



COMMONWEALTH CLYDESDALE HORSE SOCIETY AUSTRALIA Inc. Studbook & Membership Regulations

1.1 Objects

The Society is established for the purposes expressed in the Statement of Purposes and particularly to maintain the purity and improve the breed of Clydesdale Horses and to promote the interests of breeders of Clydesdale Horses.

1.2 Breed Standards

Uniformity of type has long been a marked characteristic of the Clydesdale, and there is no breed of heavy horse so famous for its quality, cleanness of joints, hardness of bone, cleanness and correct setting of hock and length and slope of pastern, whilst for action, the Clydesdale is unrivalled. The general appearance of the Clydesdale can be assessed whilst the horse is standing in the optimal position of supporting itself equally well on each leg. The Clydesdale is also observed when in motion, at walk and trot. The preferred characteristics are as follows:

The height of the Clydesdale horse may range to over 17 hands. When the horse is fully matured it should be evenly balanced. Viewed from the side, the body should show plenty of depth, and from the front or rear should appear broad and thick. The depth of the body, through the chest and length of leg, should be approximately the same. Such proportions allow the Clydesdale's weight to be used to the best advantage.

Quality in the horse is manifested especially in the bone, skin and hair. As well, the general conformation should indicate a degree of superiority. The bone of the Clydesdale should be hard and dense, with a strong, compact cellular structure. The hair or "feather" down the back of the cannon is an indication of the quality of the bone, and should be long, fine and straight.

The head of the Clydesdale should be in proportion to the body. The face may be straight or slightly Roman nosed. The muzzle should show thin rather than heavy lips, which should come together evenly and with a wide-open nostril. The eyes should be rather oval than round, prominent, reasonably large and have thin smooth eyelids. When the iris of the eye is colourless, the eye appears to be white with a "wall eye" as a result. The sight of such an eye is quite as good as that of having a dark coloured iris. There should be plenty of width between the eyes and the forehead should be slightly arched, tapering away above the eyes to the poll. The ears should be pointed, of medium size and thin of texture, having a covering of fine hair.

The neck should be of moderate length, muscular yet not too thick, arched and well laid into the shoulder. The head should merely set into the neck at the right angle. A good head, neck and shoulders denote character, giving the animal a good outlook.

The shoulders should be moderately sloped and provide a sufficient collar bed. The shoulders should be fairly wide, well muscled, and the top should be carried close to and tapered into the back. The arm of the Clydesdale should be comparatively short, wide and muscular. This places the leg sufficiently under the body to provide the desirable position and action. The knee, viewed from the front, should be broad and flat, tapering to the cannon and, when viewed from the side, should be straight from the shoulder to the fetlock joint. The tendon at the back of the knee should contribute to give depth and strength.

The cannon of the foreleg should be long, wide, lean and flat as viewed from the side. The tendons should show prominently. The long hair or "feather" should spring from the back of the tendon and not from the sides of the cannon. It should be soft to touch and straight. The fetlock should be wide, when viewed from the side, and narrow viewed from the front, fine and well directed. The pastern should be fairly long and sloping, so as to relieve concussion in the course of action.

The foot must be sound and healthy. A good hoof head, with wide open heels and strong quarters, is preferred, otherwise a horse may have a tendency to develop unsoundness. The feet should preferably receive attention from when the animal is a foal until it is fully matured.

The chest of the Clydesdale should be deep, wide, low, and of large girth, indicating strong constitution with ample space for vital organs. The back should be short, broad and strongly supported, and slightly inclined upwards towards the croup. The loin should be short, wide and strongly muscled. This portion of the back should be short and as wide as possible, and the ribs long, well sprung and close together.

The flanks should be low and full.

The hind quarters are the great source of driving power. The hips should be wide, but in harmony with general body proportions, and well-muscled. The croup should be long, as seen from the side, wide as viewed from behind, and with sloping arch from the hips to the setting of the tail. It is important that the tail be attached high.

The thigh should be short, but heavily muscled. **The hock** is one of the most important points of the horse, as it is in this joint that the strain on the muscles, during action, is concentrated. The hock, should be broad, viewed from the side, and narrow, viewed from the rear, its point being prominent, and the joint as a whole, when viewed from the side should be well supported by a wide cannon below. The hock should be turned slightly, and close to each other, the cannon straight not 'sickle hocked' when viewed from the side. The hocks should not show fullness or swelling.

