

THE AUSTRALIAN STOCK HORSE SOCIETY LIMITED

ABN 35 001 440 437

P O Box 288, SCONE NSW 2337

Phone: 02 6545 1122

Fax: 02 6545 2165

Website: www.ashs.com.au

Email: info@ashs.com.au



Australian Stock Horse

Rules and Regulations

Section 5 - Identification of Horses

1 IDENTIFICATION OF HORSES

- 1.1 The organising committee for an ASH event may appoint two Society Inspectors to view horses prior to competition. The organising committee for an Approved ASH Sale must appoint two Society Inspectors to view horses prior to sale.
- 1.2 The Society Inspector must REJECT a horse for an ASH event (including an Approved ASH Sale) if the identity of the horse is not acceptable under the Verification of Brands and Markings Policies.
- 1.3 Verification of Brands Policy
 - 1.3.1 Any horse presented for identification must have been branded. As a minimum, the Stock Brand, identification and year number as indicated on the Certificate of Registration MUST BE clearly visible on the horse for identification purposes. The brand must be the same characters as the brand indicated on the horse's Certificate of Registration for the specified body part.
 - 1.3.2 The Society Inspector will determine whether the brand is clearly visible as follows:
 - 1.3.2.1 Part of the brand is visible, the brand characters can be deciphered. In the case of a stock brand with three characters, at least two characters of the brand must be clearly visible and be able to be deciphered.
 - 1.3.3 Irrespective of the coat condition, the Society Inspector will adjudicate whether the brand is NOT clearly visible as follows:
 - 1.3.3.1 The brand characters are unable to be deciphered.
 - 1.3.4 A horse would NOT be rejected due to a brand discrepancy, if the Society Inspector has identified the following:
 - 1.3.4.1 The horse has been branded with the Society's A Brand.
 - 1.3.4.2 The horse has additional brands not indicated on the horse's Certificate of Registration.
 - 1.3.4.3 If not rejected and should the Society Inspector believe that the registration should be updated, the following is required:
 - 1.3.4.3.1 Payment of the prescribed Amendment Fee and Late Amendment Penalty Fee – cheque, money order or credit card (MasterCard or Visa ONLY). Cash will not be acceptable. A tax invoice will be issued by the Society after payment is received at Head office.
 - 1.3.4.3.2 The Current Owner must complete a Statutory Declaration – Horse Identification Amendment with colour, all white markings, brands and identification marks, to the satisfaction of the Society Inspector. The declaration must be signed by the Current Owner and witnessed by a Justice of the Peace or Solicitor.
 - 1.3.4.3.3 The inspector to ensure that the declaration is promptly submitted to the Society with the horse's ORIGINAL Certificate of Registration and the owner's payment.
 - 1.3.5 A horse WOULD BE REJECTED due to a brand discrepancy, if the Society Inspector has identified any of the following on the horse's Certificate of Registration:



