

Proposal for Resolution to the On-going PAT (AHRA)/WAHO Problem

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UPDATE ON THE POSITION OF WHAT USED TO BE AHRA WHEN THIS PROPOSAL WAS SUBMITTED FOR CONSIDERATION

This proposal was sent to AHRA in 2000. Since that time, AHRA has dissolved and become PAT (Purebred Arabian Trust) and IAHA has dissolved and re-incorporated as the Arabian Horse Association. This was done through an agreement accepted by IAHA Convention Delegates in 2002. This agreement authorizes PAT to "appoint" 2 Vice Presidents At-Large and 4 Directors At-Large to the AHA Executive Committee and Board of Directors, respectively, plus additional "appointments" to the prestigious Ways & Means Committee and other areas such as the Registration Committee. The AHA does not have the reciprocal authority to appoint representation to any PAT area. Even though this agreement is entitled "Merger Agreement," there was no true merger. There are still 2 separate organizations

AHA now "leases" the Data Base from PAT and has the responsibilities of processing registration transactions. PAT retains all authority over registration of Purebred Arabian horses, including the making of all rules, decisions regarding all registration, etc. PAT charges AHA one-third of the registration department's gross receipts for the annual lease of the PAT Data Base!

IAHA and AHRA no longer exist but the problems between the World Arabian Horse Organization (WAHO) and PAT continued to exist until PAT was accepted as the USA-Canada-Mexico Purebred Arabian Registry WAHO member on January 1, 2008, in place of the Purebred Arabian Registry (PAHR) which was established as the WAHO member on January 1, 1998 when AHRA was expelled from WAHO!

PURPOSE OF THIS PROPOSAL: To resolve the AHRA/WAHO conflict and allow the AHRA to rejoin WAHO without compromising its guardianship of the Purebred Arabian horse.

DEFINITION: For the purposes of this proposal, the term Purebred Arabian horse refers to all Arabian horses that are registered with any WAHO member-registry in the world, defined by breed standards, and who may or may not contain other genetic elements. The term "Bedouin Source Original Arabian Blood Stock" (hereinafter referred to as "oa") defines Purebred Arabian horses that do not contain genetic elements other than those derived from the Bedouin foundation stock which can be reasonably traceable in all lines to that Bedouin-bred stock. Additional definitions are contained within this proposal where they are discussed.

PROBLEM 1. Guarding the Purity

The Arabian Horse Registry of America (AHRA), as one of its objectives, is charged with guarding the purity of the Arabian horse breed. The AHRA is in the current position of not being able to accept certain Purebred Arabian horses registered in recognized WAHO registries throughout the world due to their ancestral pedigree containing genetic elements that can be identified as less than traceable to the Bedouin-bred "oa" genetic pool. This position has resulted in AHRA losing its position as the WAHO-recognized and accepted Purebred Arabian Registry of the United States.

RESOLUTION: It is recognized and accepted that the majority of the registered Purebred Arabian horses in today's world either have a background of confirmable and documented pedigree information that contain elements of infusion of source blood other than that of Bedouin foundation stock, sometimes referred to as "oa" or have a background that leads to a dead end and may or may not contain elements of infusion of source blood other than that of Bedouin foundation stock or "oa." The uncertainty element of the "may or may not" is a result of lack of complete pedigree records due to wars, lost records often due to the passing of time, etc. The AHRA can fulfill its mission as guardian of the Arabian breed by identifying those Arabian horses currently registered in the AHRA records that can, indeed, be "reasonably assumed to descend entirely from the Bedouin Arabian horses bred by the nomadic horse-breeding tribes of the deserts of the Arabian Peninsula and the immediate surrounding areas where these nomadic Bedouin tribes wander." This identity would consist of an identifying mark or other designation in connection with their AHRA registration number in any stud book listing, could be maintained in a separate listing and (if deemed helpful) on the registration papers, themselves. This group of Purebred Arabian horses would be identified as "Bedouin Source Original Arabian Blood Stock." It is suggested that this mark be a simple "oa" (original Arabian, a term acknowledged and accepted world-wide) and be incorporated into the AHRA registration number in a manner which would facilitate and expedite any computer search desired by parties interested in finding this specific group of Arabian horses.

- **ADDITIONAL BENEFITS, ARABIAN BREED:** In so doing, the AHRA will be the first Purebred Arabian horse registry in the World to recognize the necessity of identifying and documenting this unique genetic element for, not only today's breeders, but also for all future generations of breeders. Thus, this identification becomes an important tool for breeders wishing to carry the "oa" Arabians into perpetuity. By virtue of creating this identifiable path directly to the "oa" AHRA will have ensured that the origins of the Purebred Arabian horse can never be lost in the scrolls of time--preserving the past and guiding that past through the present and into the future.