The hind cannons, like the front ones, should be broad when viewed from the side and thin when viewed from the front. They should be perpendicular, in line with the hind quarters. The hind fetlocks, as in the case of the front ones, should be wide, whilst the pasterns are less oblique than those of the fore legs. The hind feet are somewhat smaller than the front ones, not as round, but with good hoof heads and wide-open heels.

The hind legs, like the front ones, should be set into the body, not on the outside of the quarters, but well under, so that the muscles on the quarters project wider than the muscles on the thighs. The toes of the hind feet should incline slightly outward. There should be a good length from the point of the hock to the ground.

The action of the Clydesdale should be even; the hind and fore action should be in unison. The hind feet should be planted forward as deliberately as the fore ones, which should be evenly carried forward. At the walk, the hind foot should cover the imprint of the front foot as a minimum. Short stepping is a fault in the working horse. The hocks should be turned slightly inward. In trotting, the Clydesdale horse should bend the legs at the knees and hocks, and, from the hind view, the inside of the hooves or shoes should be seen at every step.

Reference: An article printed in August 1928 by the CCHSA in their "Horse News Annual" in relation to a description of the Clydesdale.

1.3 Stud Book Entry Regulations

1. Entries for the Stud Book will only be received from financial full Members of the Society on the distinct understanding that the entrant agrees to an inspection, if necessary, also to pay half the cost of such inspection and to accept the decision of the Federal Council Executive after receiving the Inspector's report.
2. All entries must be made on the Society's official forms, and must be forwarded directly to the Secretary, together with the prescribed fees.
3. The Secretary shall collect all fees payable for entries lodged and take all necessary steps within their power to certify the correctness of such entries. Before the publication of any volume of the Stud Book, all entries shall be finally examined by an Editing Committee appointed by the Federal Council, and any queried entries shall be referred to this Committee to the Federal Council whose decision shall be final.
4. The Federal Council reserves the right to refuse any entry if deemed necessary in the interests of the Society, without assigning a reason, and also reserves the right to cancel the registration of any animal, the pedigree of which already appears in a published volume, if it is proved to its satisfaction that the information published is incorrect.
5. The onus shall rest on the entrant in all cases of satisfying the Federal Council of the undoubted purity and pedigree of all animals submitted for registration.
6. Members will be held responsible for the accuracy of all information supplied, and the Federal Council may refuse to permit any alteration to be made to any pedigree submitted for inclusion in the Stud Book, and may cancel the entry, if the particulars originally supplied are later proved incorrect.
7. The Society will not be responsible for any loss or damage that may be sustained by anyone through the inaccuracy, omission, alteration or cancellation of any entry.
8. The application for the registration of a stallion in the Commonwealth Clydesdale Stud Book must contain name, date of birth, colour, and an accurate description of any white markings, particulars of brands, and/or microchip, the name and address of the breeder, in addition to the pedigree of the animal.
9. Each stallion bred in the Commonwealth must be the progeny of a registered sire (which is of "Clydesdale breeding", as defined in Regulation 10) and his dam must be registered in this Society's Stud Book.
10. Stallions bred in Great Britain or Ireland and registered in the Clydesdale Stud Book of Great Britain and Ireland or the progeny of sire and dam so registered (born in transit) will be eligible for registration.

