

## Part 2: Association Rules

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## Association Rules

### Introduction to the rules of the American Angus Association

The following rules, drafted to promote the best interests of the Angus breed, were adopted by resolution of the Board of Directors of the American Angus Association pursuant to Article IV of the Association's Bylaws.

The Association Rules apply to all members and affiliates of the American Angus Association. All members and affiliates continue to be required to know and observe them.

For the American Angus Association's most recent rules, reference materials, policies regarding genetic conditions and factors, and a complete list of reported carriers, visit [www.angus.org](http://www.angus.org) or call 816-383-5100.

## Definitions

The following definitions or descriptions shall apply when used in the Association Rules. Words, phrases or terms not defined here shall be given their normal meaning in the purebred Angus cattle industry.

**Affiliate Memberships** — Applicants for Affiliate Membership must be individuals and entities who are residents of the United States, including its territories and possessions, or Canada. The qualifications for and privileges of Affiliate Membership shall be established by the Board of Directors from time to time.

**American Angus Herd Book** — the official record of animals registered by the Association.

**Association-Approved Livestock Show** — any Fair, Association, Livestock Show or Exposition to which funds are appropriated by the Association for the payment of premiums.

**Association-Approved Testing** — refers to any test or tests that may be approved by the Board of Directors of the Association from time to time.

**Breeder** — a member who is the owner of record of a calf's dam on the date of service.

**Breeder's Reference Guide** — refers to the guide published for members of the Association and posted on the Association's web site that contains an operational guide for members, the Association's Rules, the Association's Charter and Bylaws, recognized genetic conditions and genetic factors and certain abnormalities.

**Date of Sale** — the date on which an animal was offered for sale at public auction or, in the case of private transactions, the date on which a bona fide change of ownership took place.

**DNA Marker Typing — Parentage Testing effective date January 1, 2019.** In the context of parentage testing, DNA Marker Typing means the animal in question has had a blood, hair, tissue, semen, or other biological sample collected, DNA has been extracted, and that extracted DNA has been used to determine the genotype for bovine parentage markers as defined by the International Society for Animal Genetics (ISAG). Extraction and

genotyping must be conducted by an American Angus Association (AAA) approved laboratory. **This definition applies to any sample submitted on or after the effective date.** Furthermore, if the sire and/or the dam of the animal in question has parentage markers on file in the AAA database, the markers from the subject animal and parents have been compared, and parents with parentage markers on file qualify as parents, both individually and as a mating when applicable, to the subject animal.

**First Owner** — the owner of record or one of not more than three (3) co-owners of record of a calf's dam on the date of birth of the calf except in the case of embryo calves as provided for in Rule 104 (d)(6).

**Genetic Factors** — a term that refers to the presence of a recessive gene that may or may not produce a certain type of offspring.

**Junior Memberships** — Applicants for Annual Junior Membership must be individuals under 21 years of age and be residents of the United States, including its territories and possessions, or Canada. Annual Junior Members shall be assessed annual dues in the amount determined from time to time by the Board of Directors. Annual Junior Membership shall expire upon the attainment of age 21. Annual Junior Membership may be converted to a Regular Membership upon payment of annual dues or converted to a Life Membership with payment of fees in an amount that may be established by the Board of Directors from time to time. No multiyear Junior Memberships shall be issued after October 1, 2001.

**Life Memberships Issued after Jan. 1, 2010** — Life Memberships may be granted by the Board of Directors to an individual (in an individual's name although such individual may have a farm or ranch name associated with that name). Membership becomes null and void upon the death of the individual. The Life Membership is nontransferable. All Applicants for Life Membership must be residents of the United States, including its territories and possessions, or Canada. The qualifications for and privileges of Life Membership shall be established by the Board of Directors from time to time.

**Member of the Immediate Family** — Immediate family shall be defined as: husband and wife, parent and child, parent and stepchild, brother and sister, grandparent and grandchild, grandparent and step grandchild, and step brother and step sister of the owner(s) of record of an animal.

**Nonresident Memberships** — Applicants for Nonresident Membership shall be individuals and entities who are residents of countries other than the United States, including its territories and possessions, or Canada. Their qualifications, rights and privileges of membership shall be established by the Board of Directors from time to time.

**Owner of Record** — the member (an individual, partnership, corporation, limited liability company, limited liability partnership, or other legal entity) in whose name an animal is registered.

**Primary Identification** — ear tattoo marks, freeze-branded marks, hot-branded marks, or electronic identification tag (EID).

**Progeny Testing** — refers to those progeny tests approved by the Association to ensure that a progeny of an animal determined to have a simple recessive genetic condition or genetic factor is free of such.

**Prohibited Structure and/or Unethical Fitting shall be defined as any of the following:**

(i) the injection, use, or administration of any drug that is prohibited by Federal, State or Local Law or any drug that is used in a manner prohibited by Federal, State or Local Law;

(ii) the injection or internal or external administration of any product or material — whether gas, solid, or liquid — to an animal for the purpose of deception, including concealing, enhancing, or transforming the true conformation, configuration, color, breed or age;

(iii) tissue manipulation, removal, surgical attachment or otherwise to change, conceal, enhance, or transform the true conformation or configuration of the animal;

(iv) attaching to the hide any foreign objects, including hair or hair substitutes, cloth, or fiber for the purpose of deception (except false tail switches); and

(v) any other physical or physiological attempt to alter the musculature or weight of an animal by use of injections or ingested material not conducive to the continued health or marketability of the animal or for purposes of deception.

**Regular Employee** — a person whose principal occupation is full-time employment in connection with the agricultural or livestock business of the Owner(s) of Record of an animal.

**Regular Memberships** — Regular Memberships may be granted by the Board of Directors to individuals (either in their individual names or in the names under which they operate their business) and entities (partnerships, corporations, limited liability companies, limited liability partnerships or any other legally recognized entity). All Applicants for Regular Membership must be residents of (in the case of individuals) or controlled by residents of (in the case of entities), the United States, including its territories and possessions, or Canada. Regular Members shall be assessed annual dues in the amount determined from time to time by the Board of Directors.