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- 1.3.5.1 The stock brand, identification and year numbers indicated on the horse's Certificate of Registration are not clearly visible on the horse.
 - 1.3.5.2 A brand indicated on the horse's Certificate of Registration when compared to a visible brand on the horse for the same body part, has different characters.
 - 1.3.5.3 A brand indicated on the horse's Certificate of Registration when compared to the horse presented for inspection is located on the incorrect body part.
 - 1.3.6 Handwriting size or style would not detract from a horse being accepted providing the brands on the horse are clearly visible and correspond to the horse's Certificate of Registration.
- 1.4 Verification of Markings Policy
- 1.4.1 The body coat colour and white markings on the horse presented for inspection should be identical with the horse's Certificate of Registration, irrespective of the coat condition and subject to the coat being dry (except under wet weather conditions).
 - 1.4.2 A horse would NOT be rejected due to a marking discrepancy, if the Society Inspector has identified that the following has not been indicated on the horse's Certificate of Registration:
 - 1.4.2.1 Hair whorls.
 - 1.4.2.2 A recent injury or swelling.
 - 1.4.2.3 Permanent scars.
 - 1.4.2.4 Other acquired markings – saddle or girth marks, split ear, enlarged joint and the like.
 - 1.4.3 A horse would NOT be rejected due to a MINOR marking discrepancy, if the Society Inspector has identified that the horse's Certificate of Registration is adequate for the identity of the horse to be confirmed. Such minor marking discrepancies are as follows:
 - 1.4.3.1 A white marking has been completed accurately on only one side view of the horse.
 - 1.4.3.2 Small markings on body coat not visible at time of registration or acquired markings since registration which may have resulted from rain scald, saddlemarks, scars and the like.
 - 1.4.3.3 A white marking lacks an accurate shape definition, the size is slightly inaccurate or the marking is slightly off centre.
 - 1.4.3.4 The horse's coat colour has changed due to increasing age (foal to mature age coat), genetics (grey) or coat colour could be affected with seasonal changes (summer/winter – bay/brown, brown/black).
 - 1.4.3.5 If not rejected and should the Society Inspector believe that the registration should be updated, the following is required:
 - 1.4.3.5.1 Payment of the prescribed Amendment Fee and Late Amendment Penalty Fee – cheque, money order or credit card (MasterCard or Visa ONLY). Cash will not be acceptable. A tax invoice will be issued by the Society after payment is received at Head office.
 - 1.4.3.5.2 The Current Owner must complete a Statutory Declaration – Horse Identification Amendment with colour, all white markings, brands and identification marks, to the satisfaction of the Society Inspector. The declaration must be signed by the Current Owner and witnessed by a Justice of the Peace or Solicitor.
 - 1.4.3.5.3 The inspector to ensure that the declaration is promptly submitted to the Society with the horse's ORIGINAL Certificate of Registration and the owner's payment.
 - 1.4.4 A horse WOULD BE REJECTED from an ASH event (including Approved ASH Sales), if the Society Inspector has identified a SIGNIFICANT marking discrepancy whereby any other person could dispute the identity of the horse. Such significant marking discrepancies are as follows:
 - 1.4.4.1 Any white marking on the horse (visible from a three metre distance) has NOT been completed for the specific body part.

1.4.4.2 A white marking on the registration is not evident on the specific body part, excluding horses with a grey (white in colour) body coat.

1.4.4.3 A horse's coat colour is incorrect (with exception of rule 1.4.3.4).

1.5 Rejected Horse Policy

1.5.1 In the event of a rejected horse, the horse's Certificate of Registration would be collected by the Inspector. A Rejected Horse Identification form shall be completed by the Inspector and witnessed by an adult in charge of the horse. The Certificate will be held by the Society and the horse is SUSPENDED until the identification has been rectified to the satisfaction of the Society.

1.5.2 A second inspection may be requested by the current owner prior to the event commencing. At the second inspection, the horse's identification may be accepted providing the specified documents have been completed to the satisfaction of the Inspector. The required documents for amendment to the horse's identification are as follows:

1.5.2.1 Payment of the prescribed Amendment Fee and Late Amendment Penalty Fee – cheque, money order or credit card (MasterCard or Visa ONLY). Cash will not be acceptable. A tax invoice will be issued by the Society after payment is received at Head office.

1.5.2.2 The Current Owner must complete a Statutory Declaration – Horse Identification Amendment with colour, all white markings, brands and identification marks, to the satisfaction of the Society Inspector. The declaration must be signed by the Current Owner and witnessed by a Justice of the Peace or Solicitor.

1.5.2.3 When a Certificate of Registration indicates that the horse has been transferred by the Society, the member who originally registered the horse, as identified on the Certificate of Registration as "Registered by", must also sign a Statutory Declaration – Horse Identification Amendment with colour, all white markings, brands and identification marks, to the satisfaction of the Society Inspector. The declaration must be signed by the Member and witnessed by a Justice of the Peace or Solicitor. An emailed or faxed copy of the declaration is acceptable providing the printed document is clear and legible.

1.5.2.4 For the horse's identification to be accepted, the required declaration/s must be identical in relation to the horse's identification and must be completed and signed to the satisfaction of the Society Inspector. If accepted, the initial Reject Horse Identification should be destroyed.

