

## ABHA Rules & Regulations of Registration (March 2022)

### **SECTION 1: Official Breeding Record**

#### **RULE 1.1 Official Herd-book**

The official herd-book of animal Registrations shall be known as the Black Hereford Registry. This herd-book shall be maintained digitally by the ABHA and shall be the sole property of the ABHA.

#### **RULE 1.2 Entries**

Each entry in the herd-book shall contain the registration number, name of animal, sex, date of birth, names of breeder and owner, animal identification number and the animal's percentage Black Hereford blood. It shall also include the animal's pedigree for up to three generations, if applicable.

#### **RULE 1.3 Registry**

The American Black Hereford Herd-book shall include both the Purebred Registry and the Percentage Registry. The Registry and corresponding certificates shall clearly denote Purebred animals and Percentage animals. All black animals above 62.5% shall receive a "HB" registration number. Red females shall receive a "HX" and nonregistered animals shall receive a "NX" registration number. Recorded F1 females shall receive a "NR" registration number.

### **SECTION 2: Registration**

**RULE 2.1 Privilege of Registration.** Only Life, Annual and Junior Members of the Association are eligible to register cattle in the American Black Hereford Registry, under the Rules and Regulations promulgated by the Association.

- A. **Active Breeder.** An Active Breeder shall mean those members who have registered one or more animals in the prior two fiscal years, and who are up to date on their membership fees. The Association shall maintain a list of the Active Breeders and shall designate which breeders are Performance Breeders and which breeders are Pedigree Breeders.
- B. **Membership Breeder Designation.** The Association will maintain two different tiers of levels that member can participate in when registering and transferring registered cattle. The billing of services for registration and transferring animals can be different between the levels and shall be established by the Board of Directors. The two tiers and a brief description of each are as follows:
  - a. **Pedigree Registry** – This participation level is designed for breeders who wish to register and transfer purebred Black Hereford cattle, but are not

interested in maintaining and reporting performance data to the Association. If the breeder requests a transfer or registration of such animal that the breeder has not submitted birth weight and wean weight information on, the breeder chooses to waive performance recording on that animal, and the production of EPDs on that animal.

- b. Performance Registry-This participation level is designed for breeders who are committed to performance testing their herds. Performance registry breeders are required to annually report birth weight and weaning weight information within the data guidelines ( birth weight- taken within 24 hours of birth and a weaning weight taken between 160 days and 250 days of age) on any animal with a completed transfer or registration on any HB or HX. Breeders that submit data on at least two thirds [2/3] of the animals two years prior to the current year will receive performance EPD'S for the animals registered in the current year. Data on animals should be submitted in proper contemporary groups. Completed is defined in this section as paid in full.

All new breeders will automatically receive performance EPD's in the first two years of membership and shall be on the new member list maintained by the association. Breeders may correct data issues that are applicable and be added to the Performance registry at any time.

**RULE 2.2 Eligibility for Registration.** Black Hereford animals of any age for which application for registration is made may be registered with the Association upon proof of compliance with the following requirements:

A. Requirements for Registration. The animal must be a Black Hereford, as determined under the Rules of the Association.

1. Therefore, a bull or cow must EITHER:

a.) Have an ABHA registered or recorded parent (sire must be an Approved Herd Sire) and an American or Canadian Hereford Association registered parent (sire must be approved as stated in c).

O R

b.) Have both ABHA registered sire and dam (sire must be an Approved Herd Sire).

OR

c.) Be an American or Canadian Hereford Association sire approved for admission as stated in Rule 2.8.

OR

d.) Be the product of an ABHA Approved Herd Sire (or a sire approved as stated in c) and a F1 properly recorded with the ABHA.

f.) Be the product of a paring described in a, b, or c, which was not eligible to register due to hair color and is a female (HX).

2. A bull must have two, well-descended, testicles in order to be eligible for acceptance into the Registry.

3. A bull, cow or steer must have black hair color (except as provided in 1(f)).

B. Percentage Bloodlines. All bulls, females and steers for which application for registration is made shall be classified as 62.5% or greater registered Hereford, be black in color (except as provided in 1(f)).

C. Purebred Bloodlines. Bulls and cows shall be classified as a purebred Black Hereford if they are 87.5% Hereford and black in color (except as provided in 1(f)).

D. Multiple Births. Twins or other multiple births are eligible for registration, if other eligibility requirements are met, provided that the application for registry states that the calf is a twin or of other multiple birth. If one such calf is registered without such statement, another subsequent calf of the same gestation cannot subsequently be registered.

