



**THE WALER HORSE SOCIETY
OF AUSTRALIA INC.
A.R.B.N. 088 999 624**

HORSE REGISTER

Rules and Regulations



GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS.

1. Any person, firm or company who takes part in any matter within these terms and conditions and other requirements specified in this booklet agrees with the Horse Register to be bound by the same.
2. The Horse Register reserves to itself and those representing it the right to –
 - a. decide what shall or shall not be included in the Horse Register and to reject as necessary any horses that do not comply to this document.
 - b. recommend changes via committee, in line with the WHSA constitution, which must then be ratified by a special general meeting (SGM).
3. Owners/Breeders are requested to lodge returns in accordance with the instructions given in this booklet.
4. A return will be considered only on the strict understanding that the person/s submitting the return agrees to abide by the decisions in the Horse Register.
5. Every owner/breeder making a return will be required to undertake to produce the stallion, mare and foals for inspection and examination, if and when required, by the Horse Register's authorised agent/s.
6. The Horse Register considers that the payment of any fee due on a return is the responsibility of the owner/breeder who submitted such return. If any owner/breeder should fail to pay the requisite fee the Horse Register's agent/s may, at their discretion, refuse to accept subsequent returns from him/her.
7. The Horse Register reserves the right to adjust, from time to time, fees quoted in this booklet without further notice.
8. No horse will be entered in the Horse Register unless a name has been approved and registered for it.
9. Once a horse has been named, its registered name cannot be changed.
10. Owners/Breeders are required to maintain their own permanent records and to produce them for inspection on request.
11. The Horse Register and their duly authorised employees and agents shall not be liable for any loss or damaged sustained by any person, firm or company as a result of, or in any way either directly or indirectly arising out of the exercise of any right, power, privilege, duty or discretion conferred or imposed, *bona fide* believed to have been conferred or imposed by; the terms and conditions and the other requirements specified in this booklet.
12. The Horse Register or authorised agent/s reserves the right to:
 - a. order a horse to be reclassified in accordance with the terms and conditions specified in this booklet;
 - b. refuse registration or de-register a horse if in the view of the committee the horse is:
 - (i) mistreated;
 - (ii) in bad condition due to mis-management;
 - (iii) used in a manner which could bring the Society into disrepute;
 - (iv) found to not comply with the society's requirements.
13. The Committee of the Society shall represent the Horse Register.

THE WALER

A horse produced in Australia from bloodlines dating back to the first settlement.

A fine, outstanding horse showing remarkable bone and hardiness, the Waler has many excellent attributes. The Waler is an excellent type and has the ability to excel in any equestrian pursuit.

The Waler has a diverse mix of old blood, including Barb, Thoroughbred, Draught, Pony and coaching breeds.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The name “Waler” is derived from “New South Wales”, as this was the first State of Australia. The term referred to remounts, army horses used in both Australia and overseas in the British and Indian Armies. Walers, through the flourishing remount trade, were sold to India from the 1830's to the 1950's and were supplied to the Australian Army for the Boer War and World War I, where their feats of endurance and courage became legendary. They were again used by the Army in World War II by the North Australian Observer Unit. Ultimately, the change to mechanisation restricted the use of horses in the Light Horse brigades.

In 1788, the First Fleet, of eleven ships brought out one stallion, two colts and four mares from the Cape of Good Hope, known as the Barb horses. English horses sent did not survive the arduous voyage as far as Africa. Later ships, such as the Britannia, which landed in 1795, brought out thirty-three Cape horses. English horses also began arriving safely including the influential Thoroughbred stallion, Rockingham, who arrived in 1799. About this time, the Governor of New South Wales asked for more heavy horses, specifying Scottish Clydesdales, and Timor ponies were also shipped from Indonesian islands and Timor.

Increasing demand for saddle and work horses led to the arrival of the best of old English breeds, which together with the Cape horses and the Timor pony, went into the melting pot that produced a uniquely Australian horse, the Waler. The notable contributing breeds were: Barb, Thoroughbred, Clydesdale, Suffolk Punch, Shire, Cleveland Bay, Lincolnshire Trotter, Norfolk Roadster, Yorkshire Coacher, Hackney, Arab, Percheron and native British ponies.

