The Show Horse Council of Australasia Inc.

The Measuring Scheme and Rules

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Cover	Page	1
Index:		2
1. Application of these Rules.		3
2. General Rules		3 -4
3. The Measuring Panel		4
4. Appointment of Measurers		4
5. Measuring Sub Committee		4
6. Measurers Responsibilities		4 - 5
7. Measuring Records		5
8. Measuring Days		5
9. Responsibilities/conducting Measuring Days		6
10. Measuring Day Expenses		6
11. Applying For Measuring		6
12. Documents required for Measuring		6 - 7
13. Measuring Eligibility/Requirements		7
14 Measuring Fees		7
15. Presentation of Horse for measuring		7 - 8
16. Measuring Procedures		8
17. Issue of Certificate of Height &/or Replacement Certificate		9
18.0 Provisional Cert. Of Height		9
18.1 Annual Cert. Of Height		9
19. Life		9
20. Specifications – Meas Stick & Block		9
20. Right to Appeal		10
21. Re measure- under appeal		10
22. General Rules		10 - 11

1.0 APPLICATION OF THESE RULES
1.1 These Rules shall apply in respect to any Application lodged for SHC measurement of a horse, to any person making such Application, to the official SHC measuring of any horse and the issue by the SHC of any SHC Certificate of Height.
1.2 Lodging an Application for Measurement and where a SHC Certificate of Height is issued, shall constitute an agreement by the Owner/Lessee to abide by the SHC Measuring Rules, for the term of the issued Certificate of Height.
1.3 These Rules shall apply to any horse presented for SHC measurement and/or issued with a SHC Certificate of Height, the word horse shall also mean Pony Galloway or Hack.
1.4 Any breach of these Rules may result in the SHC imposing disciplinary action against the offender.
1.5 Where a breach of these Rules occurs, the horse's SHC Certificate of Height may be cancelled and/or its NSH Registration may be suspended.
1.6 Where matters are not covered by these Rules, the Show Horse Council of Australasia Inc. shall consider all the relevant facts and give such directions relating thereto as may be seem to them, in their absolute discretion, to be just and proper.
2.0 GENERAL RULES
2.1. The SHC Measuring Scheme shall be administered by The Show Horse Council of Australasia Inc. and the Constituent Affiliates shall abide by the rules.
2.2. The term "his" in these Rules always refer to both male and female gender.
2.3. Any NSH registered horse that competes in any show conducted under SHC Competition Rules is required to be officially measured & shall hold a current SHC Certificate of Height.
2.4. It is the responsibility of the horse's Owner /Part Owner/ Lessee /Professional Trainer/ Nominated Agent to obtain a current SHC Certificate of Height, for any NSH registered horse they currently show.
2.5. The Show Horse Council of Australasia Inc. will recognize current SHC Official Certificates of Height. At its discretion the Show Horse Council may recognise current Official Measuring Certificates issued by other like Societies.
2.6. In the event of a dispute regarding a horse's height, the Show Horse Council reserves the right to measure any NSH registered horse or any horse holding a current SHC Certificate of Height, this may include any horse from any State or Territory.
2.7. Any horse competing at any show conducted under Show Horse Council Competition Rules, should hold a current SHC Certificate of Height or a Certificate of Height recognised by the Show Horse Council or be measured by an Official Show Horse Council Measurer.
2.8. Any horse officially measured under this Scheme shall compete at any show conducted under SHC Rules according to its Show Horse Council of Australasia Official Measurement as recorded on the Horse's current SHC Certificate of Height.
2.9. The Horse's Registration Papers shall be presented at all times with the SHC Certificate of Height.
2.10. The Owner/Part Owner /Lessee or nominated Agent of the aforementioned shall be required to complete a SHC Measuring Application Form for any horse He/She presents for SHC measurement; this form shall be lodged when the Horse is presented for Measuring. (Refer Rule 11).
2.11. The Show Horse Council reserves the right to measure any horse competing in any SHC approved Show or at any time may request that any horse issued with a SHC Certificate of Height or any horse registered with the NSHR to be presented for SHC Official measurement.
2.12. The Show Horse Council Representative shall have the right to confiscate and hold the National Saddle Horse Registration Papers of any horse presented for measurement for a period of up to seven (7) days. The Show Horse Council Representative is not required to give any reason for holding the papers.
2.13. Where errors are found on any Breed or other Horse Registration Certificates the Show Horse Council Steward/Representative shall note the