**Scur** — any portion of horny tissue attached to the skin of the hornset of a polled animal.

**Uncommon Blood Type** — the presence of one of the following phenotypes:

- BG2K combinations without A' and (E'3 or I'');
- G1 without Y2;
- I1;
- P without I';
- Q without F', I' or (I2 and E'1);
- T (T1) without Y1, A', E'3, and either Y' or (G' plus G'');
- B' without K and Y';
- F' without Q and I'');
- G' without G'');
- J' without K' and O';
- T2 without T1(B'');
- Z'; or
- U''.

## Rule 100 Series: Registration Rules

Rule 100: Registration Rules

Rule 101: Privileges of Registration

Rule 102: Registration — Form, Content and Methods

Rule 103: Animals Ineligible for Registration

Rule 104: Animals Eligible for Registration

Rule 105: Primary Identification Marks

Rule 106: Registration for the Estate of a Deceased Person

Rule 107: Name Change

Rule 108: Duplicate Registration Certificates

Rule 109: Correction of Errors in Registration Certificates and Transfers

Rule 110: Surrender of Registration Certificate

### Rule 100: Registration Rules

The official record of animal registrations of the Association shall be known as the American Angus Herd Book. It shall be kept in such form as the Board of Directors determines. Entries in the book from registration number 3200001 forward shall not be published or sold, with the exception of specified registration numbers designated for Angus Foundation fundraising purposes. (As amended February 21, 2020)

The registration of any animal which does not conform with the requirements set forth in these Rules shall become null and void and be officially canceled. In cases of hard copy certificates, the Certificate of Registration should be surrendered to the Association. (As amended February 25, 2022)

Whenever the accuracy of data contained in a registration application is challenged, the matter may be referred to the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors for investigation.

**Rule 101: Privileges of Registration**

All Life, Regular, Junior, and Nonresident members are eligible to register cattle with the American Angus Association. Affiliate members of the Association shall not be entitled to the privileges of registration.

**Rule 102: Registration — Form, Content and Methods**

The sire and the dam of any domestically bred animal, for which application for registration is made, must be registered with the American Angus Association. In the event the sire and/or dam of an animal originally recorded in a Herd Book recognized by the American Angus Association is domestically bred but is not registered with the American Angus Association, the animal must conform to the requirements of Rule 103.c and Rule 202 and be registered in a Herd Book recognized by the American Angus Association. (As amended June 10, 2021, and September 15, 2022)

**a. Form of application.** A registration application must contain the following information:

- Sex of animal to be registered.
- Date of birth.
- Name of the animal.
- Indication of whether or not the animal is the product of Artificial Insemination.
- Primary identification marks.
- Registration number of the Sire.
- Registration number of the Dam.
- Name, location, and Member Code of the First Owner.
- Completion, including signature, of the Breeder's Certificate, if required [see Rule 102(d)(3)].
- Completion, including signature, of the Bull Permit, if required [see Rule 102(d)(4)].
- Indication of whether the animal is a twin or of other multiple birth.
- AI Service Certificate, if required.
- Indication of whether the animal is a result of an embryo transplant.
- Completion date of embryo removal if the calf is the result of an embryo transplant, as well as indication of whether the calf resulted from split or cloned embryos.

Each registration with the Association shall be assigned a registration number.

**b. Incomplete application.** Whenever an application for registration is incomplete, and the applicant has failed to provide all of the information required by the Association's Rules within four (4) months of the date the Association receives the application, such application shall be considered null and void. An application shall also be considered incomplete if not accompanied by the required fee.

**c. Registration by affidavit.**

1. Registration may be applied for by affidavit setting forth the facts and sworn to or affirmed before a Notary Public in the event that a member shall neglect or refuse to apply for registration of an animal. (As amended February 21, 2014)
2. Each affidavit must be accompanied by:
  - A. Proof of sale and payment in full of the purchase price, or evidence of an agreement to sell, purchase or transfer the dam and/or the calf;
  - B. Evidence of agreement to breed the dam; and

C. Details of any understanding or contractual obligation relating to the artificial insemination of females owned by a member of the immediate family or an employee of the owner(s) of the sire.

3. After considering the evidence submitted, the Chief Executive Officer of the Association may approve an application to register by affidavit provided the animal is otherwise eligible for registration in accordance with the provisions of the Rules of the Association.

#### d. Miscellaneous

**1. Name.** An animal's name cannot contain more than 28 characters and spaces. All letters must be in English, and numerals may be Arabic and/or Roman.

Names may include any or all of the following symbols: ampersand (&), apostrophe ('), hyphen (-) or forward slash (/).

Joint letters, brands, or other unusual marks or symbols will not be accepted. If an Angus family name is included in the name of an animal to be registered, it shall be the duty of the first owner to determine the correctness of such name before assigning it.

The Association reserves the right to change the name assigned to an animal on an application for registry at the time of registration or any time thereafter. (As amended June 8, 2023)

**2. First owner.** The first owner must apply for registration of the calf, and the dam must be officially entered on the records of the Association under the exact same name as the first owner's membership on the date of birth of the calf, except in cases of embryo calves as provided for in Rule 104(d)(6).

**3. Breeder's Certificate.** When a cow has been transferred subsequent to being served but prior to the birth of her calf, and the service was not reported on the transfer application, the breeder (owner of record of the dam at the time of service) must execute the Breeder's Certificate on the application for registration of the calf.

**4. Bull permit.** In the event that the sire of an animal to be registered was not registered in the name of the owner of record of the dam at time of service, the owner of record of the sire must fill in and sign the Bull Permit on the application for such registration, giving name and registration number of the bull and date of service. If the dam was pasture-bred and the exact date of breeding is not known, the word "pasture" may be inserted in lieu of a date. The owner of record of the bull shall also state in the Bull Permit section of the Registration Application whether service was "natural" or "artificial" and, if artificial, further indicate in the application or by an accompanying statement the provision under which such service was applicable.

#### Rule 103: Animals Ineligible for Registration

**a. Date of birth issue.** A calf born less than two hundred eighty-three (283) days after birth of its dam's last previous calf shall not be eligible for registration except in the case of embryo calves as provided for in Rule 104(d).