WALER TYPE

The horse seeking registration must have good conformation and a sensible temperament. It is now classified as one of four types:-

<u>LIGHT</u>	Officers Mount/ Light Hunter
<u>MEDIUM</u>	Troopers Mount/Heavy Hunter
<u>HEAVY</u>	Artillery/an agile heavy type used for both saddle and harness
<u>PONY</u>	14hh and under

The breeding, environmental background, and attributes of the horse are of major importance for consideration when defining the Waler type. These include lineage, hardiness, frugality, intelligence, temperament etc.

Although derived from various breeds, the Waler has developed consistent and distinctive characteristics, which now define it as a breed.

PUREBREDS AND PARTBREDS DEFINED

The Register for Purebred Walers and Partbred Walers is separate. No Purebred horse that is bred to any breed other than a Purebred Waler can ever be entered into the Purebred Register. All horses that are Partbred Walers will be recorded only in the Partbred Register. All progeny from any Partbred will only ever be recorded as Partbred.

For example:

- Any Purebred Waler bred to a Purebred Waler = Purebred Waler
- Purebred Waler x Any other breed = Partbred Waler
- Partbred Waler x Purebred Waler = Partbred Waler
- Partbred Waler x Partbred Waler = Partbred Waler

Once you cross out of the Waler breed you can never cross back in and produce a Purebred Waler.

The Purebred and Partbred Registers are kept on computer database with a hard copy and backup.

PUREBRED REGISTER SECTIONS

Section F - FOUNDATION WALERS

All horses as first obtained and/or located, identified as Waler types with acceptable background that meets the Society's standard, shall be Foundation Walers. Foundation horses are considered Purebred Walers and typically come from Stations that have a history of breeding horses for the remount trade and where the horses have remained isolated from modern (imported post 1945) breed influences. At no time may a Partbred Waler be entered into the Foundation section.

Foundation horses are the only horses that can be registered in two sections of the Register. Foundation stock are eligible for reclassification into another Section of the Register only after producing three (3) true to type progeny which must be available for inspection at the time of the reclassification. Foundation stock will never be removed from the Foundation section of the Horse Register upon entry to any other section of the Register.

The Society reserves the right to de-register any horse.

1 F	Stallion
2 F	Mare
3 F	Gelding
4 F	Foal

Section A - STUDBOOK

This is for Waler stallions, mares and geldings bred from Foundation horses and from stud-bred horses that are of excellent quality *i.e.* those horses that meet the standard of excellence. Note that if successive progeny of such horses are not of an excellent quality the Society reserves the right to remove the horse/s from the Studbook section of the Horse Register.

Horses registered in this section are eligible for inclusion in the Waler Horse Society Studbook. This Studbook includes pedigree, description, type, and registration number, owner of the horse and contact details and breeder of the horse if applicable.

All horses recorded in this Section will have their “type” recorded at the time of classification (heavy, medium, light, pony). It is to be noted that progeny from two Studbook parents will not automatically be entered into the Studbook.

1 A	Waler Stallion
2 A	Waler Mare
3 A	Waler Gelding

Section B

This Section is for Purebred Waler stallions, mares and geldings with conformation flaw/s that may/may not breed out in successive progeny and are horses that do not meet the Standard of Excellence.

All horses recorded in this Section will have their “type” recorded at the time of classification (heavy, medium, light, pony).

1 B	Waler Stallion
2 B	Waler Mare
3 B	Waler Gelding

Section C

This Section is for Purebred Waler stallions, mares and geldings that have thrown back to one certain breed influence; e.g., Arab etc.