1.5.2.5 Failure to produce all required documents, completed and signed as required, would result in the horse remaining REJECTED from the event, as the identity of the horse could be disputed.

1.5.2.6 NOTE: If NO brands are clearly visible on the horse presented for inspection, the horse is NOT eligible for a second inspection and will remain REJECTED from the event, as the identity of the horse could be disputed.

1.5.3 The inspector must ensure that the Rejected Horse Identification or Statutory Declaration – Horse Identification Amendment forms are promptly submitted to the Society with the horse's ORIGINAL Certificate of Registration and the owner's payment.

1.6 Policy for Society Inspectors

1.6.1 The organising committee must appoint a minimum of two Society Inspectors at an ASH Event (including Approved ASH Sales) when verification of horses' identification is to be conducted.

1.6.2 When the identity of the horse is not in dispute by the Society Inspector, the horse may be accepted into the sale or event.

1.6.3 A Society Inspector is NOT able to participate in the inspection of any horse as indicated below:

1.6.3.1 The Inspector has a conflict of interest – any situation whereby the Inspector's decision may be influenced.

1.6.3.2 The Inspector has a pecuniary interest – expectation of financial gain or loss.

1.6.3.3 The Inspector's immediate family, including partner, owns the horse.

- 1.6.3.4 The Inspector is a business partner, employer or employee of the member.
- 1.6.3.5 A horse currently owned or previously owned (less than one year) by the Inspector.
- 1.6.3.6 The horse was sired by a stallion currently owned or owned within a twelve month period of inspection date by the Inspector.
- 1.6.4 When an Inspector is NOT able to inspect a horse or has concerns in relation to accepting or rejecting a horse, the inspection of the horse must be referred to the alternate Inspector or a Director of the Board should be consulted. The organising committee may approve exemptions to this rule under exceptional circumstances.
- 1.6.5 Conflict of Interest/Pecuniary Interest
 - 1.6.5.1 CONFLICT OF INTEREST – is defined as a situation in which a Society Official (Director, Inspector, Judge and the like) has a duty to make decisions on behalf of the Society and has an interest in the subject sufficient to appear to influence the decision to pass judgement (accept, reject, score, place and the like).
 - 1.6.5.2 A PECUNIARY INTEREST – is defined as an interest that a Society Official (Director, Inspector, Judge and the like) may have in relation to a person or horse because of a reasonable likelihood or expectation of appreciable financial gain or loss to the person.
 - 1.6.5.3 Having a CONFLICT OF INTEREST or PECUNIARY INTEREST is not evidence of wrongdoing, but it may appear to compromise a decision. When making a choice to act as a Society Official, the person must consider the responsibilities of acting in the capacity of the position. The Society expects any person accepting a role as a Society Official to make decisions that are objective and independent from such interests that can result in impartial decisions.
 - 1.6.5.4 When a situation is recognised that could be considered a CONFLICT OF INTEREST or PECUNIARY INTEREST, the response is straightforward: make the interest known and decline the duty. An interest may be that of the person; the person's spouse or de facto partner, a business partner, employer or employee and the like.
 - 1.6.5.5 A Society Official does not have a CONFLICT OF INTEREST if the concern is so insignificant, or a PECUNIARY INTEREST if the expectation of gain or loss is so remote or insignificant; that it could not reasonably be regarded as likely to influence any decision the person might make in relation to the decision. A person is not taken to have a Conflict of Interest or Pecuniary Interest in a matter, if the person is unaware of the interest.
- 1.7 Owner's Responsibility
 - 1.7.1 The registered owner of the horse is responsible for ensuring that the person in charge of the horse at an ASH event is able to produce a copy of the horse's Certificate of Registration for identification purposes. Failure to produce the horse's Certificate of Registration would ultimately result in the horse being REJECTED for participation in the ASH event (including Approved ASH Sales).
 - 1.7.2 It is the responsibility of the owner to ensure that the horse's Certificate of Registration is correct and the identity of the horse can be verified at time of inspection under the Verification of Brands and Marking Policies.