**b. Uncertain or unknown parentage.** Whenever the eligibility for registration of any animal is in doubt because of uncertain or unknown parentage, DNA-marker-typing or blood-typing by the Association shall be required. If through DNA-marker-typing or blood-typing the animal is found to have incorrectly listed parentage, the animal will not be eligible for registration unless parentage is confirmed. In the case of multi-sire pastures, parentage testing and sire verification is required for all subsequent offspring born on or after January 1, 2024. (As amended June 8, 2023)

**c. Skin color.** The skin color of all animals for which application for registration is made must be BLACK, except that animals having birthmarks or white hairs on black skin may be eligible for registration. An animal red in color or with white skin above the underline, in front of the navel or on leg, foot, or tail, shall not be eligible for

registration. To be eligible for registration, an animal whose ancestor is purebred Angus but red in color, must have a genomic profile including being tested of all known genetic conditions, must comply with all genetic condition policies, and must be proven by DNA testing to be homozygous black. If a registered animal is discovered to be red in color or to have ineligible white skin, its registration shall be null and void, and the Certificate of Registration must be returned to the Association for cancelation. (As amended February 26, 2021, and February 25, 2022)

**d. Genetic conditions and other abnormalities.** Subject to the terms of the Association's specific policies on genetic conditions, an animal determined to exhibit one of the following genetic conditions or abnormalities shall be ineligible for registration:

- Arthrogyrosis Multiplex (AM)
- Contractural Arachnodactyly (CA)
- Osteopetrosis (OS)
- Double Muscling (DM)
- Dwarfism (DW)
- Horns
- Heterochromia Irides (HI)
- Myostatin nt821 Gene Deletion (M1)
- Neuropathic Hydrocephalus (NH)
- Oculocutaneous Hypopigmentation (OH)
- PRKG2 Gene Mutation for Dwarfism (D2)
- Scurs
- Syndactyly (SN)
- Uncommon Blood Type

*(Refer to the Genetic Conditions Policy and Related Rules for definitions and further information. For policy regarding AM, CA, DD, D2, M1, NH, & OH refer to Part 3.)*

**1. Uncommon blood type.** Where the results of a blood type test reveal the presence of an uncommon blood type, an animal, otherwise meeting all of the registration requirements set forth in the Association Rules, shall not be eligible for registration unless both parents are blood typed and no parentage exclusion exists, or unless the source of the uncommon blood type can otherwise be determined.

The presence of an uncommon blood type indicates possible crossbreeding and the need to bring parentage blood-typing information to the attention of the animal's owner and other interested persons.

An owner whose animal is ineligible for registration under this Rule 103(d)(1), by reason of a blood-type test showing the presence of an uncommon Angus blood factor, may request a second blood-type test at the owner's expense before the animal's ineligibility is final. Drawing of blood for this test shall be conducted under the supervision of American Angus Association personnel. Registration of an animal whose blood has been found to possess an uncommon Angus blood factor shall be suspended pending the results of the second blood-type test.

**A. Artificial conception and uncommon blood type.** An animal artificially conceived by (a) a non-owned bull or (b) an embryo transplant donor dam, where the bull or dam possesses an uncommon blood type or is a carrier of an uncommon blood type, shall be eligible for registration provided claimed parentage of the non-owned bull or embryo donor dam is not excluded following parentage blood-typing, and provided further that the animal, the sire and the dam meet all of the otherwise applicable registration requirements set forth in the Association Rules.

**2. Progeny of any animal determined to have the horn gene.** When a bull or cow is determined to possess the horn gene, progeny of such affected animals shall be ineligible for registration unless such progeny are tested in accordance with Association-approved guidelines and determined to be free of the genetic condition.



**Rule 104: Animals Eligible for Registration**

**a. Generally.** Calves resulting from pasture breeding are eligible for registration. Calves resulting from Artificial Insemination are also eligible for registration, in accordance with Rule 501.

**b. Steers.** Steers are eligible for registration providing all other requirements of the Association Rules are met. Steers may have white skin in front of the naval. Steers born with white skin above the underline or on the leg, foot or tail shall not be eligible for registration.

**c. Calves of multiple birth.** Twins or calves of other multiple births are eligible for registration, if other eligibility requirements are met, provided that the application for registry states that the calf is a twin, or of other multiple birth, and that the sex of the other twin or calf of multiple birth is stated. If one such calf is registered without such statement, another calf of the same gestation cannot subsequently be registered unless a letter of explanation accompanies the registration application.

**d. Calves produced by embryo transplant.** For calves resulting from an embryo transplant:

1. The Sire must be DNA-marker-typed or must have been blood-typed before January 1, 2001.
2. The Embryo Transfer Donor Dam must be DNA-marker-typed or must have been blood-typed before January 1, 2001. The full suite of known commercially available tests for the genetic conditions monitored by the American Angus Association will be required for all donor dams, born on or after January 1, 2023, used for the purpose of Embryo Transfer. (As amended June 8, 2023)
3. Embryo calves resulting from the mixing of semen must be DNA-marker-typed.
4. If the DNA-marker-typing analysis of the calf indicates an inconsistency, DNA-marker-typing of recipient dams may be required by the Association. If the recipient cow is DNA-marker-typed and cannot be excluded as the dam, the determination of eligibility for registration shall be made by the Association after considering DNA-marker typing data, as well as other available information. The owner of record of the Donor Dam shall be responsible for all DNA-marker-typing fees.
5. The owner of record of the Donor Dam at the time of conception must be identified as the breeder.
6. The owner of record of the Donor Dam on the date of embryo removal will be identified as the first owner, unless the calf is a result of a purchased embryo (fresh or frozen) or pregnant recipient, in which case the owner of the embryo or pregnant recipient may be identified as the first owner.
7. Registration of embryo transplant offspring shall be made on a regular form at the regular fee, plus an additional fee as determined by the Board of Directors.
8. Each application for entry must be accompanied by an AI Service Certificate.
9. Registration of embryo transplant offspring resulting from the mixing of semen shall require that semen from not more than two bulls be used and that the two possible sires have distinctly different DNA-type markers, as determined in advance of insemination with the approval of the Association.
10. Calves conceived after the death of the Donor cow shall be eligible for registration under the same conditions and provisions governing the eligibility of embryo calves prior to the death of said female.
11. Registration certificates issued for offspring from embryo transplants shall be so designated. The Association may request information from the owners from time to time relating to embryo transplant animals.
12. If the first owner of the calf is different than the owner of record of the donor female, and the embryo removal date was between January 1, 2012, and February 23, 2017, the owner of the donor female must obtain and transfer an ET Authorization to the account of the first owner before the calf is eligible for registration.