1 C	Waler Stallion
2 C	Waler Mare
3 C	Waler Gelding

Section D – Geldings (this section is replaced by sections 3A, 3B and 3C)

1 D	Waler Gelding
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Section E - FOAL RECORD

This Section is for Purebred Waler foals (i.e. progeny from Purebred Waler parents). The foal record is valid up till the horse reaches three years. The horse will then be eligible for classification and registration and entered into the relevant Section with its “type” recorded at the time of classification (heavy, medium, light, pony).

Note: The Purebred Register exists to record horses that are excellent types and also for horses with slight conformation flaws which may be bred out in their successive progeny.

ALL REGISTERED PUREBRED WALERS

The horse seeking registration in the Purebred section of the Horse Register must meet one of the following criteria:

- be progeny of two registered Purebred Walers;
- have a traceable history that meets the Society’s standard;
- be from progeny of Foundation stock, i.e. station-bred horses whose history can be validated.

No horse may be descended from any breed of horse imported/introduced into Australia after 1945.

The Committee reserves the right to overrule Classifier recommendations in accordance with registration requirements as set out here and other constitutional powers.

The committee may consider registration into a relevant section, horses of unknown background which show Waler characteristics. All horses are judged on their own merit.

PARTBRED REGISTER

REGISTER (Sections 1-4) PARTBRED WALERS AND FOALS

Any horse that is the progeny of one Purebred or Partbred Waler and any other breed is a Partbred Waler and will be registered only in the Partbred Register. The progeny of any Partbred horse shall not be eligible for entry in the Studbook Section of the Register.

PART BRED SECTIONS

PB 1	Stallion
PB 2	Mare
PB 3	Gelding
PB 4	Foal

STEPS TO REGISTERING PUREBRED and PARTBRED WALERS

- i. Foal recording
- ii. Foal recorded status expires at three (3) years, after which application for registration is made.
- iii. The application for registration must include 3 photos and payment of the relevant registration fee. Application forms for application of registration can be obtained from the Studbook Keeper or downloaded from the WHSA Website (www.walerhorse.com). Completed application forms and fees must be sent to the Studbook Keeper. Application for foal recording is as above but the photos must also include the dam. Completed Foal Record application forms should be sent to the Studbook Keeper with the relevant fee. When applying for a Partbred Waler registration or foal record, the other breed's registration number from the appropriate Society should also be included if available.
- iv. Classification of horses is arranged between the Studbook Keeper, the owner and the classifier. Note that classification papers have an expiry date of 6 months following the date of classification and classifiers should return the completed classification forms promptly to the Studbook Keeper.
- v. Completed classification forms are then put to the Committee with a recommendation from the Studbook Keeper. Once the horse has been accepted for registration, the registration certificate will be mailed to the owner by the Studbook Keeper.
- vi. If the horse is not accepted for registration, part of the registration fee may be refunded at the discretion of the committee.
- vii. When a transfer of ownership of any Purebred or Partbred Waler occurs, a Transfer of Ownership form, obtainable from the Studbook Keeper, should be filled out and returned to the Studbook Keeper. There is no fee for transfer of ownership.

STUD PREFIXES

A Stud prefix or name should be registered with the Society. Application forms for registering a stud prefix are available from the Studbook Keeper or downloaded from the WHSA Website (www.walerhorse.com).

A stud prefix once given to a horse will always be used for that horse.

A horse that is bred on one stud and sold to another shall be referred to with the stud prefix of the stud on which it was bred.

If you have not bred the horse, then you cannot affix your stud prefix or name to that animal.

Stud prefixes cannot change in the Register.

The name of the horse that you bought or leased cannot have its stud prefix changed.

Named horses with no stud prefix may not have their name changed at any time.

A full registered name of a horse either living or deceased may not be used for another horse. Variations of the name may, however, may be acceptable.

The registered name of a horse is to be used at all times, *i.e.* in competing, on transfer of ownership, when advertising. Once a horse has a registered name, that name stays with the horse for life.

Any horse registered with any other Waler (breed) Society will not be registered with the Waler Horse Society of Australia Inc. unless it is from two WHSA-registered Waler parents or meets the Society's criteria.