4. F1 Cattle. Females produced from crossing an American or Canadian Hereford parent with an American Angus Association parent (to create a Hereford/Angus F1) may be recorded with the ABHA and receive a certificate, but are not considered "Black Herefords" and will not be counted for voting (NR).

**RULE 2.3 Visual Inspection.** The ABHA reserves the right to inspect any animal prior to acceptance for registration.

**RULE 2.4 Application for Registration.** To register an animal with the Association, the owner of the dam shall submit through the ABHA's computer system a complete, and accurate registration application with the correct registration fee.

**RULE 2.5 Ear Tattoos and Animal Identification Number.** Every registered animal must be tattooed before application for registry is made. Tattoos can be a combination of either numbers or letters or a combination of both. Duplication of tattoos within a herd should not occur while both animals are still alive. Tattoos should match the herd identification for all animals registered. Tattoos must be reported to the Association upon application for registry.

- A. The tattoo and its location shall be in the ABHA registration system.
- B. Symbols Which May Be Used. Tattoos must be standard Arabic numbers and English letters.
- C. Repetitive Use. No two animals of the same sex registered by the same breeder shall be given identical tattoos EXCEPT a breeder may use the same mark and location on the same sex animal after nine years.
- D. Location. The tattoo can be located in one or both ears of the animal.
- E. Corrections. If the tattoo of an animal becomes unreadable or is put on incorrectly, the tattoo shall be placed in a different lobe of the ear and no attempt shall be made to alter or over-imprint the old tattoo. The Breeder shall update the information of the new tattoo with the Association.

**RULE 2.6 Names for Cattle and Herds.**

- A. Cattle Names. An animal's name cannot contain more than 32 characters and spaces. Only English letters and Arabic numbers shall be acceptable. The only symbol that will be allowed to be used is the apostrophe symbol ( ' ).
- B. Repetitive Use. A breeder may use an identical name only once in 9 years.
- C. Name Change by ABHA. The Association reserves the right to change the name of any animal on the application for registry.
- D. Name Changes by Owner. The name of any Black Hereford or F1 may be changed, provided the animal has no registered offspring. The name may be changed only once in the lifetime of an animal. The name may be changed as long as the breeder and all owners agree to the name change. Emails or letters must be submitted from the breeder and all current owners requesting the change of name with the required fee. The digital system may allow name changes without a fee as determined by the Board.
- E. Reserved Herd Name/Prefix. Each ABHA member shall register one name or prefix with the Association to be reserved exclusively for that member's use as the first name for cattle raised in the member's herd and shall use such for all cattle registered by that member. This name cannot be used by anyone else as the first word of an animal's name or as a prefix. Cattle owned by multiple members are exempt from such rule but cannot use the Reserved Herd Name of someone outside the owners.

**Rule 2.7 Genetic Defects & Procedures.**

- A. Known Genetic Defects. The ABHA recognizes the following genetic defects
1. Arthrogyrosis Multiplex [AM],
  2. Neuropathic Hydrocephalus [NH],
  3. Idiopathic Epilepsy [IE],
  4. Developmental Duplication [DD], and
  5. Maple Syrup Urine Disease [MS].
- B. All registered females and bulls with impacted genetics in their pedigrees, or that are tested and determined to be carriers of genetic defects shall remain registered. In other words, their registrations will not be revoked, cancelled, or suspended.
- C. Only the results of AM, NH, IE, DD, and MS will be noted by the name of the animal in the registry and on certificates.
- D. Additional genetic test results can be listed in the bottom right hand corner of the certificate and in the DNA section of the Association's digital system and ABHA members will have access to the DNA section of the Association's digital system on all animals.
- E. All genetic testing must be completed by an ABHA approved testing facility. Tests submitted through the ABHA will not be charged a notation fee. All other tests will require a notation fee.

Rule 2.8 Hereford Accepted Sires – Criteria for accepting American or Canadian Hereford Sires for use in the ABHA

- A. The submitted bull cannot be a carrier of the following genetic defects:
- a. Hypotrichosis [HY],
  - b. Diluter [DL],
  - c. Idiopathic Epilepsy [IE], or
  - d. Maple Syrup Urine Disease [MS].
- B. The submitted bull must be tested clean of all four of the above genetic defects or qualify as a Walking Herd Sire under the AHA, before being admitted. The DNA

results must be submitted to either the American or Canadian Hereford Association (and noted on the registry) or the ABHA.