**e. Calves resulting from cell-cloned transplants.**

1. Only replication cell-cloned animals shall be eligible for registration.
2. The cell-donor animal and the cell-cloned animal must be DNA-marker-typed. The full suite of known commercially available tests for the genetic conditions monitored by the American Angus Association will be required for all cell cloned animals, born on or after January 1, 2024. (As amended June 8, 2023)
3. The breeder of the cell-donor animal must be identified as the breeder of the cell-cloned offspring.
4. The owner of record of the cell-donor, on the date of biopsy removal, will be identified as the first owner, unless the calf is a result of a pregnant recipient, purchased embryo, fresh or frozen, in which case the purchaser may be identified as the first owner.
5. DNA-marker-typing of the recipient dam may be required by the Association.
6. Calves conceived after death of cell-donor animals shall be eligible for registration under the same conditions and provisions governing the eligibility of calves prior to the death of said animal.
7. Registration of cell-cloned transplants shall be made on a special form, provided by the Association, at the regular fee, plus an additional fee as determined by the Board of Directors.
8. Registration certificates issued for cell-cloned transplants shall be so designated. The registration number of the animal, which is being cell cloned, shall also be stated on the certificate of registration. Nothing set forth in this Rule 104(e) should be construed as an indication that the Association takes any position as to the ownership rights, if any, of retained cell material. That is a separate matter reserved for discussion or negotiation between the buyer and seller.
9. A cell-donor that possesses notation on its pedigree (printed or electronic) indicating that it is a potential carrier of a genetic condition must be tested when a DNA test for that particular mutation is available. Upon the completion and submission of such DNA testing results to the Association, a cell-cloned animal shall be eligible for registration unless prohibited by a policy adopted to address the specific condition(s). (As adopted August 29, 2011)

**f. Gene edit policy.** (As adopted September 10, 2021, November 5, 2021, June 9, 2022, and August 31, 2023) Members may submit specific Intentional Genomic Alterations (IGA) to the American Angus Association (Association). The member applying for IGA approval must provide documentation describing the IGA and the proposed functional difference the IGA produces in the gene edited animal. Approval of each specific IGA will be based on the IGA's ability to potentially provide sufficient benefit to or advancement of the Angus breed. Approval of the IGA and subsequent registration eligibility will be at the sole discretion of the Association Board of Directors, who will consider factors including the impact of introducing the IGA into the purebred Angus population. This approval process may also include direction from the scientific community and related industry perspective at the time the application is reviewed. In addition, the IGA and/or animals possessing the IGA must be submitted to the regulatory agency or agencies responsible for overseeing livestock genome editing and IGA commercialization. The regulatory agency or agencies will determine the functional claims of the IGA and/or the animals possessing the IGA. A commercial test will be utilized to confirm if the IGA is present in the gene edited animal and descendants.

**Registration** – Members submitting an IGA registration application must comply with all current Association rules for registration. Both the sire and dam of any animal applying for registration must be registered with the American Angus Association. Additionally, all animals resulting from genome editing must be disclosed to the Association and parent-verified qualifying to both sire and dam. The member applying for registration must confirm with an available commercial test whether or not the IGA is present and functional in the subject animal. The Association reserves the right to deny or cancel registration to any gene edited animal or descendant that fails to provide sufficient benefit or advancement of the Angus breed or is later discovered to possess traits or characteristics deemed undesirable to the Angus breed.

**Designation** – Tracking the gene edit within the Angus population will occur with the following designations. GEF or GED will appear at the end of the name of all animals with a gene edit or gene edit ancestry. GEF will indicate gene edit founder and GED will indicate gene edit descendant. Each founder or descendant confirmed to possess the specific IGA will carry a gene edit designation on the registration certificate, with a description noting the specific IGA or resulting intended phenotype or effect. All founder animals will be required to be tested for the presence of the edit. Testing requirements for descendant animals will be subject to the specific edit.

**Approved edits** – Edits to the genome approved by the Association Board of Directors will be listed and made available to the membership.

**Imports** – Registration of an animal with an IGA originally recorded in a herd book recognized by the Association and imported into the Association herd registry shall be accepted, only if details associated with the specific gene edit(s) have been disclosed to the Association. Additionally, imported registrations must comply with all current Association rules and policies associated with registrations, import registrations and gene editing.

**Fees** – A separate fee set by the Association Board of Directors will be assessed to each gene edited founder (GEF) registration application with any approved IGA.

#### **Rule 105: Primary Identification Marks (As amended September 15, 2022)**

**a. Application and method of primary identification.** Each breeder shall be responsible for ensuring that the animals they register bear a form of primary identification prior to application for registration. If electronic identification is to be utilized by a member as the primary form of identification, it can only be used in conjunction with a secondary identifier. Acceptable secondary forms of identification will include parentage markers, tattoos, freeze brand, hot brand, and/or a visual tag.

**b. Composition of primary identification marks.** Each breeder shall devise a plan or system of primary identification, utilizing a series of numbers, a series of letters or a combination of both, provided however that primary identification marks shall be limited to a maximum of five (5) characters per animal. In connection with the arrangement of those five characters, breeders may use only Arabic numbers and capital letters. The use of any other characters, including joined letters, reversed letters, bars, punctuation marks and other types of symbols shall not be allowed under these Rules.

**c. Prohibition on use of identical primary identification marks in a calendar year.** No two animals of the same sex, born in the same calendar year and registered under the name of the first owner, shall be given identical primary identification marks in the same calendar year.