STUD LOGO

No Stud may use in any form The Waler Horse Society logo or brand as a Stud logo.

BRANDING

A breeder may brand their horse with their own stud brand at any time. A breeder's brand must be registered with the Society and should not be used without first registering the brand with the Society. Failure to follow this rule may result in the horse being ineligible for registration. No horse is to be branded over or cover another stud brand.

A horse cannot enter the Register until it has attained the age of over 3 (three years). Once the Committee approves the classification, the horse should be branded with the Society brand. A horse may not be branded with the Society brand prior to the Committee's acceptance of it for registration.

Brands should be placed, subject to any State legislation, according to the owner's practice, as follows:-

NEAR SHOULDER: Breeder's or Owner's identifying stud brand and Waler brand. The Southern Cross brand is used to signify Purebred Walers and the Cross of Lorraine (double bar cross) is used for Partbred Walers.

OFF SIDE: Breeder's brand and date brand.

The purchaser of a foal should not brand it with their stud brand without first making sure it has not been branded by a previous owner and obtaining permission from the Committee.

A foal, which has been incorrectly or indistinctly branded, must not be re-branded over the site of the brand. The owner should consult the committee in such cases.

Registration approval must be granted prior to a horse being branded with either the Purebred Waler or Partbred Society brands.

All branding with the Society's brand, can only be done with an iron, numbered and registered with the Society. Society branding irons are obtainable from the Studbook Keeper upon request and payment of a deposit which is refunded upon return of the iron(s). The branding irons are suitable for either freeze branding or hot branding.

BLOOD TYPING and DNA

Any person submitting a Foal Record application or Horse Registration application is required to give an undertaking to arrange at his/her own risk and expense, if and when requested to do so by the Committee or their duly authorized agent, for acceptable blood samples to be taken by a registered equine veterinary surgeon from any mare stallion or foal and to forward those samples to an accredited blood typing facility or a D.N.A. testing facility approved by the Committee.

ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION (AI)

AI is acceptable subject to Committee approval. Both mare and stallion must be blood typed or DNA tested before AI is carried out and the results forwarded to the Studbook Keeper. The resulting progeny of all AI will be subject to blood or DNA testing before being accepted for foal recording and registration and there are no exceptions to this rule.

MICROCHIPPING

Any person who wishes to microchip a horse may do so. Upon microchipping, the Studbook Keeper should be supplied with all relevant details.

INBREEDING & LINEBREEDING

Inbred horses are the progeny of related sires and dams such as son over mother; father over daughter; brother over sister; grandfather over granddaughter; grandson over grandmother; half brother over half sister; half son over mother; half father over daughter. Second removed inbred horses are also not acceptable.

Inbred horses will not be accepted for foal recording or registration.

Progeny from accidental inbreeding or of a purchased inbred horse are also not accepted for registration.

“Line breeding” is commonly acceptable and practiced in other horse breeding programs, but is not accepted by the Waler Register. A line-bred horse is where the same family of horses has been bred to produce the progeny.

BREEDING INFORMATION

Stallion service certificates should be sent in to the Studbook Keeper at the end of each season. If an application for foal recording is received and the Studbook Keeper does not hold the service information, the Society will ask for the owner of the Stallion to provide a written confirmation of service (before accepting the foal recording). The Society also reserves the right to also ask for the foal to be blood typed before accepting the recording. Mare owners should ask for a copy of the service certificate and forward a copy of this to the Studbook Keeper.

Breeders are strongly encouraged to apply for a foal record as soon as possible after its birth.

Brood mares should be four (4) years before producing progeny. Mares may however be just over three (3) years at the time of conception

Stallions should also be over three (3) years old before being used for breeding purposes.

Any progeny resulting from sires or dams under the age of three (3) at the time of conception will not be eligible for registration unless there are extenuating circumstances. All such cases are to be put to the Committee before foal recording, preferably as early as possible.

Owners must be financial members of the Waler Horse Society of Australia to register horses.