2 IDENTIFICATION DETAILS

- 2.1 All identification details must be completed on the application for registration as follows:
- 2.2 Markings
 - 2.2.1 All white markings must be outlined and shaded in accordingly.
 - 2.2.2 White flecking should be indicated by small light lines scattered over the area.
 - 2.2.3 Coloured spots must be outlined and the colour identified.
- 2.3 Scars

- 2.3.1 All scars should be indicated by a small “x” and a large scar by a series of small “x” along the affected area.
- 2.4 Hair Whorls
 - 2.4.1 Hair whorls should be shown wherever possible by a small “o” together with an arrow in the direction of the whorl.
- 2.5 Microchip
 - 2.5.1 Microchips are a form of horse identification and are NOT compulsory. Microchips do not waive the requirement for the horse to be branded.
- 2.6 Distinguishing Marks
 - 2.6.1 Any peculiar, abnormal markings or a deformity must be indicated and labelled accordingly on the horse diagram; for example, indentations, wall eye, permanent lameness, capped hip, enlarged joint, one eye, etc.
 - 2.6.2 ALL DISTINGUISHING MARKS, BRANDS, HAIR WHORLS, SCARS, ETC SHOULD BE COMPLETED ON THE HORSE DIAGRAM IN A BLACK INK PEN.

3 COLOUR

- 3.1 The horse’s colour on the Registration is based on the horse’s **Physical Appearance** with colours identified under the Society’s Rules and Regulations. True genetic colour may be ambiguous for Society Inspectors and/or other members, as the true genetic colour may be hidden by physical appearance.
- 3.2 The coat colour of a foal can appear mousy grey or dun when the foal is born and when the foal’s coat sheds; the true base colour will become obvious. While most horses remain the same base colour throughout life, some will develop a different base colour as the horse matures.
- 3.3 Owners of newborn foals are advised to submit the Application for Registration after the foal coat has shed (Society recommend a minimum of 4 months of age) to reduce the chance of colour amendments being necessary in the future.
- 3.4 The foal coat may mask identifying white markings on the horse’s lower legs and muzzle and after the foal coat has shed, these markings will become obvious.
- 3.5 As a horse matures, members are strongly advised to check the horse’s coat colour and identifying markings against the horse’s Certificate of Registration to ensure the horse’s identification has remained accurate.
- 3.6 Owners of Registered Australian Stock Horses may privately arrange Horse Coat Colour Testing to identify a horse’s **True Genetic Colour** at their own expense. The result of such testing may, in addition to physical appearance colour, may be noted separately on the horse’s Registration. To update the registration to include True Genetic Colour, the following must be submitted to the Society:
 - 3.6.1 The horse’s original Certificate of Registration.
 - 3.6.2 Documents from the Genetic Colour Testing Laboratory.
 - 3.6.3 Colour photographs of the horse (front, back, near and off sides).
 - 3.6.4 The prescribed amendment fee.
- 3.7 The basic coat colours are black, brown, bay and chestnut, although the categories of black/brown and bay/brown are acceptable. These may be modified by either dominant patterns or diluting genes to produce grey, roan, taffy, pied, dun, palomino and white.
- 3.8 Black - black pigment is generally throughout the body coat, including muzzle, flanks, limbs, mane and tail. No pattern other than white markings is present. There are two types of Black, fading and non-fading, as follows:
 - 3.8.1 Non-fading black is also known as jet black and does not generally fade.
 - 3.8.2 Fading black horses with exposure to the elements and sweat may lose some of the black character and may have a rusty tinge, but the fine hairs around the eyes and muzzle will be black.
- 3.9 Brown - the body colour is predominantly brown or black, with flesh colour mealy or brown around the muzzle and flanks. Mane, tail and lower parts of the legs are black.
- 3.10 Bay - the body coat is bay, although the shade may vary from dull red, approaching brown, to a yellowish colour approaching chestnut. The mane and tail are black and almost invariably there is black on the lower legs and tips of the ears.