**d. Locations of primary identification marks.** In the event that a breeder utilizes tattoos as a primary identification mark, such mark shall be placed in both ears of each individual animal. In the event a breeder utilizes freeze-brand marks as a primary identification mark, such mark shall be placed once on either side of each individual animal. In the event that a breeder utilizes a hot-branded mark as a primary identification mark, such mark shall be placed once on either side of each individual animal.

**e. Illegible primary identification marks.** In the event that a primary identification mark on an animal becomes illegible or unreadable, the same marking shall be placed in a new and separate location from the original primary identification mark or in a location authorized by the American Angus Association. In no event, however, shall the breeder attempt to alter, or overprint the original primary identification mark.

**f. Inspection of primary identification marks.** In the event the results of an inspection of primary identification marks by an authorized representative of the Association reveals that primary identification marks are absent, illegible or not in conformity with registration, the following action may also be taken by that representative:

1. In instances where a registered animal is inspected with primary identification marks absent, the first owner shall be required to document accuracy to the Association. DNA-marker-typing may be required before registration is validated and new primary identification marks are recognized.
2. In instances where a registered animal is inspected with two or more sets of conflicting primary identification, DNA-marker-typing may be required in order to validate registration.
3. In instances where a registered animal is inspected with primary identification not in agreement with registration, the first owner shall be required to document accuracy to the Association. DNA-marker-typing may be required to validate registration.

**Rule 106: Registration for the Estate of a Deceased Person**

In the event of the death of one who normally would apply for registration of cattle, the Association requires that there shall be filed in its office all papers and documents necessary to show that the person requesting registration is legally authorized and entitled to request such registration.

**Rule 107: Name Change**

- a. The name of a registered animal may be changed at a fee established by the Board of Directors, provided:
  1. The first owner and all subsequent owners, if any, who are current Association members request the change in writing;
  2. In the event that progeny has been recorded and the change is administratively feasible.
- b. Names of animals originally registered in Herd Books other than that of the American Angus Association shall not be subject to change.

**Rule 108: Duplicate Registration Certificates**

The existence of more than one registration certificate per animal shall not be permitted. However, a duplicate Certificate of Registration may be issued:

- a. In the event of loss or destruction of the original, upon application of the owner of record made on an approved form obtained from the Association;
- b. In connection with a transfer by affidavit as provided in Rule 406; or
- c. As a replacement Certificate of Registration as provided for in Rule 403(a).

**Rule 109: Correction of Errors in Registration Certificates and Transfers**

- a. Errors in Registrations or Transfers committed by the Association office shall be corrected free of charge.
- b. Inadvertent errors committed by applicants for Registrations or Transfers shall be corrected at fees as established by the Board of Directors. It is the responsibility of the breeder, first owner, subsequent owners and current owner(s) of record participating in the sale of any animal, semen, embryos, or progeny of any animal to notify any purchaser thereof regarding a change in parentage, as represented by the Certificate of Registration.

**Rule 110: Surrender of Registration Certificate**

Whenever a registered animal is lost by death, destruction, or other means, or is disposed of for slaughter or as a common grade animal, the holder of the Certificate of Registration should submit the date and reason for disposal to the Association. All hard copy certificates should be returned to the Association for cancellation. (As amended February 25, 2022)

## **Rule 200: Registration of Animals Originally Recorded in Herd Books Recognized by the Association and Imported into the U.S.**

Rule 201: Export Certificate

Rule 202: Application for Registration

Rule 203: Registration of Calves Imported in Dam

Rule 204: Registration of Calves Imported at Side

### **Rule 201: Export Certificate**

Registration of an animal originally recorded in a Herd Book recognized by the American Angus Association and imported into the United States shall be accepted, subject to the discretion of the Association's Chief Executive Officer, only if an export certificate or embryo transplant certificate issued by the recognized registry organization of the country from which the animal is actually exported has been received by the American Angus Association and the animal otherwise conforms to the requirements set forth in these Rules. To be eligible for registration, an animal originally recorded in a Herd Book recognized by the American Angus Association must have a genomic profile and comply with all genetic policies of the American Angus Association. Those animals with red ancestry must meet the requirements of Rule 103.c. (As amended June 10, 2021)

### **Rule 202: Application for Registration**

The request to import a registration into the American Angus Association registry shall come from or be approved by a member of the American Angus Association entitled to registration privileges. The request will need to be either from the breeder, first owner or current owner of the animal. If the request is not from a current owner, the request will need to include written authorization from a current owner along with the request to import the registration. The animal being imported into the American Angus Association registry must first be recorded within the registry of an Association or Society recognized by the American Angus Association as a member of the World Angus Secretariat. Registration will be issued subject to a fee established by the Board of Directors (As amended September 15, 2022).

### **Rule 203: Registration of Calves Imported in Dam**

If a cow was bred prior to importation and a record of service does not appear on the export certificate, the owner of the bull on the date of service must certify to the particulars of service through the recognized registry organization of the country from which the animal was exported.

### **Rule 204: Registration of Calves Imported at Side**

a. Registration of a calf imported at side of a cow recorded in the recognized registry organization of the country from which the animal was exported shall be accepted only if the calf is also registered in the same recognized registry organization and an export certificate has been received by the American Angus Association.

b. A separate registration fee shall be required for each calf imported at side.

## **Rule 300 Series: Genetic Conditions: Policy and related rules**

Rule 300: Notification to the Association

Rule 301: Information for the Association

Rule 302: Determination Process

Rule 303: Notice to the Member Owner

Rule 304: Member Owner's Right to Contest the Determination

Rule 305: Publication of Carriers of Genetic Conditions to the Membership

Rule 306: Registration Status of Animals Determined to be Carriers of a Genetic Condition and Current and Future Progeny of Such Animals

Rule 307: Board of Director's Discretion to Address Specific Circumstances

Rule 350GF: Genetic Factors

## Rule 300 Series: Genetic Conditions: Rules and Policy Development

### Recognized Genetic Conditions

*These rules and those policies that the Association's Board may adopt from time to time relate to those abnormalities that are pathological conditions of genetic origin. These types of abnormalities have come to be referred to as "genetic conditions." Genetic conditions can include an impairment of health or a condition of abnormal function due to an abnormal or mutated gene. Set forth below are descriptions of those conditions that the Association currently recognizes as "genetic conditions." (As amended on November 10, 2012)*

#### a. Dwarfism (snorter, bulldog, long headed)

There are several different types of dwarfism, but all dwarfs appear shorter and some smaller than normal. The legs and body are short, and the animal may appear to have a potbelly and a thick or blocky shape. The head may be normal (long-nosed or long-headed dwarf) or the face may appear shortened. Muscling is often normal and, thus, calves may have a thick appearance.

