



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

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MHAA® Strong and gettier stronger

**... .. now leading the way as the FIRST and ONLY exclusive Miniature /Small Horse Registry, proudly
moving into our 29th year servicing the needs of Members around Australia and beyond !**

Dear Members,

As most Members are aware, Membership Renewals can now be done on line 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 direct to the Registry office, to a dedicated email address, which has been set up to accept Membership Renewals.

For Membership Renewals, the process is quite simple:-

- (1) 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

KINDLY NOTE: IF THE BANK RECEIPT NUMBER IS NOT ON THE FORM, THE MEMBERSHIP/S WILL NOT BE ABLE TO BE PROCESSED.

Or,

If paying by other payment options, complete Pages 1 and 2 of the Membership Application / Membership Renewal Form and post with correct fees, to the Office, PO Box 454, Drouin, Victoria 3818.

For Members wishing to pay their Membership via cheque or credit card, we have attached a Membership Application / Renewal Form; for those Members who wish to pay via EFT, we have attached the online Membership Application / Renewal Form.

Following the success of the Membership Renewal Incentive which we have done for the last few years, we are again offering Members the opportunity of being involved. Therefore, if you renew your MHAA® Membership on or before the 1st August, 2017, your Membership number will go into a draw to receive your 2018 / 2019 Membership at half price. Please note this applies to ALL Membership Renewals, irrespective if they are paid on line, or posted to the Office.

Four Youth and four Full Members will receive a voucher entitling them to a half price Membership for 2018 / 2019.

Those Members who were fortunate to be drawn out last year and receive half price Membership for 2017 / 2018 are:-

Youth Members:

M#5814 H. Valentine-Smith, Qld
M#5320 J. Evans, NSW
M#5506 J. Tome', Qld
M#5362 B. LeCompte, Qld

Full / Joint / Family / Handler:

M#327 N. Poulter, Vic
M#5162 R. Wallace, Qld
M#3546 W. Scerri, Vic
M#1291 E. Shoemith, Qld

The above Members will be notified in the next day or so, regarding payment of their Memberships this year.

It is also timely to remind Members that in order to maintain continuity of their Membership, they must renew by the 1st August, 2017. 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, 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 from the position and will not be able to nominate for a Committee position until after the next AGM.

Members are also reminded that if your Membership is not paid by the 1st of November, 2017, you will automatically be dropped from the Membership of the Association and re-joining after that date will incur a \$33-00 late fee, which will be enforced.

Therefore to maintain your financial Membership status, it is in your own best interest to renew your Membership by the 1st of August, 2017.

As most Members are also aware, you can now make all payments to MHAA® Via EFT, by simply making your Payment to the MHAA® Bank Account, putting your Member Number as reference and complete the EFT Payment Form; a copy of which we attach for your convenience. Then prepare your paperwork in the normal manner and post to the office (we always recommend Express Post) with a copy of the EFT Payment Form.

This new procedure will alleviate hold-ups with paperwork due to incorrect credit card numbers, credit cards being declined etc and has been welcomed by many Members and is a definite move forward for the Association.

If you have any queries with regards paying your Membership Renewal on line, or direct depositing the funds into the MHAA® Bank Account, please contact Brian Neal email: brian.neal.au@gmail.com or mobile: 0417 518695 or Barb Voysey email: tygerbar@internode.on.net or mobile: 0418 821100.

Stallion DNA: Sending your Stallion's DNA information to the office for noting on the MHAA® database:

We have been contacted by quite a few Members who are concerned about getting the DNA done for their Stallion and advising the MHAA® office before they send their Stallion Breeding Report (Stallion Return) into the office. There is no need for concern; there is no requirement to have your DNA lodged with the office until you want to register Foals that are born this season.

You can send in your Stallion Returns as normal, to be received in the office, on or before 1 August, 2017 and if you have the DNA information for your Stallion, you can send it in at the same time. Otherwise as soon as you have the DNA information to send to the office, do so; that way when you want register your Foals you can do so without delay.

Mare DNA: Although these don't have to be lodged with the Association until the breeding season 2020/2021, many Members are already having their Mares DNA done. If you have already had yours done, then you can send to the office anytime to have this put on the MHAA® database and if you send it in with other work, there will be no charge. Don't forget if you want to have it noted on your Mare's Registration Certificate that her DNA is on file, you need to send the original Registration Certificate to the office at the same time.

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. If you are unsure about this, please do not hesitate to contact the National Secretary or email admin@mhaa.com.au

Kindly note the Stallion Report cannot be filed in on line, but can be printed off in LANDSCAPE and completed by hand, or you can go on to the website and complete the form there.

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**. Remember that 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.

Stallion Returns maybe sent to the office at anytime and we recommend that as soon as you have finished mating your Mares, send the Stallion Breeding Report (Stallion Return) to the office.

Mare Nominations for Foal Futurity entries: If you have never nominated your Mare, you should consider doing so. If your Mare has been nominated, then you should consider entering her progeny in the Foal Futurity Classes at the 2018 National Show. So, get those Mare Nominations in ... remember the closing date for Mare Nominations is 1 August, 2017.

For those who do not understand the purpose of nominating your Mare or entering the Futurities, these are explained hereunder. Mare nomination fees of \$11 received each year, are divided by 5 and that money is allocated to each year the foal is eligible to show i.e. Foal. Yearling, 2 year old, 3 year old, 4 year old. Those funds, along with the entry fees for all Horses entered in the relevant Foal Futurity Class are added up and from that money, Trophies and Ribbons costs, together with a percentage of the expenses of the particular Show are deducted and the balance is paid out to the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd winners. Once a horse is over four years old, it is no longer eligible for futurity classes.

It is the Member's responsibility to make sure that your horse is eligible for the Futurity Class you enter, as there are no refunds on entry fees as all monies are paid to the winners. Members should also keep a copy of all Mare Nomination Forms that they send to the office, so they can check to make sure that the Mare has in fact been nominated, before they enter their Horse in the Foal Futurity Class. To assist Members in this regard, ALL Mares nominated (listed in the years they were nominated) are now on the MHAA® website, under the National Show section.

National Mare Nominations and Foal Futurity Classes are not run in connection with State Mare Nominations and Foal Futurity Classes, so Members are reminded that they need to enter their own relevant State Mare Nomination / Foal Futurities separately.

If you wish to have the Mare Nominations / Foal Futurities explained further please contact the National Secretary. .

Members are also reminded that it is recommended that they send mail to the Registry Office by Express Mail and also make sure that when they post mail that they allow for time delays, which seem to be more frequent with the mail these days.

DON'T FORGET THAT ALL Registrations and Membership Renewals are to be sent to the Registry Office, PO Box 454, Drouin, Victoria 3818, which is also noted on all Forms.

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.

As always, if you have any queries, please contact the National Secretary.

National Committee of Management
Miniature Horse Association of Australia Inc

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