- 3.11 Chestnut - the body colour ranges from a light washy yellow, through golden and reddish shades, to a dark liver colour, with the pigment being evenly distributed. The mane and tail are chestnut colour which may be lighter or darker than the body coat. The darkest chestnuts may appear chocolate, liver colour or nearly black and will show some red character in their coats, usually around the eyes, the pasterns or in the mane or tail and the coat is entirely free of true black hair.
- 3.12 Grey - the body colour is an uneven mixture of coloured and white hairs. The foal will show a basic colour at birth, but with increasing age white hair gradually develops and eventually the whole body turns grey. White hairs usually appear first on the face. The colour of the mane, tail and points is that associated with the basic colour. The skin will be dark, the base colour of a grey may not be known unless the animal is viewed at a very young age and should be stated if known. By applying the laws of inheritance, a grey horse must have at least one grey parent.
- 3.13 Roan - the body coat colour has a fairly even mixture of white and base coat colour hairs throughout the body, but the head, lower legs, mane and tail remain the same as the base coat colour that identifies the type of roan, ie Chestnut Roan, Bay Roan, Black Roan, etc. The base coat colour always precedes the word roan.
- 3.14 Buckskin/Dun – results from a single cremello dilution of solid colours and the horse's skin is black. The colour options for registration are defined as follows:
- 3.14.1 Buckskin – the body coat colour is cream, yellow, golden or coppery with black legs, mane and tail. The body coat colour for burnt buckskin may appear very dark, bordering to brown.
- 3.14.2 Dun – the body coat colour may appear red, yellow-tan, mouse-brown or blue and always has dun factors (dorsal stripe, mask, leg barring and/or shoulder stripes). The dorsal strip, legs, mane and tail will be a darker shade of the same body colour. A gunmetal silver, slate grey or blue black horse with a dorsal stripe is known as Grullo (pronounced gru-yo). A red body coat colour with a dorsal stripe is known as Red Dun
- 3.15 Palomino - body colour may vary from a light yellow to golden yellow with a white mane and tail.
- 3.16 Pied or Broken Colours – also known as pinto, a horse marked with significant white patches on the body coat. For registration purposes, the horse will be registered with base colours and pied (ie, Bay Pied, Chestnut/Grey Pied, etc). All pied horses must have a pied parent. There are four coat patterns in pied horses known as tobiano, sabino, overo and splashed white.
- 3.17 Taffy - the body coat is a red colour with flaxen coloured mane, tail and chocolate lower legs or dark chocolate body colour, silver dapples and light mane/tail. The coat colour should be identified as Bay Taffy, Chestnut Taffy, Brown Taffy, etc.
- 3.17 White/Cream Dilute – results from a double cremello dilution and the horse's skin is pink. The colour options for registration are defined as follows:
- 3.17.1 Cremello – the body coat colour is light cream, ivory or yellow. The mane and tail will be white or ivory and the eyes are blue.
- 3.17.2 Perlino – the body coat colour is light cream, tan or coffee coloured. Mane and tail will be smoky, tan or coffee coloured and eyes are blue.
- 3.17.3 Champagne – the body coat colour may appear yellow, tan, coffee or silvery chocolate. The mane and tail may be a lighter or dark variation of the body coat colour. The skin may be freckled and will be a brownish pink; the eyes will be amber (born with blue eyes).

4 **STOCK BRANDS**

- 4.1 Every horse for which an application for registration or recording has been made with the Society, must be clearly branded in such a way that the horse can be positively identified.
- 4.2 The Society will accept any stock brand, freeze or fire. Registration of a stock brand with a Department of Agriculture is not compulsory, as brands for registration purposes are only regarded as an acquired marking for identification purposes.
- 4.3 Brands on the horse must coincide with the brands shown on the Application for Registration or Foal Recording.
- 4.4 It is recommended that the stock brand is placed on the near shoulder.
- 4.5 A horse which has been incorrectly or indistinctly branded must never be re-branded over the site of the existing brand. Should the brands on the Certificate of Registration not correspond with the

brands on the horse, the Certificate will require amendment, please refer to Rule 7 – Alterations to Identification.

- 4.6 If the brands indicated on a horse's Certificate do not correspond with the brands on the horse, please refer to Rule 7 – Alterations to Identification.