#### b. Osteopetrosis (marble-bone disease) (OS)

Calves are born dead, usually 10 to 30 days premature. The body can be small, and a shortened (undershot) lower jaw (brachygnathia inferior) with impacted molars may be present. Bones are solid and do not have a normal bone marrow cavity. The bones are brittle. Diligence in examination of all late term aborted purebred Angus fetuses, particularly those with short lower jaws and those from lines that may contain the gene, is necessary as external signs can be overlooked.

#### c. Double muscling

Animals are extremely heavily muscled in appearance, including abnormally large, wide, and rounded rump and thighs with prominent creases between muscle groups. There is usually little covering fat, and bones are thin.

#### d. Syndactyly (mule foot)

The two toes are fused together to make one toe resembling the foot of a mule or horse. Front feet are most often affected, but the condition can involve any or all feet.

#### e. Arthrogryposis Multiplex (curly calf) (AM)

Calves are born dead or die shortly after birth. The spine and legs appear crooked or twisted and the joints of the legs are often fixed in positions. Front legs are contracted, and rear limbs may be contracted or extended. Calves are small and appear thin due to limited muscle development. There may be a cleft affecting the nose or palate.

#### f. Heterochromia Irides (white eye)

Cattle usually have a dark black iris because of dark pigment in the eye. White eye is a condition where the pigment of the eye is absent, giving the eye a white or silver appearance.

#### g. Neuropathic Hydrocephalus (NH)

Affected calves are born small (25-35 lb.) have craniomegaly (volleyball sized), cleft palate, and extreme hydrocephalus. Bones of the skull are malformed with a large dorsal median cleft (opening) covered by only skin. The bones of the skull appear as loose plates that are easily separated and the nose appears small and short. The cranial cavity contains menigeal tissue, fluid and rarely remnants of brain tissue. When present, nervous tissue remnants have been only brainstem and associated anterior (cervical) spinal cord. The spinal canal is dilated, and vertebrae are grossly abnormal, appearing as thin flat plates. Fatty, hypoplastic muscle is present and most but not all calves have concurrent kyphosis or scoliosis.

**h. Contractural Arachnodactyly (fawn calf syndrome) (CA)**

Affected calves are born with (1) proximal limb contracture, (2) distal limb hyperextension and joint laxity and (3) kyphosis. The condition is associated with postnatal improvement in the above-referenced clinical symptoms as the calf grows and matures.

**i. Developmental Duplication (polymelia) (DD)**

Affected calves are born with a phenotype that is described as polymelia. The majority of calves exhibiting this trait are born with additional limbs, usually duplication of the front legs and originating from the neck or shoulder region.

**j. Oculocutaneous Hypopigmentation (OH)**

OH was recognized on November 2, 2015. It is a non-lethal genetic condition of beef cattle, inherited as a simple recessive. Affected calves have eyes with irises that are pale blue around the pupil with a tan periphery. Their hair coats have a slightly bleached color. While some affected calves have sensitivity to light, they are believed to be otherwise normal functionally and physiologically. The condition is largely cosmetic in nature.

This policy and the rules that follow address these genetic conditions. In administering Rules 300 to 307, it is recognized that the Board may, and it is entitled to, rely upon the opinion and expertise of scientists, in cooperation with professional staff members, who have training in such matters.

**Rule 300 to 307: An Overview**

*The development and commercial availability of genetic testing to determine whether a particular animal is a carrier of a particular genetic mutation or free of it has allowed the Association greater flexibility in fashioning policies to deal with certain types of recognized genetic conditions in the Angus breed. Prior to the advent of such approved testing, the Association's rules were more limited in their scope. While the Association has recognized a specific number of DNA tests that can conclusively determine carrier and non-carrier status, there remain some recognized genetic conditions for which there are currently no such tests. Recognizing these resulting differences in the detection of recognized genetic conditions and the conflicting ability to segregate carriers from non-carriers, the Association has adopted rules that address the handling of recognized conditions in both contexts: when there is no DNA test currently available and when an approved DNA test is available.*

*Rules 305 and 306 address those situations in which there is no recognized DNA test to determine that a particular animal is a carrier of such a genetic condition – other than when an affected animal has been parent-verified to a particular sire and dam. Because of the absence of a DNA test, these rules are drafted to focus primarily on the status of the two parent carriers as well as the status of registered and future progeny of such carrier parents.*

*Rule 307 relates to those instances in which a DNA test has been developed or is in the process of being developed that can identify and separate carriers of a recognized genetic condition from those free of it. This rule provides the Association's Board with broad discretion to develop, establish, and implement policies crafted to deal with the circumstances of a particular situation. In carrying out its duties, the Board will consider, among other things, commercially feasible and scientifically accepted procedures and technologies and the severity of the condition in issue. (As amended on November 10, 2012)*

**Rule 300: Notification to the Association**

Any member owner who becomes aware of an unusual physical abnormality, either in an animal registered with the Association or in an offspring of an animal registered with the Association, is required to notify the Director of Member Services by e-mail or phone as soon as possible. Working with the Director of Member Services, the member owner may be required to take specific steps to best position the Association and the member owner to preserve as much information on the situation as possible to aid in the scientific determination process described in Rules 300 through 306.

If a member owner or a veterinarian employed by such member owner has questions or concerns as to whether or not an abnormality is serious enough to warrant such contact, they should contact the Director of Member Services to discuss and resolve the matter. Disclosure is *always* the best policy. This is particularly the case in which an abnormality appears on multiple occasions and the member owner, or a consulting veterinarian is unable to identify a non-genetic cause of the abnormality.

