

## AHBSA classification day procedure (January 2024)

As the new classification process for Haflinger Horses moves from an event organised by the AHBSA, to an event organised by registered Haflinger horse breeders, there are a number of regulations and procedures that need to be complied with and equipment needed to correctly record classification data. The following provided below is a guide for the organiser.

### Documentation Required

1. Copy of foal registration certificate (printed or digital version)
2. Classification Inspection Report prepared by the classifier per horse

### Equipment Requirement

1. Horse height measuring stick
2. Girth measuring tape
3. Cannon bone measuring tape
4. Micro chip RFID tag reader
5. Digital Camera

### Classification Procedure/ Process

#### 1. Registrar Notification

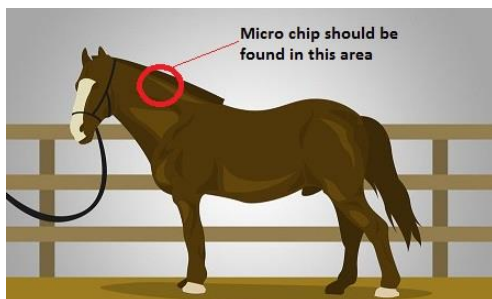
The horse breeder/owner must contact the Registrar in writing to organise a classification event. The Registrar can provide a list of AHBSA approved classifiers (including veterinary classifiers). If none are available then suitably qualified equine veterinarians should be approached with the intent to seeking their registration/approval by the AHBSA. The breeder/owner is responsible for the schedule, attendance and payment to the classifier and or veterinary classifier. Publicity of classification events is encouraged. Classifiers act at all times under the direction and authority of the Registrar.

#### 2. Application Payment

When dates are finalised horse classification registration documentation (can be found on AHBSA web site) must be completed and submitted to the registrar with the prescribed payment. If lodged less than 7 days prior a late processing fee will apply. Classification documentation and payment must be received before horse classification results are entered into the stud book.

#### 3. Identification of the horse

Use a micro chip (RFID) reader to locate, read and record animal's identification number.

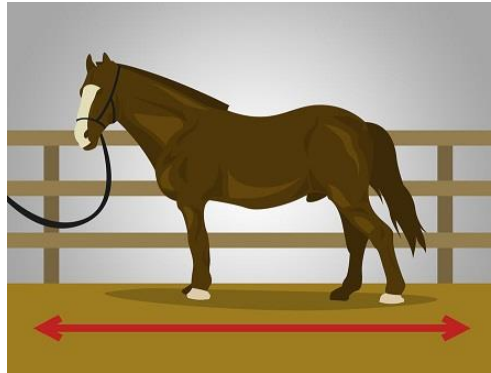


Once found the animal's identification number must be cross referenced to the number on the horse's foal registration certificate. All horses to be classified should be micro chipped before classification.

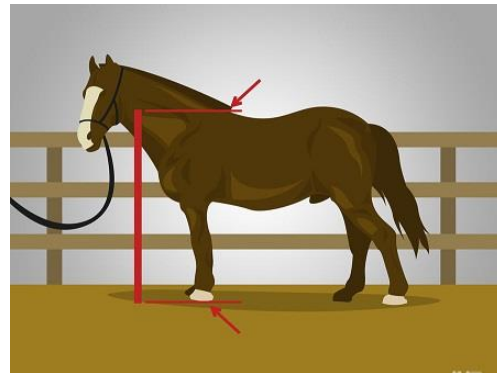
#### 4. Measuring the Horse

##### Height

Make sure the horse is standing on hard level even surface with its front feet as even as possible



Place the horse measuring stick at the base of one of the horse's front feet and pull the measuring device down to the withers. The stick must be plumb and level to accurately measure the horse.



The withers is located at the top of the shoulders between the neck and back and is considered the highest point on a horse. The highest point of a horse is actually the top of its head, (also known as the poll), but since a horse moves its head up and down frequently, it is difficult to record this measurement accurately.

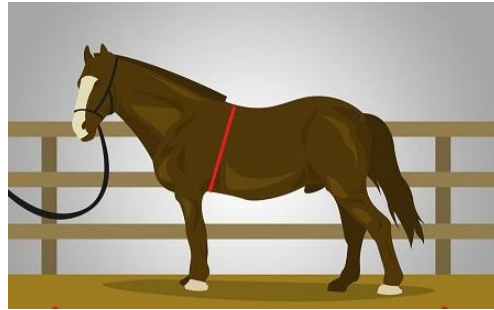
Stretch the measuring device to the highest point of the withers. More precisely, extend the measuring device up to the spiny ridge between the horse's shoulder blades.

If the horse measuring stick is being used, then the measurement is recorded in centimetres immediately.

Minimum height for pure bred Haflinger stallions is 144cm and pure bred mares 142cm. Mares less than 142cm can be registered but are eligible for a maximum score of 2A.

## Girth Circumference

Measure around the mid section immediately behind the elbows and the withers. Record dimension in cm



## Cannon Bone Circumference

Measure around the cannon bone halfway between the knee and the ergot. Record dimension in cm



## 5. Photographic Identification Record

It is the **event organiser's responsibility** to nominate a photographer for the official classification photos. The photos must clearly identify the horses name and micro chip number and must include:

1. Head on view clearly showing the horses head markings
2. Left side view
3. Right side view
4. Rear view

All four photos are to be forwarded to the Registrar and will be retained as official records. A classifier may request additional photos be taken where necessary to support any aspect of their assessment.

## 6. Judging

Follow the classifier instructions for both the lead and free run sections of the classification process.

## 7. Final Scoring and Class Notification

After the last horse has been classified it will be the event organiser's responsibility to add up the score sheets and notify the event participants of the preliminary class attained by their horses.

The event organiser will be responsible for returning the original score sheets to the registrar who will be responsible for checking the score sheets and notifying participants of the final official score attained by their horses.