discrepancy on the SHC Certificate of Height.
2.14. The Show Horse Council reserves the right to recall any SHC Certificate of Height at any time. The Show Horse Council is not obliged to give a reason for requesting the recall of a Certificate, failure to return the Certificate of Height to the Show Horse Council Office within 21 days may result in disciplinary action.
2.15. The basic units of measurement of horses shall be in "hands" and "inches", one "hand' is equal to four (4) inches. The metric equivalent will also be stated on the SHC Certificate of Height.
2.16. The age of the horse shall be reckoned from the 1st of August in the year in which it was foaled. If foaled before that day it shall be reckoned from the 1st of August in the previous year.
2.17. A horse may be unofficially measured at the owners request, measurement (or not) of the horse shall be at the discretion of the Measurer. In this instance no Certificate of Height will be issued and no record will be maintained. **Please note:** This Rule shall not apply where a current SHC Height Certificate is held by the horse.
2.18. Failure to comply with these Rules and or any official request made by the SHC in respect to these Rules, may result in disciplinary action being imposed against the offender and/or the suspension of the National Saddle Horse Registration of the Horse and/or cancellation of the Horse's SHC Certificate of Height.
3.0. THE MEASURING PANEL
3.1. The Show Horse Council shall annually appoint the Chief Measurer.
3.2. The Show Horse Council Measuring Panel shall comprise a) The Chief Measurer. b) Six (6) Measurers, who shall be appointed by the Show Horse Council as and when required
3.3 At least one member of the Measuring Panel shall officiate where any dispute on the measurement of any horse is to be resolved.
4.0. APPOINTMENT OF MEASURERS
4.1 The Show Horse Council shall appoint the Measurers at its own discretion.
4.2 Each State Constituent Affiliate shall nominate a Senior Measurer & up to six (6) Measurers, these appointments shall be ratified by the SHC.
4.3 The Show Horse Council has the right to appoint a Reserve Measurer when the need arises.
5.0. SHOW HORSE COUNCIL MEASURING SUB COMMITTEE
5.1 The Show Horse Council shall elect annually, from its members, a Measuring Sub Committee. This Sub Committee will consider matters, which relate to the Measuring Scheme and the measurement of horses. The Sub Committee will make recommendations to the Show Horse Council.
6.0. MEASURERS RESPONSIBILITIES
6.1 An Show Horse Council Measurer shall NOT measure a horse in his ownership, or a horse belonging to his family, or a horse he is training or a member of his family is training or any horse in which he has a vested interest.
6.2 The Measurer shall ensure that all measuring documents pertaining to any horse he/she officially measures are passed, within 14 days, onto the Senior Measurer, or person nominated to manage the measuring records, for inclusion in the SHC measuring data base. It shall be the responsibility of the Measurer to ensure that the SHC Certificate of Height for any horse he/she officially measures is completed & signed.
6.3 The Measurer will ensure that the following detail is completed on any SHC Certificate of Height that he/she issues.

a) Name of Horse
b) Name and address of Owner/Lessee
c) Registration details - (Society or Breed & Registration Number)
d) Measurement Date and Expiry Date
e) Venue
f) The Measured Height
g) Visible Brands &/or Microchip Number
h) Colour, Sex & Date of Foaling.
i) Two Signatures are required – that of the Chief/Senior Measurer &/or one (1) Official Measurer plus signature of the SHC Steward or SHC Representative.

7.0. SHC MEASURING RECORDS

7.1 The Show Horse Council of Australasia Inc. or Constituent Affiliate shall maintain a record of all current measured horses (in their respective states) and a copy of all current issued SHC Certificates of Height.

7.2 A print out list of SHC current measured horses and their heights may be made available to Official Measurers at measuring days and on request to major Horse shows.