CLASSIFICATION OF HORSES

Horse Classification is arranged by the Studbook Keeper and may be done by one of the following:

- by two WHSA-accredited classifiers classifying individually without conferring;
- by one WHSA- accredited classifier and a video prepared in accordance with the Society’s guidelines (which may be obtained from the Studbook Keeper). The video is to be sent to the Studbook Keeper. The Committee and the Studbook Keeper reserve the right to ask for the video to be redone if it does not meet the requirements for classifying the horse properly;
- by one WHSA- accredited classifier and one Veterinarian or horse Judge. The Committee must approve the Veterinarian and/or Judge who must read the Waler information sent to them before classifying the horse. The Studbook Keeper and Committee reserve the right to ask for reclassification if the classifying by the Veterinarian or Judge does not appear to be correct.

All WHSA-accredited classifiers must have sat and passed a classifier’s test and have successfully carried out six ”trial” classifications.

Classifier candidates are selected by the Committee. Once passed, the classifier's name is added to the Classifier's register, which is a numbered list held by the Studbook Keeper and Secretary. The classifier will then receive a WHSA classifiers certificate and classifier's card, which must be presented to the owner of each horse before classifying. Classifiers must include their registered number on the classification forms. Classifiers must not confer with each other or the owner of the horse whilst classifying, unless it is to the handler to request a specific move etc.

Honorary classifiers such as horse Judges and Veterinarians will be provided with a letter of request from the Studbook Keeper and may receive a temporary classifier's card or Letter of Permission, which must also be presented to the owner before classifying any horse.

All classifiers are issued with a classifier's manual and a copy of the Standard of Excellence, which should always be carried when classifying any horse. If the classifier fails to present a classifier's card, classifier's manual or the standard of excellence the owner/s have the right to request the classifier to not classify a horse or classification to be redone. Any such instances should be reported immediately to the Studbook Keeper followed by a written report also to the Studbook Keeper.

Any extenuating circumstances regarding classification should be put in writing to the Committee.

Blank Classification forms are sent directly to the classifier, including photos, before classifying can be done.

Classifiers must return the completed Classification forms to the Studbook Keeper within 14 days. At no time should the owner be given or shown the completed classification forms.

SCHEDULE OF FEES

All Society fees are subject to change. Information about fees can be obtained from the Secretary or from the Society Website

THE WALER HORSE - STANDARD OF EXCELLENCE

GENERAL CHARACTER

A quality riding horse with commanding looks and presence, combined with natural courage, intelligence and stamina. A strong warm-blooded type, free from any hereditary defects and general unsoundness. A versatile and adaptable breed, with the qualities of hardiness stamina, frugality and intelligence.

Walers today are categorised into one of four different types, Pony, Light, Medium and Heavy (height does not determine Light, Medium and Heavy)

TEMPERAMENT

Placid, alert, quick to learn.

HEIGHT

13hh to 17hh. Preferred height range 14.2hh to 16hh.

HEAD

Kindly, refined and well set on with a defined gullet, wide muzzle, good open nostrils (not small). Jawbone not as deep, nor as prominent as the Thoroughbred. Eyes large to medium; ears well shaped and carried alertly. Not narrow between the eyes. Nose straight, not concave, some convex tendency allowable, big enough to justify the size of the body.

NECK

Graceful, supple, strong without heaviness, and giving a good length of rein; thinness and ewe-neck undesirable. Neck to give the head a forward carriage without the exaggerated curve of the Arab, not to carry the head too low.

SHOULDER

Strong, deep and sloping well back to a definite wither. A clear definition between should and neck. Not bulging muscular. Well stood over the legs, allowing a chest that is neither narrow nor buxom.

LEGS

Forelegs well set on, from a chest that is not narrow nor very wide. Strong and straight, not back or overset at the knee. Strong, short cannons (plenty of bone), large flat knee, sloping pasterns (not upright). Forearms strong, but not heavily muscular as in the Quarter horse. Hind legs with a good length of gaskin, hocks large, well developed and set low. Good bone and sloping pasterns. Not to be cow-hocked or bowed out. Feathering is permissible.