ADDITIONAL BENEFITS, AHRA: By instituting a program whereby the AHRA identifies all horses in their registry that trace in all lines to the "oa" gene pool, AHRA has not only fulfilled its obligation to its stated policy of the guardianship of the purity of Arabian horse, but additionally AHRA will have even furthered their mission by establishing a policy that forever identifies that unique and historically important gene pool, thus, again, safeguarding this continuing genetic pool in unbroken lines directly to the origin of the Purebred Arabian horse. This bridge of positive identity from origin to present can only, at the present time, be identified through exhaustive research and could be lost in the distant future. Thus, by identifying this group of Arabians at this time, the origin of the Purebred Arabian horse will never be lost as we move down the road of time into that distant future. In addition, AHRA will once again lead the way for the rest of the world to follow suit. As AHRA has been in the forefront of bringing blood-typing and shipped semen to other registries around the world, it will earn its place as the first innovator in the new millennium to use our newest technology to continue its contribution to the preservation of the Arabian breed, worldwide.

PROBLEM 2. U.S. & International Competitions and Activities

Currently, most, if not all Purebred Arabian horse competitions around the world that are outside of the United States accept all Purebred Arabian horses registered in any WAHO-recognized registry. Therefore, any U.S. horse competing outside the United States will be competing against those bloodlines that are not currently recognized here in the United States within IAHA and American Jockey Club competitions. The AHRA should be on an equal basis with the rest of the world in recognizing all the same horses. Any restrictive rules should be imposed at a lower level and not implicate AHRA in any prejudiced position on the International level. AHRA is in the business of registering Arabian horses, not imposing competition rules for eligibility.

At this time both the Arabian Jockey Club and IAHA accept only AHRA-registered Arabian horses in their competitions. Thus, by virtue of using this stipulation in their rules, neither of these two organizations will accept certain Arabian horses in their competitions which AHRA currently determines as "unacceptable." Therefore, AHRA is currently the entity that is ultimately responsible for approving what Arabian horses can or cannot enter the competitions and activities sponsored by IAHA and the American Jockey Club here in the United States. However, these same "unacceptable" Purebred Arabian horses are accepted in competitions and activities held elsewhere around the world.

Based upon the above, wherein IAHA and A.J.C. may wish to continue with their rules reflecting eligibility for their competitions which are dependent upon currently-accepted policies of AHRA, we must put this in concert with the extreme importance of also considering the exploding "global" aspect. This must be considered as we move forward into the new millennium and a world that is becoming much closer in terms of inter-continental travel, communication, and equine competitions/activities. Therefore, we suggest that there is further justification for identifying the balance of the Purebred Arabian horses that do not meet the "oa" criteria

within the AHRA for the purposes of allowing such entities as IAHA and A.J.C. to accept responsibility via their own rules for selecting Arabian horses eligible for their competitions by those other organizations, themselves, instead of relying on the AHRA as is current practice.

With the recent addition of more equine divisions in the Olympic Games such as reining and endurance (especially endurance where the Purebred Arabian excels over all other breeds around the world), it is even more important that the Purebred Arabian horse become universally recognized from country to country. Knowing how competition basis and rules change and new competitions evolve as time goes on, sometime in the future the AHRA could conceivably be put in a controversial and/or awkward position as a result of current policy. This would automatically put our Arabian competitors in the same disadvantaged position, if their horses are only AHRA registered. This is another important reason for the AHRA to regain membership in WAHO and rejoin the rest of the world.

RESOLUTION

It is recommended that the AHRA identify all Arabians within its Registry that can fulfill the definition of “original Arabian” within their data base. Identification should be a simple “oa” (original Arabian, a term acknowledged and accepted world-wide) and be incorporated into the AHRA registration data base in a manner which would facilitate and expedite any computer search desired by parties interested in finding this specific group of Arabian horses.

Both the Arabian Jockey Club and IAHA must take on the responsibility of incorporating on their own any separate rules and procedures accepting entries for their respective competitions and/or activities programs. That is the level where any such restrictions belong. AHRA should not have to be the party which is used for, and thus is ultimately responsible for, any eligibility rules for any organization sponsoring Arabian activities and/or competitions. By moving this responsibility down to the actual sponsoring organization, this frees AHRA of any responsibility for same which also frees AHRA to accept the definition via the plan outlined herein.

CONCLUSIONS

- AHRA reclaims their position in the Arabian horse world, having not only fulfilled their present mission of guardian of the Purebred Arabian horse into perpetuity, but having furthered this mission by providing the avenue to the “oa” undiluted gene pool.
- Uncomplicated import/export in the United States resumes.
- The data base becomes revitalized and accessible as an integral part of every breeding program around the world.
- AHRA accomplishes a dynamic first by identifying the Bedouin Source Original Arabian Blood Stock making same easily identified by current breeders who may wish to utilize this gene pool exclusively or for re-infusion; thereby ensuring that the solid, uninterrupted future of the Purebred Arabian horse will be carried into the pages of all time.
- AHRA relinquishes all responsibility for eligibility rules for other organizations who should assume that responsibility instead of AHRA for the purposes of their competition/activities eligibility.
- AHRA becomes the only American registry for the Purebred Arabian horse recognized by the rest of the world's registries and competitions.

Win! (Purebred Arabian Breed)

Win! (AHRA)

Win! (International Purebred Arabian Horse Community at Large)



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