8.0 OFFICIAL MEASURING DAYS

8.1 An Official Measuring Day may be held providing that:

a) The Show Horse Council Executive and/or The Show Horse Council have approved the day
b) Measuring is performed by an SHC Official Measurer
c) In the absence of the Chief Measurer an Official Measurer shall be designated to fulfil the Chief Measurer's duties for that Day
d) Conditions set down in these Measuring Rules are observed
e) A person nominated by the Show Horse Council, to be present when SHC measuring is conducted, shall be referred to as the Show Horse Council Representative (a Measurer may be appointed as the SHC Rep) and will be responsible for identifying the horse as detailed in rule 12.4.
f) It may be necessary for the SHC to nominate a minimum number of horses to justify the holding of a Measuring Day and the related expenses to be incurred

8.2. The Show Horse Council shall appoint a Measuring Steward to attend each Measuring day. In the absence of a Measuring Steward the SHC Representative may fulfill the duties of the Measuring Steward.

8.3 The Measuring Stewards duties shall include:

a) Check that all measuring documents are accurate & completed.
b) Check that all measuring paperwork is correctly signed.
c) Collection of measuring fees & to issue receipts.
d) Oversee that the directions of the Measurer or Show Horse Council Representative are complied with.

8.4 Owners and/or handlers wishing to discuss the measuring of their horse are to approach the Show Horse Council Representative or the Measuring Steward. (The Measurer may make comment but is not obliged to do so).

8.5 The Show Horse Council Chief Measurer, or in his absence, the Official Measurer present on the Day shall provide to the Show Horse Council

Office, a brief written Report of the Measuring Day.

9.0. RESPONSIBILITIES FOR CONDUCTING A MEASURING DAY

9.1 The Association/Club requesting and hosting a Measuring Day shall:

a) Ensure the Measuring Area is in a clean & suitable condition.

b) Provide Refreshments & Meals for the Officials.

c) Provide Measurer/s meals & accommodation as required.

d) Provide a Measuring Steward.

e) Provide additional assistance as required.

10.0. MEASURING DAY EXPENSES - NSW & A.C.T.

10.1 The Show Horse Council shall pay the travelling Expenses of the Measurers at Measuring days held

10.2 The cost of ground hire and/or equipment hire shall be the responsibility of the Show Horse Council.

10.3 Any Measuring Fees shall be paid to the Show Horse Council.

10.4 The approved expenses of the Show Horse Council Measuring Steward, the Show Horse Council Representative and the Official Show Horse Council Veterinarian shall be paid by the Show Horse Council.

10.5 The Affiliate in the area shall be responsible for the expenses involved in any local advertising of the day.

10.6 The Show Horse Council shall be responsible for the expense involved in advertising the Day State wide.

10.7 Unless specified to the contrary in the resolution to approve the conduct of a measuring service for any other organisation, all related costs and expenses associated with the provision of such service, including those of the Show Horse Council Officials, shall be met by that organization.

10.8. A Constituent Affiliate shall be responsible for and comply with Rules 10.1 – 10.7 for Measuring Day Expenses at all Measuring Days conducted by the Constituent Affiliate under the SHC Measuring Scheme.

11.0. APPLICATION FOR MEASURING

11.1 An Application for Measurement form shall be completed (in full) for any horse presented for measurement. This form shall be lodged with the Measuring Steward prior to the horse being measured.

11.2 It is the responsibility of the person applying for SHC measuring of a horse, to ensure that all information he/she provides to the SHC is true & correct.

11.3 The person applying for the measurement of the horse will be required to declare on the Application for Measurement Form, if the horse being presented for SHC measurement holds a current Height Certificate issued under this or any other measuring scheme.

11.4 To apply for measurement, a horse shall be National Saddle Horse Registered (SHC) or hold a Registration Certificate recognised by the Show Horse Council of Australasia Inc. (e.g.Breed) or have an official Identification Document of some description.

12.0. MEASURING ELEGIBILITY & REQUIREMENTS

12.1. A horse is not eligible to be SHC measured within nine (9) months of the issue of any Current Annual SHC Certificate of Height.

12.2. Where the horse has been previously measured the original of the last SHC Certificate of Height shall be presented.