5 NUMERAL BRANDS

- 5.1 For identification purposes, it is compulsory that horses born after 1st August 1997 be branded with numeral brands. Numeral brands consist of an identifying number (being the top brand) and a foaling year number (being the bottom brand).
- 5.2 Foaling Year is defined as a twelve-month period starting on 1st August and ending 31st July of the following year, during which a foal is born. The Foaling Year is abbreviated to a single year, being the year the period commences. For example: the Foaling Year commencing on 1st August 2014 and ending on 31st July 2015 is the 2014 Foaling Year.
- 5.2.1 In Europe and North America, the foaling year period is 1st January to 31st December of the same year. The Foaling Year is abbreviated to two digits, referring to the year the period commences (1st January). For example: the Foaling Year commencing on 1st January 2015 is the 2015 Foaling Year.
- 5.3 It is recommended that the numeral brands be placed on the off shoulder or in accordance with the Department of Agriculture in the State or Territory where the branding takes place.
- 5.4 A horse born before 1st August 1997 may be branded with only a foaling year brand. The brand must coincide with the foaling year in which the foal was born.
- 5.5 The identifying number signifies the order in which horses born in the same foaling year were branded with the stock brand. A horse branded with an identifying number must also be branded with a year number.
- 5.6 The following year numbers apply to the foal years indicated:

| YEAR | <u>Australasia, Asia, Africa, South America</u> | <u>Europe & North America</u> |
|---------------|--|---|
| NUMBER | FOALING YEAR | FOALING YEAR |
| 8 | 1st August <u>2008</u> to 31st July 2009 | 1st January <u>2008</u> to 31st December 2008 |
| 9 | 1st August <u>2009</u> to 31st July 2010 | 1st January <u>2009</u> to 31st December 2009 |
| 0 | 1st August <u>2010</u> to 31st July 2011 | 1st January <u>2010</u> to 31st December 2010 |
| 1 | 1st August <u>2011</u> to 31st July 2012 | 1st January <u>2011</u> to 31st December 2011 |
| 2 | 1st August <u>2012</u> to 31st July 2013 | 1st January <u>2012</u> to 31st December 2012 |
| 3 | 1st August <u>2013</u> to 31st July 2014 | 1st January <u>2013</u> to 31st December 2013 |
| 4 | 1st August <u>2014</u> to 31st July 2015 | 1st January <u>2014</u> to 31st December 2014 |
| 5 | 1st August <u>2015</u> to 31st July 2016 | 1st January <u>2015</u> to 31st December 2015 |
| 6 | 1st August <u>2016</u> to 31st July 2017 | 1st January <u>2016</u> to 31st December 2016 |
| 7 | 1st August <u>2017</u> to 31st July 2018 | 1st January <u>2017</u> to 31st December 2017 |
| 8 | 1st August <u>2018</u> to 31st July 2019 | 1st January <u>2018</u> to 31st December 2018 |

- 5.7 Any horse branded with the incorrect foaling year brand must be re-branded below the existing brand or in another position with the correct foaling year brand.
- 5.8 The first foal to be branded with a stock brand and born in the 2015 foaling year would be branded 1 over 5. The second foal to be branded, born in the same foaling year, would be branded 2 over 5.
- 5.9 Should the owner of a stock brand loan the stock brand to another person, the identifying number must remain in the subsequent number order for horses branded with that stock brand and born in the same foaling year.

6 SOCIETY'S A BRAND

- 6.1 The Branch must appoint Branding Officers for the purpose of branding Registered **STUD BOOK** Australian Stock Horses with the Society's A Brand. The Branch must ensure that Branding Officers are adequately experienced with freeze and fire brands.