- C. The submitted bull must have EPDs through the American or Canadian Hereford Association.
- D. Prior to submitting any AHA bull to the ABHA Registry, the submitting breeder must be a member in good standing of the American Black Hereford Association. Any member submitting a bull will submit a processing fee of \$50.
- E. The submitted bull must be accepted prior to their offspring being registered.
- F. Once the bull is accepted it will not lose that status.

Rule 2.9 Approved Herd Sire. The ABHA will require all ABHA Black Hereford sires born after January 1, 2017 to have parentage on file through the ABHA testing service and be tested genetically free of the Known Genetic Defects listed in Rule 2.7, before their progeny can be registered. Once such tests are submitted to the ABHA, the bull will be listed as a “Approved Herd Sire,” and will not lose that status, even if the ABHA adds additional requirements.

### **SECTION 3: Registration of Offspring Resulting from Embryo Transplant, Artificial Insemination, or Leasing Cattle by Non-Owner**

RULE 3.1 Qualification. Members may register calves produced from a sire or dam or both which is not owned by the member provided the registration application for that calf is accompanied by a Non-Owner Breeding Certificate signed by the registered owner of the sire or dam or both of the calf or transferred to the member in the Associations online system.

A. Purchase of Non-Owner Breeding Certificate. The Non-Owner Breeding Certificate must be purchased from the Association by the owner of the animal used by the non-owner breeder prior to registration of the calf resulting from said pairing.

RULE 3.2 Embryo Transplant. Calves produced by embryo transplant are eligible for registration, if other eligibility requirements are met, provided that the application for registration states that the calf is the product of embryo transplant.

Calves produced by embryo transplant are subject to the same registration requirements of owner and non- owner sires and dams. Namely, that non-owner parentage requires a non-owner certificate to accompany the registration application. Proof of parentage is the responsibility of the breeder.

RULE 3.3 Artificial Insemination.

A. All calves produced by artificial insemination or embryo transplant, excluding F1s, will be required to have a Non-Owner A.I. Certificate or an A.I. processing fee. This is provided at the time of registration. Proof of parentage is the responsibility of the breeder. The owner(s) of a sire will not have to use A.I. certificates for breeding and registering their own cattle. This is regardless of the age of the calf and whether the Hereford sire is red or black. If the A.I. sire is owned by an ABHA member that owner can issue these certificates to the registering member. If the owner of the sire wants to issue certificates they must be purchased from the ABHA by the owner of the sire. The owner of the sire will set the price they want to charge members for A.I. certificates. If the owner does not want to issue A.I. certificates then the registering member will pay an A.I. Processing Fee in addition to the normal registration cost. If any member sells an A.I. bred female and the resulting calf is from the A.I. mating then the owner of the dam at the time the calf is born will be required to have an A.I. certificate to register that calf.

B. Labeling Semen. It shall be the responsibility of the owner(s) of record of a bull used artificially to require each person or organization collecting, processing and freezing semen to identify and permanently label each container with the full registered name and ABHA number of the bull and the date of collection. When the semen is not properly labeled it may not be used to produce calves for registration in the ABHA registry. When possible, semen should be labeled with an international code.

C. Maintenance of Records. It shall be the responsibility of the owner (s) on record of a bull to maintain an accurate record of each semen collection and a complete and accurate record of each semen sale or transfer to another person or firm. Such records shall be held for inspection by representatives of the Association upon request for a period of seven years.

#### **SECTION 4: Certificate of Registration**

**RULE 4.1 Requirements.** A registration number shall not be assigned to an animal nor a certificate issued until the requirements of the Rules and Regulations are met. The Association will charge the registration fee upon the filing of the application, regardless of whether the animal meets the requirements.

A. Duplicate Certificates. The existence of more than one registration certificate per animal shall not be permitted except in the case of multiple ownership. (See Rule 5.1, paragraph D, section 1a.). In the case of loss or destruction of an original certificate, a request for a duplicate certificate must be made in writing stating the reason for the request and it must be signed by the last owner shown in the certificate. This certificate will be labeled as a duplicate.

B. Transfers. Each time an animal is transferred the Association will generate a new certificate showing the breeder and current owner on the front.

C. Joint Membership. In the case of joint membership, Registration Certificates and other material from the Association will be mailed to the address shown on the membership application.