12.3. The original Certificate of Registration or Breed Certificate of Registration or Identification Certificate for the horse shall be submitted to the Measuring Steward prior to the measuring of the horse.
12.4. A SHC Official shall identify the horse against its Certificate of Registration/Identification Document, any brands, markings and other details shown on the Registration shall agree with those of the horse being presented for measurement, the Horse may not be measured where any discrepancy is found.
12.5. The details of the Horse's Certificate of Registration or Breed Certificate or Identification Document shall agree with the details on the Horse's Application for Measurement Form.
12.6. At the time of measurement, all of the Horse's measuring documents shall be in order and measuring fees are to be paid. Any problems shall be brought to the attention of the Show Horse Council Representative, the horse will not be measured if its documents & Measuring Fees are not in order.
12.7. The Horse shall be registered, any Horse not registered with the National Saddle Horse Register may be measured and issued with a SHC Certificate of Height provided that the Horse is registered with a recognised Breed Society or recognised Horse Register or has some form of official identification (including A.J.C.) provided that, a) The Horse's name & other details as recorded on the Registration Papers shall coincide with Application for Measurement Form. b) The Original of the Registration Certificate is presented at the time of measurement of the horse.
12.8. Where errors are found on National Saddle Horse Registration Papers the Show Horse Council Steward may confiscate the papers and shall "Mark Up" the Measuring Application Form, the Show Horse Council Steward/Representative shall arrange for the incorrect Papers be sent to the Show Horse Council Registrar for correction.
13.0. MEASURING FEES
13.1. The Measuring Fees shall be as set from time to time, by the Show Horse Council of Australasia Inc. or a Constituent Affiliate for their respective state.
13.2. The Measuring Fee shall be paid to the Show Horse Council of Australasia Inc. or the Constituent Affiliate as applicable
13.3. The Measuring Fee shall be due & paid in full at the time the Application for Measuring is lodged (i.e. when the horse is presented to be measured).
14.0. PRESENTATION OF THE HORSE FOR MEASURING
14.1. The horse shall be presented for measuring in a natural, calm state.
14.2. The Measuring or not of an unruly horse will be at the discretion of the measurer.
14.3. The horse shall be presented in a bridle and shall have a bit in its mouth. The reins or lead shall be connected to the bit.
14.4. The horse shall be either wearing shoes on both front or all four feet or be unshod. Grass (toe) tips are not acceptable.
14.5. The horse should not be presented for identification or measuring wearing rugs, hoods etc. Any leg wraps or boots shall be removed on request by an Official.
15.0. MEASURING PROCEDURES
15.1. When being measured the horse shall stand square, with legs perpendicular to the ground, the forelegs in line and the horse's weight distributed evenly over all four legs. The horse must not be stretched out.
15.2. The measurement shall be taken at the highest point of the wither.