- 6.2 Branding Officers should advise horse owners of any necessary information prior to branding, i.e., freeze branded horses should not become wet or be rugged for a period of time after branding.
- 6.3 Branding Officers must not brand any horse unless the appropriate **STUD BOOK** Certificate of Registration is produced.
- 6.4 The Branding Officer accepts the same responsibilities as a Society Inspector under the Society's Identification Policy (including Verification of Brands, Verification of Markings and Society Inspector Policies) in relation to verifying the identity of the horse prior to branding with the Society's A Brand as follows:
- 6.4.1 If the horse would not be rejected under the policy, the Branding Officer may brand the horse with the Society's A Brand on the near thigh.
- 6.4.2 If the horse is REJECTED under the policy, the Branding Officer must NOT brand the horse with the Society's A Brand. The horse's Certificate of Registration would be collected by the Branding Officer and forwarded to the Society with a Rejected Horse Identification form within seven days of the inspection. This form shall be completed by the Branding Officer and witnessed by an adult in charge of the horse. The Certificate will be held by the Society until such time as the Society is satisfied that the owner has rectified the registration anomalies in accordance with the regulations. The rejected horse is suspended until the registration has been rectified and the Certificate of Registration is returned to the owner.
- 6.5 Once branded, the horse's Certificate of Registration is then duly stamped with the Society's A Brand stamp and the Certificate of Registration returned to the owner by the Branding Officer.
- 6.6 It is recommended that the Branch conduct official branding days in conjunction with other Branch activities, so that additional expenses are not incurred.
- 6.7 The branding of the horse will not be noted on Society records due to the cost in processing alterations.
- 6.8 The Branch is responsible for ensuring clippers are available to clip the brand site and in the case of freeze branding, supply of liquid nitrogen or dry ice. Branches may charge a fee in order to recoup costs incurred.
- 6.9 In Australia, the Branch may borrow a Society A Brand through a Director in their state or purchase the brand from Head Office for the purpose of conducting branding days.
- 6.10 Outside of Australia, branches are responsible for investigating any requirements, or the possibility of, the A Brand being registered in their area and report any such findings and associated cost to the Society for approval of the Board prior to the brand being registered or used for the branding of horses. The Board may approve reimbursement of associated costs in relation to the brand registration. When approved by the Board, the A Brand will be provided to overseas ASHS Branch.
- 6.11 Any officers reported to be acting inappropriately may be referred to the Society's Disciplinary Committee at the discretion of the Stud Book Committee.

7 ALTERATIONS TO IDENTIFICATION

- 7.1 To change a horse's identification (colour, white markings, brands and/or identifying marks), the following is required:
- 7.1.1 Payment of the prescribed Amendment Fee.
- 7.1.2 The horse must be branded with a Stock Brand recognised by the State Authority, an Identification Number and Foaling Season Year Number.
- 7.1.3 It is recommended that colour photographs of the horse be provided to the Society (near, off, front and rear views). Additionally, photographs should confirm the clearly visible brands on the horse.
- 7.1.4 The Current Owner must complete a Statutory Declaration – Horse Identification Amendment with colour, all white markings, brands and identification marks, to the satisfaction of the Society. The declaration must be signed by the Current Owner and witnessed by a Justice of the Peace or Solicitor.
- 7.1.5 When a Certificate of Registration indicates that the horse has been transferred by the Society, the member who originally registered the horse, as identified on the Certificate of Registration as "Registered by", must also sign a Statutory Declaration – Horse Identification Amendment with colour, all white markings, brands and identification marks,

to the satisfaction of the Society. The declaration must be signed by the Member and witnessed by a Justice of the Peace or Solicitor. An emailed or faxed copy of the declaration is acceptable providing the printed document is clear and legible.

7.1.6 For the Horse Identification Amendment to be accepted, the required declaration/s must be identical in relation to the horse's identification. The declarations must be completed and signed to the satisfaction of the Society.

7.1.7 Failure to produce all required documents, completed and signed as required, would result in the horse being SUSPENDED, as the identity of the horse could be disputed.

7.2 If rule 7.1.5 applies and the current owner is unable to obtain such documentation, the current owner may apply to the Board for exemption from the requirements of that rule. Such an application must include all other documents (as specified) and include an explanation of why exemption should be granted and shall pay the prescribed appeal fee (non-refundable) in advance. The applicant will also be responsible for payment of any additional expenses incurred by the Society in reviewing the case. The Board and/or Society may undertake investigations to confirm any explanation. Exemption from the requirements of rule 7.1.5 shall be a matter for the Board in its absolute discretion.