BACK, HINDQUARTERS AND TAIL

Strong, rounded back (not flat), good deep hind quarters, not pinched or blocky. Back neither coupled, too short, or too long, but in good proportion. Tending to short when compared to underside. Not to be roach backed, nor excessively dipped (some foaling and age dipped allowable). Fine, full sweeping tail, not elevated, dock set somewhat low. Tail not very bushy nor thinly 'rat' tailed. Sloping croup.

GIRTH AND RIBS

Deep girth and well sprung ribs, giving plenty of heart and lung room.

HOOVES

Well shaped, hard and open.

COLOUR AND MARKINGS

All colours except albino, cremello. Solid colours preferable, a minimum of white desirable.

JUDGING GUIDELINES FOR THE WALER HORSE

WHAT IS A WALER HORSE

The Waler is Australia's own horse breed, a strong warmblood type developed from a diverse mix of pony, draught, coach and riding horse breeds brought to the country in colonial times. It was later bred and used as an army remount for the Officer's mount, a Scout horse, a Trooper's mount and as the Artillery horse. The Waler Horse Society of Australia recognises these 4 types:-

- Pony (Scout horse or Officers sport horse)
- Light (Officer's mount)
- Medium (Trooper's mount)
- Heavy (Artillery horse).

Registered Walers are only of old bloodlines that can be traced back to the remount breeding stock and have no modern bloodlines that have come to Australia since 1945.

Walers should show remarkable bone and robustness. Their jumping ability can be seen in the length of gaskin, splendid hindquarters and well-formed hocks. His comfort as a riding horse shows in his long ground-covering walk coming from a well sloped shoulder, strong back, powerful legs, big clean joints and correctly sloped pasterns, at an angle corresponding to the shoulder. His chest spaced for plenty of heart and lung room, his girth deep through and ribs well sprung. His tail is set medium to low, giving a sweeping refined appearance. His head is alert, broad between kindly eyes and well set onto a graceful but strong neck that gives a good length of rein as befitting a cavalry horse. Perhaps heavier than the usual riding horse, but undoubtedly strong and agile, known for his dependable quiet temperament.

COLOURS

Basically he is bay, chestnut, black, brown and grey. Some taffy colouring may be seen in the mane and tail. White leg and facial markings are not uncommon and he can show some fetlock or lower leg feather. There are some coloured horses accepted as well as palomino, roan, creamy and black point creamy.

WHAT TO LOOK FOR IN ALL FOUR TYPES

A well-conformed, strong athletic horse with a good temperament, an overall alert appearance. When trotting, cantering or galloping an even flowing movement is expected. Furthermore:-

- Good strong bone
- Deep girth for plenty of heart and lung room
- Good strong hindquarters
- Medium set tail, not high set
- Under the jowl good gullet space
- Open nostrils for good airways
- Wide between the eyes, a kind eye
- Well spaced between the ears
- A strong head set well on a strong neck
- Hard strong hooves
- Intelligence
- Spirited but not flighty

SHOWING GUIDELINES

Please note for Led classes smart business like dress is acceptable.

Ladies and girls a neat skirt of mid to long length in Moleskin, or Moleskin trousers or jodhpurs. Blouse, coat, sensible flat heeled shoes or boots, hat and gloves is acceptable.

Men and boys tailored trousers, moleskins or jodhpurs, shirt, tie and coats are acceptable, jodhpur boots or lace up shoes, Akubra hats if desired

PRESENTATION OF HORSES

Horses must be clean and well groomed, trimming of bridle path is preferred, saddle paths optional. Trimming of horse's excess hair from under the chin and along jaw line is encouraged. Ears may also be trimmed but if horse is not stabled it is advisable to trim just the outer edges. Hooves cleaned and correctly trimmed, hoof black or clear enamel may be used. Horses that are feathered can be shown feathered. In the case of feathered horses, oiling of hooves with clear oil is acceptable. Horse make-up may be used. Horses may be shown with free flowing, plaited or hogged mane.