15.3. The measurement should be taken when the horse's head is in a natural position, the poll must not be lower than the highest point of the wither at the time of measurement.
15.4. Where a horse is shod, the Measurer may make an allowance of up to 3/8" (1 cm) for shoes. The Measurer has the right to measure the shoe & may use his discretion as to any allowance that he shall decide will be the exact amount of the shoe allowance.
15.5. If the measurer is in any doubt with regard to the measurement, he should not proceed with the issue of the Certificate of Height, until the horse has been jointly measured with the other Official Measurer or (if not present:) the measurement sighted and confirmed by the Show Horse Council Steward or Show Horse Council Representative.
15.6. Where the Measurer is not satisfied with the presentation/condition of the horse the matter shall be brought to the attention of the Show Horse Council Representative who shall take whatever action deemed necessary, which may include requesting a Veterinarian to take samples from the horse for drug testing or a request may be issued for the horse to be represented for measuring at another time and place.
15.7. A Veterinary Surgeon may be appointed to attend the measuring of any horse for the purpose of Drug Testing the horse. This will include taking samples for analysis to a prohibited substance. The Veterinarian shall have the power to take sample/s from any horse presented for measurement, either before or after measurement, samples may include the taking of both blood and urine. If a positive result to a prohibited substance occurs, the owner of the horse will be responsible for the cost of the Analysis of their horse's samples and disciplinary action may be taken by the Show Horse Council against the owners and/or the handlers of the horse. Failure to comply with this Rule shall render the horse ineligible to be measured.
15.8. Once the horse has been presented for official SHC measurement a SHC Certificate of Height shall be issued. The only exception to this Rule is 15.6 and 15.7.
15.9. Where a dispute arises between the Measurer or any other person involved with the Measuring Day or with the measurement of a particular horse, the final decision shall be made by the Show Horse Council Representative.
15.10. THE HORSE SHALL BE MEASURED TWICE ONLY AND MAY SPEND UP TO A MAXIMUM OF TEN (10) MINUTES IN THE MEASURING BOX ON EACH OCCASION. Where a second measurement is required, the horse shall be returned to the Official Stewards no later than one (1) hour after the time of the first measurement and be given priority over others waiting on first measurement. The period may be shortened or extended at the discretion of the Show Horse Council Representative.
15.11. At least one Official Measurer shall attend each Measuring Day. Where a horse is borderline or where the horse is presented a second time (refer clause 15.10) then the horse may be measured by two Measurers (except where in the absence of a second Measurer the height shall be confirmed by the Show Horse Council Steward or the Show Horse Council Representative).
15.12. The Measurer has the right to refuse to measure any horse without assigning a reason.
16.0. ISSUE OF SHC CERTIFICATE OF HEIGHT
16.1. The SHC may issue a Provisional, Annual or Life SHC Certificate of Height to any horse measured in accordance with the SHC Measuring Scheme Rules.
16.2. The Official Show Horse Council's Certificate of Height will be the only Certificates recognised. (exception refer 2.5)
16.3. The SHC Certificate of Height shall contain all details as required under Rule 6.3.
16.4. At least one Measurer shall sign the SHC Certificate of Height. The second signature shall be that of the second Measurer the Show Horse Council Steward or the Show Horse Council Representative. If a Duplicate Certificate is issued then the Certificate may be signed by any of the following: Measurers, Show Horse Council Steward, Show Horse Council Representative or Show Horse Council Official.
16.5. Details of the horse (i.e. colour, brands, microchip number, height, date measured, Owner details etc.) shall be displayed on the Certificate of Height. Where a brand is indistinct this shall be noted.
16.6. Horses presented for measurement that are under Five (5) years of age shall be issued a SHC Provisional Certificate Of Height, pink in colour,

that is valid for a six (6) months period from date of measure; the expiry date to be recorded on the Provisional Certificate of Height.

17.0 ISSUE OF A REPLACEMENT CERTIFICATE OF HEIGHT

17.1. A Replacement Certificate of Height may be issued where the original has been lost, damaged or destroyed.

17.2. An Application Form for issue of a Replacemt Height Certificate shall be completed & lodged with the SHC Chief Measurer.

17.3. A Fee, equivalent to the cost of the original certificate shall apply for issue of a Replacement Certificate of Height, the fee shall be lodged with the Application for issue of a Replacement Height Certificate.

18.0 PROVISIONAL CERTIFICATE OF HEIGHT FOR HORSES UNDER 5 Years

a) A Provisional Certificate of Height is valid for six (6) months from the date of measurement. The Certificate is automatically cancelled immediately once a new Certificate is issued. The Show Horse Council Measuring Steward is to mark any superseded Certificate with the word CANCELLED then sign and date same.

b) On expiry of a Provisional Certificate of Height the horse, if under five (5) years, may be measured for a further SHC Provisional Certificate once the horse has attained five (5) years of age the horse would be eligible for an Annual Certificate of Height measure.

c) The Provisional SHC Certificate of Height will be pink in colour.

d) A fee shall be charged for the Certificate.

18.1 ANNUAL SHC CERTIFICATE OF HEIGHT FOR HORSES AT LEAST 5 Years Of Age

a) The Annual Certificate is valid for twelve months from the date of measurement. The Certificate is automatically cancelled immediately a new Certificate is issued. The Show Horse Council Measuring Steward is to mark any superseded Certificate with the word CANCELLED then sign and date same.

b) A Horse may be measured for an SHC Annual Certificate of Height after a minimum of nine (9) calendar months have expired, from the date the Horse's previous SHC Certificate of Height was issued.

c) The Annual SHC Certificate of Height will be white in colour.

d) A fee shall be charged for the Certificate.