D. Multiple Ownership. An animal may belong to multiple owners who do not share a joint membership in the Association. If, upon application for registration or transfer, each owner's share of ownership is unspecified, an animal shall be considered as belonging to one owner. If the percentage of ownership is specified, an animal shall be considered to have multiple owners.

The name of each multiple owner will appear on the front of each registration certificate. A record of each owner's percentage of ownership will be kept by the Association and will be displayed in the Association digital system.

Each owner will receive an original registration certificate.

**RULE 4.2 Changes, Errors, and Corrections.** All information on registration applications must be accurate according to the requirements set forth in these rules. If it is determined to be inaccurate after the Registration certificate is issued, the certificate shall become null and void and shall be surrendered to the Association for correction and reissue (see transmittal form) or for cancellation.

A. Changes. Any changes, additions or deletions on a certificate must be made at the Association office or through the Association's online system. Any unauthorized entry shall render a certificate null and void and will only be replaced after payment of the usual fee.

1. A certificate for an animal first registered as a bull may be reissued to show that animal as a steer when the owner submits the Registration Certificate to the Association office and requests the change. No fee will be charged.

B. Errors by the Applicant. Errors committed by the members shall be corrected after payment of the usual fees. (see transmittal form.)

C. Errors by the Association Office. Errors on Registration Certificates or transfers committed by the Association office shall be corrected free of charge if the office is notified within thirty (30) days of when the certificate is received by the applicant or new owner. After thirty days a fee is charged.

**RULE 4.3 Death or Disposal of Animal.** A member may indicate in the association's online system when an animal is disposed of or dies.

**RULE 4.4 Misrepresentation or Fraud**



- A. Misrepresentation or Fraud About Animals. If an animal's registration has been obtained through willful misrepresentation or fraud, or if the date of birth, identification number, weights, DNA tests, sire, or dam, has been purposely misrepresented, the Board of Directors may declare the registration null and void, together with any registration which may have been made of descendants of an animal so registered.
- B. Consequences. When a registration has been obtained by means of misrepresentation or fraud, the Board of Directors may instruct the Secretary to refuse to receive subsequent applications of any kind signed by a person or persons implicated in said misrepresentations or fraud and may take appropriate actions as provided by Article V of the Bylaws.

## **SECTION 5: Transfers of Ownership**

**RULE 5.1 Privilege of Transfer.** Life and Annual and Junior Members of the Association are eligible to transfer cattle in the ABHA Registry under the Rules and Regulations promulgated by the Association.

**RULE 5.2 Transfer Requirements.** Every change of ownership of record of a registered animal must be reported to the Association. The Association will keep record of the original breeder and the current owner.

A. Person Responsible for Transfer. It shall be the duty of the transferor (seller) to apply for transfer and to pay the transfer fee. (see transmittal certificate form.). There shall be a transfer fee for all transfers, including transfers upon registration. The Board may establish a greater transfer fee for delinquent transfers.

B. Transfer from the Estate of a Deceased Person. In the event of the death of the owner of registered cattle, a person desiring to transfer ownership of such cattle must submit to the Association documents showing the person requesting the transfer is legally authorized and entitled to request such transfer. Such transfers shall be subject to a reduced transfer fee as set by the Board of Directors.

C. Multiple Owner Transfers. Each owner of interest may sell all or part of his/her interest in an animal.

D. Verifying Animal for Transfer. It shall be the duty of the transferor before offering a registered animal for sale or applying for transfer, to verify that the animal carries a legible, permanent identification number corresponding to the identification number entered on its Registration Certificate.

RULE 5.3 Application for Transfer. Application for transfer shall be made on the form on the back of the Registration Certificate or in the Association's online system. The appropriate fee must be paid.

A. Time Limits. The transferor is required to apply for transfer within ninety (90) days of the actual change of ownership of the animal. After ninety (90) days the usual fee is doubled. If the transferor is unwilling to transfer the animal by six (6) months from the purchase, the new owner can file a complaint with the Association and the transferor will be considered negligent and be subject to Rule 6.3. This rule does not apply when the new owner is not a member of the Association and does not file for membership.

RULE 5.4 Transfer by Affidavit. In cases of neglect or refusal of a member or nonmember of the Association to apply for transfer of registration, the transfer may be recorded if approved by a majority of the members of the Board of Directors, on the basis of the transferee's affidavit setting forth the fact and sworn to or affirmed before a Notary Public. Each such affidavit must be accompanied by proof of sale and proof of payment in full of the purchase price of the animal, or by the evidence of an agreement to sell, purchase or transfer, including the terms and conditions of service, if any, in the case of females.

