



## STUD BOOK – WHITE PAPER

### BREEDING APPENDIX

#### Vision, Integrity & Principles

Currently the Board are reviewing ways of improving the integrity of the Society's Stud Book. Part of these discussions, include a vision to introduce a Breeding Appendix for mares and stallions. Below is an explanation of what a Breeding Appendix would mean for the Society and its Members. The Breeding Appendix has not been implemented. The Board are currently discussing suggested changes with members in open forums to gauge the potential impact from a wider audience. The Breeding Appendix would be presented to members at the 2018 AGM. Information currently available from the Board is as follows:

The Breeding Appendix is a registration system for breeding purposes only, at Appendix level, being the lowest level of registration. The Breeding Appendix is for horses that cannot be registered under our current rules and regulations, for example: station bred horses, horses with no (or limited) pedigree, or horses of other breeds.

Horses in the Breeding Appendix will have no ASH competition or sale rights, including all events, prizes, awards or sales restricted to Registered Australian Stock Horses. Horses accepted into the Breeding Appendix (BA-) must always be advertised as Breeding Appendix, if at any time privately sold or used at stud.

Horses registered in the Breeding Appendix will be able to be advertised at Stud in the Australian Stock Horse Journal and recorded in results for non-ASH events in the Australian Stock Horse Journal.

When a Breeding Appendix horse is bred to a Stud Book ASH, the progeny may be eligible under the First Cross regulations, after passing inspection by a Society Inspector as a mare or gelding. Stallions will remain ineligible for First Cross registration and may be registered under the Breeding Appendix.

Progeny of unregistered or non-Australian Stock Horses will not be eligible for First Cross ASH registration unless the unregistered or non-Australian Stock Horse has been registered in the Breeding Appendix. If the unregistered or non-Australian Stock Horse has NOT been registered in the Breeding Appendix, progeny will only be eligible for the Breeding Appendix (no ASH competition or sale rights), not First Cross.

The Breeding Appendix will enable the Society to record the horse's details, pedigree, identification and ownership. All horses in the Breeding Appendix must have a DNA record for parentage and/or progeny testing. Applicants will also require a breeding certificate signed by the Stallion Owner. Proof of breeding must be provided, otherwise the pedigree will be listed as unknown.

All horses being considered for the Breeding Appendix must be DNA tested for genetic disorders and proven as negative (or a non-carrier) before the horse is registered with the Society.

All horses in the Breeding Appendix must pass inspection by a Society Inspector for ASH type, have good conformation, intelligence with an alert and calm temperament, height between 14-16 hands and show overall balance. Horses should have an even gait and straight action. Horses with hereditary faults, undesirable characteristics or abnormalities would not be acceptable.

All owners must be Financial Members of the Society for the horse to be eligible for registration in the Breeding Appendix. Registration, inspection and DNA fees will apply for each application.

#### Advantages

- Better integrity for the stud book
- Reduce risk of genetic disorders
- Clarity for buyers and breeders regarding pedigree
- Re-introduction of horses that missed a generation of proven breeding
- Bigger genetic pool available to breeders
- Increase in membership
- Increase in registrations

Breeding Certificates must be completed within the breeding season the mare was served. Progeny will only be eligible for registration if the stallion owner is a financial member at time of service.

### HERITAGE STOCK HORSE

#### Progress & Process

Recognising Traditional Breeds - The Australian Stock Horse Society is dedicated to preserving the heritage of the breed by recognising Registered Australian Stock Horses that have descended from the same breeds as horses ridden by the Australian Light Horse in WWI and breeds that resided in Australia prior to 1945.

- With over 190,000 Registered ASH, only 45,000 horses (24%) have been assessed.
- In reviewing assessed horses, approximately 65% are HSH.

Whilst the Society promotes that horses are automatically assessed, with our current computer system this is a separate process to registration and is not automatically programmed. At this point in time, the Heritage Stock Horse breed percentages are not integrated with the horse's registration data and Heritage Stock Horse assessments remain a manual process in many ways. For this reason, the Society's capabilities are limited.

A new computer system is currently in development and the Society is looking forward to many technological advances when implemented. The Society has an expectation that Heritage Stock Horse assessments would become automated, where sufficient breed data is available on ancestors within the computer system. When this technology becomes available, the Society and members will see many improvements.

Currently, the Society is unable to provide Heritage Stock Horse assessments at time of registration, is unable to quickly determine the breed percentage and HSH status and must rely on members submitting a request for a full sibling to be updated. In regard to horses with two HSH parents, they are updated regularly and it may take a number of weeks to appear on the Online Stud Book. Members should initially check the horse's registration details on the Society's Online Stud Book to determine whether or not a horse has been assessed. If a horse has not been assessed, members may submit an application at any time, fee - \$25.00

Development of a new system is only in the preliminary stages. Initially, the Society's core processes like membership and horse registration will need to be developed and existing data transferred to the new platform. The Society will need to ensure that the new system continues to provide all necessary functions, no data is lost and the system undergoes robust testing and performance evaluations. As part of the development process, it is expected that technological improvements for the Society's future will be implemented in stages and members will ultimately benefit as a result.

Needless to say, until improvements are available, the Society will continue to work on Heritage Stock Horse assessments in a cost effective manner within the existing system. We appreciate members understanding and patience. The Heritage Stock Horse assessments will continue to be an ongoing project.