19.0 SHC LIFE CERTIFICATE OF HEIGHT MAY BE ISSUED PROVIDING THAT:

a) The horse is at least eight years of age, in the case of a horse over 16.2hh and in possession of a current SHC Certificate Of Height, it may be issued with a Life Certificate when under eight years of age, provided that the next measurement places the horse in the same height division.

b) The new measurement of the horse places it in the height division as stated on the expiring SHC Annual Certificate of Height AND the horse has measured in this same height division in the past two (2) consecutive Annual measures.

c) The horse is not being measured under a "Right of Appeal" (section 20.0) or "Remeasurement of The Horse" (section 21.0) situation.

e) SHC Life Certificate of Height will be blue in colour.

f) A Fee may be charged for the Certificate.

g) Horses over 16.2hh of any age may be issued with a Life Certificate providing they meet the conditions 18 - a), b), c) & d).

20.0 SPECIFICATIONS OF MEASURING STICK AND BLOCK

20.1. The Show Horse Council shall approve the design of the measuring stick and the use of a stick.

20.2 The Measuring Stick:

a) The design of the instruments shall provide the ability to find a level in a vertical and horizontal plane. The movement in the vertical plane must be able to be finely adjusted, i.e. within 0.1" (2.5mm).

b) The actual horizontal component of the measuring stick must not exceed 1" (2.25cm) in width and must form a radius where it contacts the horse.

c) The measuring stick/s shall be checked prior to any measurements being taken.

20.3. Measuring Block:

a) All measuring must be undertaken on a flat level surface (e.g. concrete slab) which is laid in a horizontal plane. The surface should be flat to within 0.25" (6.0mm), this hard surface must be located in a quiet area and be at least partly fenced by post and rails, or be enclosed totally as per Royal Shows. The entire area of the surface shall be required to conform to specifications.

b) The SHC Affiliate or Constituent Affiliate in the area shall arrange for the measuring block specifications to be checked. As of the 30th June every second year the block is to be checked by a qualified person (i.e. an Engineer or Surveyor) and a copy of the updated written report (Certificate of Compliance) on the block is to be forwarded to the Show Horse Council. The cost of the assessment of the block will be met by the Show Horse Council.

21.0 RIGHT TO APPEAL

21.1. The owner of a horse has the right to appeal to the Show Horse Council against an Official Measurement. The Appeal shall be in writing within 14 days of the date of the measurement accompanied by a Fee of $50.00. The fee is refunded if the horse is re-measured and the appeal is upheld.

21.2. The Appeal shall state:

a) Name of the horse and owner.

b) A photocopy of the Measuring Certificate.

c) The reason for the Appeal.

21.3. The Show Horse Council shall decide if the horse will be re-measured. An "Appeal" will not necessarily mean the horse will be re-measured. Appeals shall be tabled at a meeting of the Show Horse Council for ratification. Where the Show Horse Council decides not to re-measure the horse the refunding or otherwise of the $50.00 is also solely at the discretion of the Show Horse Council.

21.4. In the interim, the most recent SHC Official Measurement shall stand and the horse shall be entered in and compete at the height measured.

21.5. Where a horse is to be re-measured it must be measured as set down in Clause 14.

22.0 RE-MEASUREMENT OF THE HORSE

22.1. Re-measurement of a horse may be arranged as follows:

a) On the request of the Show Horse Council of Australasia Inc. or a Constituent Affiliate, (who reserves the right to re-measure any horse at any time) OR

b) Under conditions set down in Section 21.0 "Right of Appeal".

22.3. A Protest by a third party will not be lodged against a Current SHC Official Measurement Certificate as this defeats the purpose of holding a Certificate.

22.4. Where a horse is to be re-measured, two Official Measurers shall perform the measuring, one of whom was not involved in the original Measure of the horse.

22.5. Where a horse is to be re-measured it may be measured barefoot, or it may be measured with shoes. If the horse is shod (refer Clause 15.4) then the shoes are to be measured by the Chief Measurer and the actual measured value of the shoe is deducted from the measured height.
22.6. A member of the Show Horse Council or a person nominated by the Show Horse Council shall be present at the horse's re-measurement. The horse's owner and the handler may be present, however no other observers are allowed.