RULE 5.5 Public Sales. Sale manager or their representatives may fill in buyer's names on transfer of animals consigned to public sales, and, if authorized by the consignor, can sign such applications in his stead. Applications executed under this Rule are subject to Rule 6.5.

RULE 5.6 Misrepresentation or Fraud.

A. Declaring Transfer Null and Void. If an animal's registration has been transferred through misrepresentation or fraud, the Board of Directors may declare the transfer null together with any registrations of purported descendants of the animal which may have been recorded during the period of such misrepresented or fraudulent transfer.

B. Consequences. When a transfer has been obtained by means of misrepresentation or fraud, the Board of Directors may take appropriate action as provided by these rules or the Bylaws, and instruct the Secretary to refuse to receive subsequent applications of any kind signed by any member implicated in said misrepresentation or fraud.

## **SECTION 6: Herd Records**

RULE 6.1 Requirements. Owners of registered cattle shall maintain accurate breeding records, in which shall be noted the animal identification number and such other information concerning their breeding, ancestry, and date of birth as will make clear and positive for all time the parentage of an animal offered for registration in the American Black Hereford Registry.

A. Bull Records. The owner of a registered bull used for either natural service or artificial insemination shall maintain annual breeding records for each bull during each year. This record shall be segregated as follows:

B. Natural Service - Identification by ABHA registration certificate number of ABHA registered cows exposed, date (s) of exposure and location of service.

C. Artificial Insemination - Units used by the owner of the bull. Number of units sold. This record shall not be filed with the Association but must be retained by the owner of the bull for at least four years and shall be available for examination by the Association upon request.

RULE 6.2 Herd Inventory. An inventory of all cattle registered to one owner may be obtained by that owner from the Association office for a fee or is available on the association's digital system. This inventory may be updated and returned to the office in order to keep an accurate, up-to-date inventory on record. The member may also update such record in the association's digital system.

Inventories on producing age females may also be kept up-to-date by filling in the appropriate disposal code for the dam on registration application forms.

RULE 6.3 Examination of Records. The Board of Directors may investigate or cause to be investigated, examined, identified, or blood/tissue typed any registered animal or her progeny and may examine the breeding records maintained by a member or non-member of the Association for the purpose of verifying applications for registry or records on file in the Association office, or for the purpose of investigating other matters in which the Association may be interested.

A. Herd Status Reports. If, upon investigation by the Board of Directors, it is determined that breeding or herd records, or herd management practices are inadequate to assure the accurate identification of animals in a herd, then the Board may require periodic reports of the current herd status until such time as the Board is satisfied that compliance with the rules of the Association is assured. The Board may also refuse any additional registrations from a member until it is satisfied that such record or practices is corrected.

B. Expenses. Any expense incurred by the Association in the process of examination and verification may be charged to the owner of the herd.

C. Violations. If, upon investigation, the Board of Directors shall determine that the herd records or management practices relating to such records of either a member or nonmember of the Association are such that the purity of the Black Hereford breed may be impaired, or has been impaired, then the Board may, in their discretion, take action under the provisions of these rules or the Bylaws.

## **SECTION 7: Hardship**

RULE 7.1 Waiving Rules and Regulations. The Board of Directors reserves the right to waive compliance with any rule or regulation in cases of hardship where compliance is not reasonably possible or for other good cause.

## **SECTION 8: Miscellaneous**

RULE 8.1 Use of Association Logo. The logos of the Association are copyrighted and may not be used for any purpose by any ABHA member or nonmember without permission from the Association office.

RULE 8.2 Use of Membership Logo. ABHA members may use the membership logo, a copy of which is available from the Association office.

## **Section 9: Qualifications for Dam of Supremacy**

- A. Weaned a calf born since Jan. 1, prior to the qualifying year. b. Produced at least three calves.
- B. Initially calved at 30 months of age or less.
- C. Had an interval between the first and second calves of no greater than 400 days. In addition, a 370-day calving interval must have been maintained after her second calf. The longer initial calving interval allows breeders to calve 2-year-old heifers prior to the mature cow herd.
- D. Had weaning records submitted to the ABHA for every calf produced that was born before eight months before the date of the award determination of the qualifying year.
- E. Had a 3 year progeny average 205-day adjusted weaning weight ratio of at least 105.
- F. All weights must fall within BIF guidelines