date for our AGM and when this is possible, Members will be advised.

If you have any queries with regards to anything in the E-News, or any other matter, or wish to contact the National Secretary, Barb Voysey, please note the new email address ... tygerbar@skymesh.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 that are in force due to the COVID-19 Pandemic ... so please, please ... TAKE CARE & STAY SAFE ... remember by us staying apart today ... we can be together tomorrow !!!

National Committee of Management Miniature Horse Association of Australia Inc

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