

RPSBS LTD EDITING REPORT 2019

Editing Sub-Committee Members:

Robert Cockram, Tania Hay, Eileen Morris

All things seem to be running smoothly in the Society office with no significant problems anticipated in the foreseeable future.

We thank the office staff for their pleasantry on the phone and in person to members, and the quick turn around of information that has been requested.

There has been a lot of activity outside of the Society of a negative nature towards the registration system and the Society on social media, a number of the people commenting are not even members of the Society and others never register with us in the first instance. It needs to be noted that the registration system has not been significantly altered for a number of years and that subjects now causing concern have been publicised for well over two years.

Members and breeders of the Society are very welcome to politely write to the Board and correspondence will be tabled and responded to, like any Society there is a correct process to go through and the public social media forum is not conducive to informed, meaningful discussions.

One false accusation laid against the Society was that the Board are “money grabbing” but the facts prove otherwise. The Board reviews the Society fees on an annual basis, the Board are forever mindful that it is our responsibility to produce an accurate Stud Book and remain financially viable into the future while maintaining fees for members wherever possible. The Board has also been in a position to reduce some fees for members.

- DNA is no longer required for Geldings conceived by chilled semen (AI), a saving of around \$100 for members;
- The DNA fee has been reduced to \$70
- No DNA is required for any foal when AI is done in house on the stud where the stallion and mare are resident;
- Registration of Section A colts by 31st July was in use in 2003 and late fees were comparatively higher.
- The fee register and Approved Stallion has been reduced.

Members need to ask themselves as breeders what they want from the Society. The main purpose of any breed society is to ensure the integrity of the Studbook while remaining financially viable to continue into the future. Members also need to consider the following questions: Are we true to the breed and what we breed? Do we have faith in what we breed? The cost of registering a pony is so small when compared with the overall cost of producing that pony.

The following table shows registrations 2015–2018 when the old registration system was brought back in to try to get foals registered in the year of birth.

RPSBS Foal Registrations

Year	2015	2016	2017	2018
Foals Registered	29	33	51	61

The Society is here to help members, should a breeder or member have difficulties in paying any registry transaction the paperwork should be submitted, once submitted it can be paid off as finances permit. It is important for breeders to submit the paperwork for foals in the year of birth even if payment is not made at the time, the Board then has a record of potential registrations and can plan into the future.

People have commented that they do not want to register foals in the year of birth because they have not had to do it in the past and that they would rather not register than pay additional fees. As previously stated, it is not imperative to pay all fees at the time of submission. The consequence of non registration is that the animal is not eligible to receive any of the promotional benefits allocated by the Society and the pony is not guaranteed any future as a stud animal unless registered. Promotional benefits include:

- Vouchers presented at EA Nationals and Grand National to the value of \$3,200 annually
- Sponsorship through Federal at EA Nationals and recognition of registered stock.
- Youngstock incentive payments. In 2017 \$1,500 payments were made to each of the states to distribute over its youngstock classes. Members and owners of registered stock only benefited
- Breeders, Stallion and Mare owners are recognised in the Stud Book.
- Instant look up of pedigree on the online studbook.
- Recognition on our web sites State and National.
- Inclusion into the Annual at our RPSBS run shows

It has been said we are in a drought and things are tight, with children growing, school fee's, everything going up, etc. The Board understands these pressures, but showing people go out to a show with their entries done and pay on average \$50 at a large show per class and \$90 per stable (at Werribee) for fifteen minuets of walk trot and canter. A full tank of fuel averages at \$150 to \$200 pulled by a towing vehicle with cost ranging from \$50,000 to \$100,000 pulling a float costing \$20,000 to \$40,000. Costs may also include the day off work if a weekday, and at the end you may not even win a ribbon worth \$10. The few members that moan about cost of a lifetime animal registration and \$110 for a full year's membership should reflect on this.

Please do not breed if you cannot afford to feed the animal, but if you do be a responsible breeder and register it. Registration helps to safeguard the future of a foal, as a breeder you are responsible for that animals well being and traceability so that it can still have a future even if you are no longer contactable.

Finally the Board of Directors has the responsibility of ensuring the viability of the Society into the future. The Society has to pay its bills and maintain its office and the online stud book.

It is the responsibility of the Board to ensure that Riding Ponies bred in Australia are registered and recorded. Far too many of the Riding Ponies bred have not been registered in the past. Registering our ponies in the year of birth will help remedy this situation.

Thank you.