

AMERICAN SADDLEBRED HORSE AND BREEDERS ASSOCIATION

Registry Council Meeting
Tuesday, May 30, 2023 at 3:00 p.m. ET
Via Zoom

MINUTES

Registry Council Members Present: Kristen Bagdasarian, Julie Behrends-Jones, Larry Hartssock, Smith Lilly, Cliff Paulsen and Kim Skipton.

Others Present: Katriona Adams Registrar.

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call**
Ms. Bagdasarian called the meeting to order at 3:08 p.m. ET. Ms. Adams called roll and noted that a quorum was present.
2. **Consideration of draft minutes of:**
 - a. **March 2, 2023 Registry Council Meeting**
Ms. Behrends-Jones made a motion to approve the draft minutes of the March 2, 2023 meeting, Ms. Skipton seconded and the motion was passed.
 - b. **March 30, 2023 Registry Council Meeting**
Ms. Behrends-Jones made a motion to approve the draft minutes of the March 30, 2023 meeting, Ms. Skipton seconded and the motion was passed.
3. **Proposed Registry Rule Change to Document the Transfer of Embryos**
Ms. Adams reported that the Registry Rules Committee proposes to change current rules to provide for the documentation of the transfer or retention by a mare owner of embryos, much as frozen semen can be transferred or retained, separate and apart from the ownership of the stallion. Under current rules, the only mechanism to transfer ownership and registration rights (including breeder designation) of embryos is in connection with the registration of the foal produced. The Registry has observed that (a) there is a market for the sale of embryos, (b) there is a significant time gap between the transaction between the donor mare owner and the transferee and the time of foaling, and (c) difficulties can be encountered with obtaining signatures of the donor mare owner at the time of foal registration. Aligning the transfer of the rights of registration (and breeder naming rights, if application) at the time of the transaction (versus the time of foal registration) will better serve the American Saddlebred industry and streamline Registry activities.

The following proposals were approved by the Registry Rules Committee on May 23, 2023 and were referred to the Registry Council for consideration:

New Rule Section V. (Transfer of Ownership) C. (Procedure to Record Transfer of Ownership)

3. Transfer of Embryo

If embryos (whether carried by the donor mare, transferred to a carrier mare, or frozen for later implantation) are sold by a mare owner (or retained by a mare owner in connection with the sale of the mare), a “Transfer of

Embryo” form may be filed with the Registry providing for the registration by the buyer of the resulting offspring. Separate forms must be used if different stallions or transfer methodologies are used for multiple embryos (e.g., one embryo implanted, one embryo frozen). The form must include the following:

- a. The effective date of the transaction;
- b. The name of the donor mare and the stallion and the number of embryos being transferred or retained, as applicable;
- c. As applicable: insemination date(s), the date of recovery of oocytes used for ICSI and the date of sperm injection, the date each embryo was frozen or transferred to a carrier mare (and the storage location or carrier mare location), and the name of the contact person with documentation of any breeding, ICSI, and/or embryo transfer procedures;
- d. The unconditional transfer of the rights as registrant for any foal produced;
- e. If applicable, the unconditional transfer of the rights as breeder designation for any foal produced (and pay the separate Breeder Designation Fee);
- f. Be signed by both the mare donor Recorded Owner (or lessee or authorized agent) at the time of the transfer and the buyer; and
- g. Be accompanied by all applicable fees.

Note: Rule V.C.1.c. will continue to apply to transfers of foals prior to registration if a Transfer of Embryo Form is not on file with the Registry.

Coordination with other rules:

Section III. (Registration) K. (Assisted Reproduction)

Paragraph 5. is amended as follows: **Unless a Transfer of Embryo Form is on file with the Registry, the** Recorded Owner of the donor mare at the time an embryo is ~~transferred to a carrier mare~~ **recovered from the donor mare** shall be the presumed owner of a foal which is the product of assisted reproduction.

Paragraph 6. is amended as follows: If an embryo or unregistered foal which was produced by embryo transfer has been purchased **(or retained by a prior owner in the case of the sale of the donor mare)**, the “Unregistered Foal Transfer” form on the registration application must be completed in accordance with Section V.C.1.c. by the Recorded Owner of the dam, the authorized agent, or lessee of the dam at the time of embryo transfer to register the foal in the name of the purchaser. **The foregoing requirement does not apply if a Transfer of Embryo Form is on file with the Registry with respect to the foal.**

Ms. Adams explained that would be similar to how we deal with transfer of frozen semen now and that we would have to develop new forms to accommodate these rules. After discussion Ms. Behrends-Jones made a motion to adopt the embryo form and rules as proposed by the Registry Rules Committee, Ms. Skipton seconded and the motion was passed.

4. Proposals regarding the CH Program

a. Jackpot and Stake Classes

Ms. Adams read the following proposal from a member who felt that was possibly an oversight when we were recently updating the CH criteria:

I think I found a weird loophole that we need to address with Champion points. If a horse competes in a show that has Jackpot or Stake classes (doesn't require qualifying) and the class meets the specifications of Champion (minimum of 4 horses in the class), then I think we should award ½ points as we have with the other idea we passed.

After discussion, the council agreed there was not enough support for this proposal and accordingly no action was taken.

b. Extra CH points for WGC and RWGC

Ms. Adams explained that the Historical Committee is proposing that the three World's Grand Championship titles (Five-Gaited, Three-Gaited and Fine Harness) earn more points than other championship titles and that the three Reserve World's Grand Championship titles earn more points too.

After discussion, Mr. Lilly made a motion to double the CH points for the three World's Grand Championship titles and to double the points for the three Reserve World's Grand Champion titles and to make this retroactive, Ms. Behrends-Jones seconded and the motion was passed.

c. CH-SH Endurance Revision

After discussion, it was agreed that Mr. Paulsen would reach out to Alex Zachman to gain a better understanding of the Endurance proposal and will report back to the Registry Council.

d. CH-Open Proposal

After discussion, it was agreed to move the CH-Open Proposal forward to the Board of Directors with a recommendation that it be referred to a CH Sub-Committee for more discussion.

Ms. Skipton reported that the Historical Committee is going to research horses that earned points that were not at USEF shows around 2007 or so and notify the owner if they have enough points to apply for a CH.

e. CH-SH for Ranch/Working Western

After discussion, it was agreed that Mr. Paulsen would reach out to Carol Jones to gain a better understanding of the Ranch/Working Western proposal and will report back to the Registry Council.

5. Member Complaint

We got a complaint from a member about a name change that was processed where a reserved farm name was removed from a horse name. The individual submitted a Farm Name Reservation, however the name change request was submitted before the Farm Name Reservation was received and the name change was processed in accordance with the rules. Members of the Registry Council agreed that this was processed properly.

6. Adjournment

With no other business to address, Ms. Behrends-Jones made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Ms. Skipton seconded and the meeting was duly adjourned at 3:25 p.m.

Submitted by:

Katriona Adams

Registrar

American Saddlebred Horse and Breeders Association