



July 9, 2019

AMERICAN SHETLAND PONY CLUB, INC.

American Shetland Pony Registry • American Miniature Horse Registry • American Show Pony Registry

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RE: Measuring Protocol

To the Members and Officials of the ASPC/AMHR/ASPR;

The leadership of the ASPC/AMHR/ASPR (specifically the Steward's Committee) has been asked to make a statement clarifying Section 1.6, Position of Animal, which provides:

1.6 Position of Animal - The animal must be standing squarely on all four feet and should not be permitted to "stretch". The front legs should be on a vertical line directly under the shoulder. The back of the hocks should be in a vertical line with the animal's buttocks. The horse/pony's head must be held low enough to reveal the highest point of the withers and no lower. The animal must be free of blanket, hood, neck wrap, and tail set to verify the description on the registration paper to the animal being measured. The handler must not interfere with the animal in any way that will prevent it from standing in this position.

The verbiage in red is at is the focus of this statement. As a breed organization we must understand that conformation of a horse/pony varies by each animal. Some horses cannot stand with their hocks in a straight line down from their buttocks. The pictures below represent the expectations of the Steward's Committee in light of the above-quoted section:



When a horse is truly "square," (i.e., the front legs are directly perpendicular to the measuring surface as well as the back of the hocks), the horse's conformation allows for a natural square stance. This should be the expectation of the stewards: to naturally represent the horse's true last hair measurement.



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Regarding front and rear and side views, the Steward's Committee has the same expectations regarding perpendicularity, as represented in the following pictures:



I hope that this explains the expectations of the Steward's Committee, provides necessary insight into the definition set forth in Section 1.6, and gives you a clear understanding of the natural stance that we expect when measuring your horses. We understand that every horse is unique, but we hope this helps you measure each of your horses according to standard.

Thank you to the Membership for their continued support. We appreciated the feedback we have received and the opportunity to provide additional information about the expectations of the Steward's Committee. We hope this helps you in measuring your own horses and provides insight into the standards of measurement to which all members are expected to adhere to.

Best of luck with the rest of the show season, and at the 2019 Shetland Congress and AMHR Nationals.

Sincerely,

Rob Crater
Stewards Committee Chairperson