11. Stallions bred overseas and registered in Stud Books including the Clydesdale Stud Book of Great Britain and Ireland, must be proved to possess three (3) pure crosses of "Clydesdale breeding" (that is to say, their sire, the sire of their dam, the sire of their second dam, be of "Clydesdale breeding" as defined in the following paragraph). (Such stallions will also be accepted and prescribed fees payable).
12. The term "Clydesdale breeding" means a stallion entered in the CCHSA Stud Book, or Volume 1 of the Australian Clydesdale Stud Book, or entered as a Clydesdale in Volumes 1. – X. of the Draught Horse Stud Book of Australia, or in Volumes 6, 7 and 8 of the New Zealand Draught Horse Stud Book, or bred in Great Britain, Ireland or New Zealand and registered in the Clydesdale Stud Book of Great Britain and Ireland or the New Zealand Clydesdale Stud Book.
13. The application for the registration of a gelding in the CCHSA Stud Book must contain the registered name, date of birth, colour and an accurate description of any white markings, particulars of brands and/or microchip, the name and address of the breeder, in addition to the pedigree of the animal.
14. Each gelding bred in the Commonwealth must be the progeny of a registered sire (which is of "Clydesdale breeding", as defined in Regulation 10) and his dam must be a registered mare already entered in this Society's Stud Book.
15. Geldings bred in Great Britain or Ireland and registered in the Clydesdale Stud Book of Great Britain and Ireland will be eligible for registration.
16. Stallions castrated are eligible for transfer to the gelding register at no fee.
17. The application for the registration of a mare in the numbered section of the CCHSA Stud Book must contain the name, date of birth, colour and accurate description of any white markings, particulars of brands and/or microchip, and the name and address of the breeder, in addition to the pedigree of the animal.
18. Each mare bred in the Commonwealth must be the progeny of a registered sire (which is of "Clydesdale breeding", as defined in Regulation 10) and her dam must be a registered mare already entered in this Society's Stud Book.
19. Mares bred in Great Britain or Ireland and registered in the Clydesdale Stud Book of Great Britain and Ireland, or the progeny of sire and dam so registered (born in transit) will be eligible for registration.
20. Mares bred overseas and registered in Stud Books including the Clydesdale Stud Book of Great Britain and Ireland must be proved to possess two (2) pure crosses of "Clydesdale breeding" (that is to say, their sire, the sire of their dam must be of "Clydesdale breeding", as previously defined in the Rules). (Such mares will also be accepted).
21. The registration of any Australian-bred animal in any Stud Book published outside the Commonwealth will not be recognised by this Society, and any such animal must comply with the regulations governing registration in this Society's Stud Book before it or its progeny will be accepted.
22. The progeny of Artificial Insemination and Embryo Transfer will be accepted by the Society as per the following.
 - (a) The Progeny of artificial insemination is permitted to be registered providing:
 - (i) The prescribed forms are completed and lodged with the Registrar
 - (ii) DNA typing of stallion, mare and progeny is carried out and is available to the Society
 - (iii) All Donor Mares used for Embryo Transfer must be free of hereditary unsoundness and will require a CCHSA Veterinarian Certificate of Soundness as per regulations for Stallions.
 - (b) The Society will not be held responsible for any loss/damage incurred by AI procedure undertaken by any veterinarian or technician listed in any publication of the Society.
 - (c) The registration of progeny by embryo transfer is permitted providing the DNA typing of the stallion, mare and progeny is carried out and is available to the Society and the Society is furnished with adequate notification of the procedure by the veterinary Surgeon involved. Up to ten (10) foal registrations per mare per breeding season will be permitted.
23. A maximum of 20 foals can be registered by one stallion in the breeding season.
24. All eligible animals imported from overseas must (on arrival) be registered in this Society's Stud Book, and the application must be accompanied by a certificate of registration from the Secretary of a recognized Stud Book published in the country from which such animal was imported. All imported horses must be DNA tested for a parentage test prior to being imported and entry into the CCHSA stud book
25. For each animal born after 1st August, being the progeny of registered parents, official application for registration must be received by 31st July of that breeding season. Failure to comply with this regulation shall

incur a penalty fee as determined by the Federal Council, in addition to the registration fee in respect of each animal, providing application is lodged within the following breeding season.

- (a) Each such application shall be accompanied by a Certificate of Service if the breeder is not the owner of the sire.
- (b) After 24 months post-foaling season, parentage is to be determined by three-way DNA identification (including progeny, sire and dam). All associated costs shall be borne by the applicant. After 36 months, post-foaling season, an animal shall be ineligible for registration.
- (c) The Society will only register or enter the progeny of stallions of which a Veterinary Certificate has been lodged with the Secretary stating that such sire is free from hereditary diseases and unsoundness as prescribed by Federal Council from time to time.
- (d) If born in Australia must be branded and/or microchipped within twelve months of foaling or when sold, whichever is sooner; and
 - (i) If bred in the State of Queensland be branded with the breeder's registered brand over a breeding number over the last numeral of the year of foaling.
 - (ii) If bred in a State of the Commonwealth of Australia other than Queensland, be branded on the near shoulder with the breeder's brand and be branded on the off shoulder with the breeding number over the last numeral of the year of foaling.
 - (iii) The breeding number shall indicate the order in point of time in which the animal was foaled in relation to other animals (regardless of sex) of such first owner bearing the same brand and tendered for registration. No two foals of the same first owner shall be branded with the same number.