**Rule 301: Information for the Association**

Following receipt of a member owner's notification, the Director of Member Services may request that the member owner (or other unrelated member owners with relevant information) provide the Association with specific materials or information, including but not limited to, photos of particular animals, tissue, DNA samples, or, if possible, the affected animal itself. Information so requested shall be promptly provided to the Association. The reasonable costs for complying with such requests will be borne by the Association.

**Rule 302: Determination Process**

Upon receipt of such information (which the Director of Member Services may request in writing), the Association will normally direct that the reported information and other relevant materials be transmitted to a scientist (e.g., a veterinary pathologist) approved by the Association. Following an examination, the designated scientist shall notify the Association and the submitting member owner whether there is, in such individual's professional opinion, a basis to conclude that the abnormality is a recognized genetic condition within the meaning of these rules. Such an opinion shall be referred to in Rules 300 through 306 as a "determination."

In reaching such a determination, the Association shall verify that the affected animal has been parent-verified.

**Rule 303: Notice to the Member Owner**

In the event that the abnormality is determined to be a genetic condition within the meaning of the Association's policy, the Association will confirm notification of that determination to all member owners of record of the parents as soon as practicable.

**Rule 304: Member Owner's Right to Contest the Determination**

A member owner so notified in accordance with Rule 303 shall have fourteen (14) days following the giving of such notice to notify the Association in writing of intent to contest the determination. Such written notice, which may be voluntarily waived, must be directed to the Chief Executive Officer of the Association by e-mail or overnight mail service and include a preliminary statement of the member owner's basis for contesting the determination. Failure to provide notice within this fourteen-day notification period, or voluntary waiver, will result in the determination becoming final and the registered animals shall be subject to the publication requirements set forth in Rule 305.

Upon receipt of a timely written notice to contest the determination, the Executive Committee of the Board shall schedule a hearing to be held before it as soon as practicable. Such hearing shall proceed pursuant to those procedures established in Article VIII, Sections 8.4. (d), (e), (f) and (g) of the Bylaws and shall include a right to appeal the finding of the Executive Committee to the Board of Directors.

**Rule 305: Publication of Carriers of Genetic Conditions to the Membership**

Upon a final determination that an animal is a carrier of a genetic condition, the Association will promptly publish the name and registration number of the animal on the Association's web site ([www.angus.org](http://www.angus.org)). A notation to be placed on the animal's registration and performance certificates shall plainly state that the animal has been determined to be a carrier of a specific genetic condition. That animal's status as a carrier will also be displayed on all registration and performance pedigrees in which such animal appears as an ancestor. The Association shall also maintain an updated list of each animal determined to be a carrier of a specific genetic condition as well as those who have tested free of being such a carrier. Upon request, the Director of Member Services will provide such a list at no cost to the requesting member owner.



**Rule 306: Registration Status of Animals Determined to be Carriers of a Genetic Condition and Current and Future Progeny of Such Animals****a. Registration Status of Carrier Animals**

Any animal determined to be a carrier of a genetic condition for which no DNA test has been developed and approved by the Association shall remain registered in the American Angus Herd Book, but its carrier status will be denoted as such on its registration and performance pedigree certificates.

**b. Registration Status of Previously Registered Progeny of Carrier Parents**

Previously registered progeny of animals determined to be carriers of a genetic condition for which no DNA test has been developed and approved by the Association, shall remain registered.

**c. Registration Status of Future Progeny of Carrier Parents**

Future progeny (and currently unregistered progeny) of carrier animals will be eligible for registration provided that their date of conception occurs no later than 60 days following the date on which the carrier animals were listed on the Association's website ([www.angus.org](http://www.angus.org)). Notwithstanding the above, the Board of Directors may, under Rule 307, modify, suspend, or alter this section to address specific circumstances that warrant such actions. (As amended on June 29, 2011)

*As noted, Rule 307 is intended to empower the Association's Board of Directors to develop, establish and implement specific policies to address specific sets of circumstances involving genetic conditions. This power shall include but not be limited to (1) those situations in which there is about to be in the Board's opinion or appears to be in development a reliable DNA test, approved by the Association and capable of being conducted by laboratories approved by the Association, that the Association believes can identify and separate carriers of recognized conditions from animals free of such condition, and (2) other situations in which there is a credible scientific basis to establish a policy that protects and promotes the best interests of the Angus breed.*

**Rule 307: Board of Directors' Discretion to Set Policy to Address Specific Circumstances**

*Notwithstanding Rules 305 and 306, the Board of Directors shall have the discretion to develop, establish and implement specific policies to address specific situations or circumstances involving genetic conditions determined to exist within the breed. In its discretion, it may establish such policies at any time, including but not limited to addressing (1) those situations in which there either is (or appears to be in development) a DNA test available that has been approved by the Association and is capable of being conducted at Association-sanctioned laboratories, when the Association reasonably believes such tests can identify and separate carriers of recognized genetic conditions from animals free of such conditions, or (2) to those instances in which other credible scientific evidence warrants policies to manage or monitor recognized conditions or other deleterious conditions. (As amended on November 10, 2012)*

*(See Part 3 of the Breeder's Reference Guide for the policy of the American Angus Association relating to the registration status of potential and known carriers of genetic conditions.)*

**Rule 350GF: Genetic Factors**

The term "genetic factor" refers to the presence of a recessive gene that may or may not produce a certain type of offspring. The Association monitors two genetic factors: the Red Color factor and the Wild Type Color Gene factor. Both are monitored because they may, if present, result in the unintended birth of red calves. While red calves are not eligible for registration under the rules of the Association, they are not defective genetically. The Association permits the registration of animals with either of these factors, but it places the designation "RDC" or "WTC" following the animal's registration number. Additionally, such animals are listed on the Association's web site. Commercial tests are available to determine whether an animal carries one of these genetic factors. For further information, please contact the office of the Director of Member Services.

**Rule 400: Transfer rules**

- Rule 401: Content of Application for Transfer
- Rule 402: Errors in Recording of Transfers
- Rule 403: Transfer of Registration
- Rule 404: Transfer of Cow with Calf at Side
- Rule 405: Adjustment Transfers
- Rule 406: Transfers by Affidavit
- Rule 407: Transfer Applications of Animals Consigned to Public Sale
- Rule 408: Transfer of Exported Animals
- Rule 409: Transfer from the Estate of a Deceased Person
- Rule 410: Responsibility for Legal Title
- Rule 411: Disclosure of Information Related to Cloning

**Rule 400: Transfer Rules**

Every change of ownership of record of an animal used for registered breeding purposes must be recorded with the Association by official transfer.

