CDMA Registry Facts

The CDMA Registry became a “closed registry” January 1st, 2000. This means that in order to register a donkey or mule, either the sire or dam must be registered within the CDMA Registry or an approved foreign registry. (In many cases both the sire and dam are registered.)

Unfortunately there is misinformation being circulated to new members and other people interested in registering donkeys and mules in the CDMA Registry. This is doing our industry a great injustice, as the CDMA Registry welcomes new members and encourages the registration of donkeys.

# The main purpose of the CDMA Registry is to record and preserve the heritage of donkeys and mules owned by Canadians.

# The CDMA welcomes breeders from other countries to register donkeys & mules in the CDMA Registry. Foreign breeders must abide by the CDMA by-laws and the donkeys or mules must meet the CDMA requirements for registration. (CDMA By-laws 15.4 & 15.5)

# The CDMA officially recognizes the following registries: The American Donkey & Mule Society, the American Mammoth Jackstock Registry, the American Mule Registry, the American Mule Racing Registry, and the American Zebra Hybrid/Bloodstock Registry. Donkeys that have registrations within these registries may be registered in the CDMA Registry. (CDMA By-law #15.6) However: if the donkey’s foreign registrations are dated after January 1, 2000, they may or may not be registered as “purebred” depending on the number of complete generations that are in their pedigree.

In order to be registered as a “Purebred Donkey” any donkey registered after January 1, 2000, must have a complete three generation pedigree.

**History of the CDMA Registry Closure:**

On December 29th, 1988, The CDMA Registry was incorporated and became the only National Registry to represent donkeys and mules in Canada. George France of Peace River, Alberta, CDMA President at the time, negotiated the terms under which the CDMA Registry was incorporated. As a result of becoming the official Canadian Registry, the CDMA Registry, by law, must operate under the rules of the Canadian Animal Pedigree Act.

Canada has a legally appointed Animal Registration Officer of Canada. This person overseas all Canadian registries for all species of animals and regularly communicates with the registries to make sure they follow the rules of the Animal Pedigree Act. When we want to make bylaw changes within our CDMA By-Laws we have to have them approved by the Animal Registration Officer of Canada. Each year our association is required to send the minutes of the Annual AGM and Board of Directors meeting to the Animal Registration Officer. The Animal Registration Officer reviews the association’s AGM & Board of Director’s meeting minutes to ensure that the association adhered to their by-laws and met the requirements of the Animal Pedigree Act.

In 1997 David Trus, a newly appointed Animal Registration Officer for Canada, contacted the CDMA Executive and asked that we close the CDMA registry. David Trus felt we had enough numbers in our registered donkey population to sustain a closed registry. The Executive was not happy about this request. We believed that the CDMA Registry should be open to build up a greater variety of genetics and more donkeys, especially for the Mammoth Donkeys. Eventually we negotiated with David Trus to keep the registry open for two years before closing it.

During the two-year period, prior to closure, there were meetings regarding the CDMA Registry closure. A committee was formed to define and negotiate the terms of the closure with David Trus and to revise by-laws to accommodate the changes that would be required. Advertisements were placed in the CDMA News as well as all types of livestock publications, across Canada, giving notice of the impending closure. The advertizing campaigns were extensive in 1998 and 1999.

At the 1998 CDMA AGM held in Calgary, Alberta, 100 CDMA members gathered to hear the Registry Committee Report and recommendations regarding the Registry closure. At this meeting over 97% of CDMA membership approved the Registry closure for October 30th, 1999. The CDMA continued to advertise the impending registry closure and encouraged everyone with a donkey to get it registered. At this time the donkeys did not have to have any known pedigree to be accepted into CDMA Registry. Donkeys from the ADMS registry were welcomed and the pedigrees were honoured.

**CDMA STUD BOOK REGISTRY**

Within the CDMA Registry there are *two types of registrations.*

1. **General CDMA Registration:**

Prior to 2000 – any donkey with or without known heritage could be registered in the General Registry.

Donkeys without known parentage were registered as “Foundation Stock”

**After January 1st, 2000 – any donkey with one or more registered parents can be registered in the General Registry.**

1. **STUD Book Registration:**

Prior to January 1st 2000 – any donkey with or without known heritage could be inspected and if it scored 65% or higher it could be given STUD Book status. This is a distinction and was a way to identify superior breeding stock to improve the breed. Donkeys had to be 4 years old or more to be eligible for inspection.

After January 1st, 2000 – any donkey with one or more registered parents can be inspected. If the donkey scores 65% or higher it will be given STUD Book status. Donkeys must be 4 years old or more to be eligible for inspection.

Refer to CDMA By-laws on the CDMA News Web-site:

By-law #15, Rules for Registration and Recordation;

By-law # 16, Inspection of Donkeys.

Donkeys must be measured as part of the inspection process and will be put into the appropriate height designation.

The CDMA Registry has the oldest STUD Book Registry for donkeys. This stud-book evolved in 1992 under CDMA President Sesee Halsall, from Ontario. A numerical system of grading was developed where by inspected donkeys must grade 65% or higher to be accepted into the CDMA Stud Book.

# **Facts after the CDMA Registry Closure**

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Donkeys that have at least ONE REGISTERED parent can be registered in the CDMA Registry. If an animal only has one registered parent it will be called a 50% purebred. This really means that the donkey has a 50% known heritage, but the Canadian Animal Pedigree Act states that it has to be designated as a 50% purebred. So it is possible to have a donkey with a registered sire OR registered dam and build up from there.

The Canadian Animal Pedigree Act states that a “purebred animal” is one with three complete generations of registered animals on both the sire and dams side of the pedigree.

The CDMA Registry accepts registered breeding donkeys from ADMS and American Mammoth Jack Stock.

If an ADMS or AMJSR registered donkey is imported, it is eligible to be registered in the CDMA Registry – however it will be given purebred status or percentage status depending on the number of complete registered generations it has.

To register a foreign registered donkey in the CDMA Registry the owner must be a member of the CDMA and provide the following:

1. a copy of the foreign registration
2. the foreign registration must be transferred to the owner applying for the CDMA registration
3. send the appropriate fees – it costs the CDMA more to register an imported because the CLRC does a search and contacts the foreign registry with regards to the specific donkey

Many Canadian breeders have imported donkeys from the US to expand their genetic base. Quite a few of these breeding donkeys are registered as percentage donkeys and do not receive the “purebred” designation. Their offspring often do qualify as “purebred” donkeys due to the fact that another generation is added to the pedigree. Adding quality new breeding genetics to any breeding program is very important and the CDMA Registry encourages and supports its members regarding this.