The year of ageing Clydesdales commences on 1st August each year. Imported Clydesdales are to be branded with the importer's brand.

26. Notification of transfer by the vendor within sixty days from date of sale of any animal registered or recorded in the Stud Book is compulsory. When a female is being transferred, it must be Stated whether or not she has been served, and, if served, the name of the stallion and the date of service must be given. Such transfers must be made on the Society's official forms, and be lodged with the Secretary, together with the prescribed fee. Failure to comply with this rule will entail a penalty as determined from time to time per head on the vendor, in addition to the transfer fee, and no transfer for an animal will be accepted unless its registration has been completed.
27. Every breeder must register a separate stud name, of not more than two words, and shall not exceed 16 characters, for use exclusively as a prefix to the names of animals bred by them. The final granting of any application for the registration of a stud name shall rest with the Federal Council, which will, as far as possible, safeguard stud names registered with the Clydesdale Horse Societies of Great Britain and Ireland, and New Zealand. (No fee). Each stud name must carry its own individual stud brand, unless microchipping is the alternative to branding.
28. The purchaser of a stud shall have no right to the previous owner's prefix, except with the written sanction of the previous owner and with the approval of the Federal Council.
29. An animal's name shall not exceed 36 characters, including the breeder's prefix, which must be used and no stud prefix other than the breeder's will be permitted as any portion of the name. Names, once registered, cannot afterwards be changed.
30. No animal will be accepted for registration while the name contains any registered Australian stud prefix, unless such animal had been named when recorded as a foal by the breeder in a recognised Stud Book published in the country where the animal was bred.
31. The breeder of an animal is the recorded owner of its dam at date of foaling.
32. All deaths and castrations of registered animals should be notified within sixty days.
33. It shall be the duty of all Members to keep proper records of their stud breeding activities, such records to be open for inspection at any time by any person appointed by any Branch or the Federal Council.
34. Stallion Inspection – Provisional Certificate - A stallion cannot be inspected for a Certificate of Inspection before the age of 2 years. At 2 years a stallion can be inspected for a Provisional Certificate of Inspection and a DNA sample is to be collected and sent to be tested by the CCHSA preferred laboratory. This number will be recorded on the Certificate of Registration. The Provisional Certificate will cover the stallion up to the age of 5 years, at which time it will expire. This inspection is not necessary if the stallion is not used for breeding purposes until over 5 years of age.
35. Life Certificate - From 5 years a stallion must be inspected for a Life Certificate of Inspection, if no DNA sample is on file at this time a sample must be collected if further progeny is to be registered. This number will be recorded on the Certificate of Registration.

Please Note - The age of a colt or stallion is to be calculated from the 1st August.

36. DNA Testing Stallions/Colts –

- (i) All stallions for breeding purposes born after the 1st August 2010 must be DNA tested at the time of Provisional or Life Certificate Inspection.
- (ii) DNA from stallions/colts must be collected & brands/microchip verified by a licensed veterinarian.

37. DNA Testing Mares/Fillies –

1. DNA testing of females and parent verification is desirable but not compulsory.
2. When testing mares/fillies, DNA must be collected & brands/microchip verified by:
 - (ii) a licensed veterinarian, or
 - (iii) by the breeder themselves, if the mare's dam, DNA is already on record with the CCHSA, or
 - (iv) an acknowledged breeder with current membership of CCHSA other than the mare owner, who doesn't have a direct conflict of interest. Approved by CCHSA.

1.4 Membership

CCHSA Membership categories are Life Members, Full Members, Next Gen Members, Junior Members, Honorary Members, Complimentary Members hereafter simply known as member.

