

Welcome to the American Quarter Horse Association's podcast of how to correctly verify an AQHA Certificate of Registration and AQHA membership.

Registered American Quarter Horses come with many benefits. First, properly papered horses help record and preserve the pedigrees while maintaining the integrity of all American Quarter Horses.

Also, registering American Quarter Horses opens up a world of competitive opportunities in show rings and at racetracks and allows AQHA to record the accomplishments of these athletes.

Probably more importantly to most people, registration should give people the peace of mind of knowing that they have an American Quarter Horse – with the papers to prove it.

Because AQHA tracks ownership – in addition to registration – it's important for sellers to notify AQHA when a horse is sold that way AQHA can record the ownership on the certificate of registration. This lets people know who the current owner is, which is vital when it comes to showing or racing! We can't stress how vital both the registration process and properly recorded ownership on every American Quarter Horse is!

Just as a side note, you can easily keep a record of ownership accurate by completing a transfer application on any American Quarter Horse you sell or purchase. Transferring a horse only costs \$15 for members and it's simple to complete. For your convenience, we've included a transfer application on this podcast's Web site.

Also on this site, we've included a PDF, titled "How to read an AQHA Certificate of Registration." If you haven't already, I invite you to pause this podcast and download that now. This PDF is a sample certificate, and is similar to one you'll see when someone enters an AQHA class at your show.

At the top of the Certification of Registration, you'll see the horse's registered name, the AQHA registration number and specifics of that horse. For the purpose of this podcast, this area is highlighted in yellow. Although it is not required to physically compare the horse to the certificate, in addition to the back number, we require show managers to submit the registered name, horse registration number and the exhibitor's AQHA ID on your show's roster to process the results. Don't worry; we'll include everything you need to know about the roster in your show manager's packet. For now, we simply want you to be aware of how to efficiently find this information on membership cards and certificates.

Below this information on the certificate, you'll find the current owner and a photo of the horse if provided, highlighted in green. To the right of this photo, you'll find the markings of the horse on all certificates. On older certificates, a photo is not included and the current owner may be listed at the bottom of the certificate. The topmost listing here will be the current owner of record by AQHA. We want you to be aware that yellow AQHA Appendix Certificates of Registration will have ownership information at the bottom as well. Appendix certificates and ownership requirements are treated like any other registration certification at a show.

Regardless of the certificate you're presented, you'll need to verify the exhibitor's AQHA membership is current and take note of owner's name on the certificate of registration. For an exhibitor to compete as a youth or amateur they must either own the horse or an immediate family member must own the horse as defined by AQHA amateur rule 403(a)(5) or AQHA youth rule 404(a). We've included these rules as a reference on this podcast's Web site. You may pause here to go download these PDF documents.

You may notice horses that are owned by estates, ranches or with a joint membership. This is completely legal, however, exhibitors must have their own individual membership to show in any division. In addition, to show in amateur or youth, the exhibitor must be related to the owner of the estate, ranch or joint owner of the horse as stated in amateur rule 403(a)(5) or youth rule 404(a). To ensure the safety and concern of all exhibitors,

anyone showing in an AQHA-approved class as a novice youth, youth or novice amateur are not allowed to show a stallion in these divisions. You can find the gender of the horse on its registration certificate at the top. On this certificate, the horse's gender is highlighted in a red box. If your exhibitor claims a horse is gelded, but has not updated his paperwork with AQHA, they can sign a Gelding Statement waiver included in your show manager's packet.

Once you verify horse ownership, ensure the exhibitor's membership is current. We've included samples of an AQHA membership card on this podcast's Web site to help you quickly find this information. You can pause here to download these. If the membership is not current or if they do not possess an individual membership, don't worry. We'll have membership applications in your show manager packet where you can update their membership on-site.

If a member chooses to show in a novice class, simply turn the card over to verify they are eligible to show in that class. On the bottom of the card, you'll find an A-Z listing of novice eligibility. On the podcast's Web site, we've listed the novice classes as a quick reference. Be sure to download this and have it readily available during your show. You may come across an exhibitor who is eligible to compete as a novice but has not enrolled. For no additional fee, you can have them complete the novice form indicating their eligibility. The form is included in your show manager's packet. One is available to download on this Pod Cast's web site.

On all your show promotions and showbill listings, we recommend you indicate that exhibitors must be current AQHA members and that exhibitors must present a copy of the AQHA Certificate of Registration during entry. To help, we've included a fact sheet with examples on how to include this information.

Finally, we want to remind you that AQHA is here to help you, and if you have any questions or concerns about AQHA's Certificate of Registration or membership, please

do not hesitate to call us at (806) 376-4811 between 8am and 5 pm central. A live customer service representative will be glad to help!

This ends AQHA's podcast of how to verify horse ownership and AQHA membership status. We hope you enjoyed listening. Please consider saving this on your computer as a reference, and be sure to send this podcast to other show managers in your area! As an added bonus, we've also included a PDF transcript of this podcast on its Web site. For more information about owning American Quarter Horses, please visit aqha.com. Additional information about showing American Quarter Horses is available in AQHA's Ultimate Guide to Showing available for free download on this podcast's Web site. Thank you!