1. Any person interested in the breeding of Clydesdales desiring to become a member of the CCHSA shall forward their name and address and Application for Membership, together with the amount of annual subscription as determined from time to time to the Secretary of the CCHSA, and, on receiving their acknowledgement, shall become possessed of the rights and privileges of the Membership until the expiry of the then current financial year, subject to the approval of the Federal Council, which may, if deemed advisable, decline to receive any person as a member without assigning any reason therefore.
2. Upon application to transfer the registration of an animal to a non-member, said non-member is granted Complimentary Membership of the Society for the remainder of the then current financial year. Complimentary Membership can only be granted if the non-member has never previously been a member of the CCHSA.
3. No member whose subscription is in arrears shall be entitled to vote at any meeting, be elected to any office, or enter animals in the Stud Book.
4. Any member of the CCHSA, who in the opinion of the Federal Council may be guilty of misrepresentation, deception, fraud or improper conduct in relation to the registry, entry in the Stud Book, ownership, age, record, sale or exhibition of any animal, or who may, in the opinion of the Federal Council, be guilty of any conduct or practice unbefitting a member of the CCHSA, or calculated to discredit the CCHSA, may, after due enquiry, at which such member shall be entitled to be present for the purpose of making any statement in their defense, be declared by the Federal Council to have forfeited their membership, and the said Council may, in its uncontrolled discretion cancel the registration of any or all animals appearing as their property in the Stud Book.
5. Life Member: A person who the Federal Council determines is worthy of Life Membership shall meet the following criteria
 - I. Be a current Financial Member
 - II. Contribution of nominee of CCHSA
 - III. Service to promotional activities
 - IV. Executive positions held in State/Federal (Groups)
 - v. Service to Members may include:
 - (a) Adjudication
 - (b) Field Days
 - (c) Exhibition Involvement
 - (d) Mentoring Roles
 - (e) Knowledge of the CCHSA
 - (f) Service and length of time on Committee of CCHSA / Other Roles
 - (g) Have owned, bred and shown Clydesdales within the CCHSA Membership

- vi. Should any Member wish to nominate another Member for Life Membership within the Society, a letter of intent is to be forwarded to the State Committee thirty (30) days prior to the State's Annual General Meeting.
 - vii. If nominations are endorsed at State level, such nominations are to be forwarded to the Federal Secretary prior to the next scheduled Federal Council Annual General Meeting.
 - viii. The Federal Council can bestow a Life Membership on a Member at any time if in its opinion they meet the criteria but have not necessarily been nominated by a State Committee.
6. The Federal Secretary shall keep and maintain a Register of Members in which shall be entered the full name, address and date of entry of the name of each member.
 7. Any member wishing to relinquish their membership can do so by written notice to the Federal Secretary of the CCHSA, but no such decision shall relieve any member from payment of any back subscriptions or other monies due by them to the CCHSA at the time of such resignation.
 8. Upon the expiration of a notice given under sub-clause (1) the Federal Secretary shall make in the Register of Members an entry recording the date on which the member by whom the notice was given ceased to be a member.
 9. Any question or questions from time to time arising as to the interpretation of any of these Rules, or any question arising on any subject within the scope of the CCHSA's authority not otherwise provided for shall be decided by the Federal Council, the decision shall in such cases be final and binding on all members, and all members shall be bound by these Rules.
 10. Upon a member failing to pay the required annual subscription within 60 days after the expiry of membership (30th June) a re-joining fee set by the Federal Council must be paid to reactivate a previous membership.
 11. Any member of the CCHSA, who in the opinion of the Federal Council, has refused or neglected to comply with the Rules of the CCHSA or has been guilty of Conduct Unbecoming as a Member or prejudicial to the interests of the CCHSA, will be subject to the Disciplinary Procedure.
 12. Where disciplinary action is necessary, the Federal Secretary shall notify the member of the reason. The first warning will be in writing and will be recorded in the Federal Council minutes.
 13. If the problem continues, the matter will be discussed by the Federal Executive and a second warning in writing will be given to the member and recorded in the Federal Council minutes.
 14. If the problem continues, the member will be invited to a Federal Council meeting, for the purpose of making a statement in their defense. If a final warning is to be given, then it shall be issued in writing and recorded in the Federal Council minutes.

After resolution by the Federal Council, the member may be:-

- (a) Suspended from membership of the CCHSA for a specified period; or
- (b) Expelled from the CCHSA

If the member is a Federal Council member, they are not entitled to vote.

If after any warning, a period of twelve months elapses without any further warnings or action being required, all adverse reports relating to the warning must be removed from a personal file, if maintained. If a dispute should arise over the disciplinary action, the course of action to be followed is that of the Grievance Procedure.