**Rule 401: Content of Application for Transfer**

a. An Application for Transfer must state:

1. Name, location, and, if available, Member Code of each transferee.
2. Date of sale.
3. Service date, natural or artificial, and registration number of bull, if animal being transferred has been served. (The date of service and registration number of the bull may be entered only if service was prior to the date of sale of the animal being transferred. Service information is required for a heifer that is 12 months or older (open or bred) If she was bred, the service type (AI or natural), bull registration number and dates are required.)
4. Signature and Member Code of individual, partnership, corporation, or other legal entity in whose name the service bull is registered, indicating whether females have been served naturally or artificially inseminated.

b. Transfer applications will not be processed if any of the required data is omitted, except as otherwise provided in Rule 407. Transfer applications will also be considered incomplete if not accompanied by the required fee.

**Rule 402: Errors in Recording of Transfers**

The Association shall not be bound by errors in its recording of transfers.

**Rule 403: Transfer of Registration**

- a. No entry on the transfer record of a Certificate of Registration shall be made except by the Association, and any unauthorized entry shall render a Certificate null and void, subject to the issuance of a replacement Certificate at an additional fee.
- b. It is the duty of the transferor to apply for transfer and to pay the transfer fee unless it is otherwise specifically agreed between transferor and transferee, in which case the transferor must execute an application for transfer in favor of the transferee.
- c. A seller and his sales agent (if any) who fail to furnish a buyer of a registered animal with a transferred Certificate of Registration, within forty-five (45) days of date of sale or receipt of full payment, if timely notification is provided to the Association, will be contacted by the Association for a written statement on

fifteen (15) days' notice as to the basis for the failure. If the seller and said sales agent do not timely respond to the Association's request, the rights, and privileges of their membership(s) in the Association will automatically be temporarily suspended. The temporary suspension(s) will expire on the Association's receipt of the transferred Certificate of Registration or the written statement. During the temporary suspension(s), the Association will not process any registration or transfer applications executed by seller or said agent until the Association's receipt of the transferred certificate or the written statement. (As amended February 21, 2020)

**d.** It shall be the duty of the transferor before offering a registered animal for sale, or applying for transfer, to verify that the animal carries legible primary identification marks, corresponding to the primary identification marks entered on its certificate.

**e.** Transfer entries of jointly owned animals shall not exceed three (3) owners of record.

**Rule 404: Transfer of Cow with Calf at Side**

If a cow is transferred with a calf at side, the calf must be registered by the individual, partnership, corporation, limited liability company, limited liability partnership or other legal entity in whose name the cow was registered on the date of birth of the calf, and a separate transfer of the calf is required.

**Rule 405: Adjustment Transfers**

The following types of transfers not classified as transfers in the ordinary usage of the term may be made at fees established by the Board of Directors.

**a.** Transfers for the purpose of correcting certificate records in accordance with Rules 901 and 902.

**b.** Transfers from estates to heirs under terms of wills or court orders.

**c.** Transfers to individuals of partnerships.

**d.** Transfers to stockholders upon the dissolution of corporations or to members or stakeholders of other legal entities upon the dissolution of such entities.

**Rule 406: Transfers by Affidavit**

In case of neglect or refusal of a member or nonmember of the Association to apply for transfer of registration, transfer may be recorded, if approved by the Association's Chief Executive Officer, on the basis of the transferee's affidavit setting forth the facts and sworn to or affirmed before a Notary Public. Each such affidavit must be accompanied by proof of sale and payment in full of the purchase price of the animal or by evidence of an agreement to sell, purchase or transfer including the terms and conditions of service, if any, in the case of females.

**Rule 407: Transfer Applications of Animals Consigned to Public Sale**

Sale managers or their representatives may fill in buyers' names on applications for transfer of animals consigned to public sales and, if authorized by the consignor, may sign such application in his stead. Such applications must indicate the name of the sale manager or agent representing the consignor and be signed by him. Applications executed under this Rule are subject to Rule 1201.

**Rule 408: Transfer of Exported Animals**

Application for transfer of an animal exported to another country shall be made with a regular Transfer Application.

**Rule 409: Transfer from the Estate of a Deceased Person**

In the event of the death of a transferor, all papers, and documents necessary to show that the person requesting transfer is legally authorized and entitled to request such transfer must be filed with the Association.

**Rule 410: Responsibility for Legal Title**

A transfer of registration entered on an application or a Certificate of Registration, or on the records of the Association, shall not be construed as the conveyance of legal title by the Association. The Association shall in no way be involved in or assume liability for the purchase, sale, or terms of sale of registered animals, or the passage of legal title thereto.

**Rule 411: Disclosure of Information related to Cloning**

If a transferor keeps or intends to keep cell material or other DNA material from a transferred animal, for the purposes of cloning the transferred animal, the transferor must disclose that fact to the transferee, prior to completion of the sale or transfer.

**Rule 500: Artificial Insemination**

Rule 501: Ownership

Rule 502: DNA-Marker-Typing

Rule 503: Out of Herd AI Service Certificates

Rule 504: DNA-Marker-Typing

Rule 505: Labeling of Semen

Rule 506: Death of Bulls Used Artificially

**Rule 501: Ownership**

The breeder of a calf which is the product of Artificial Insemination must also be the owner of record of the sire at the time of service, or one of not more than three (3) co-owners of record of the sire in order for the calf to be eligible for registration, except that:

- a. Calves that result from Artificial Insemination of females owned by a member of the immediate family of the owner(s) of record of the sire shall be eligible for registration provided written consent of the owner of record, a member of whose immediate family has applied for registration, is submitted with the application to register.
- b. Calves that result from Artificial Insemination of females owned by a regular employee/employer of the owner(s) of record of the sire shall be eligible for registration provided written consent of employee/employer is submitted with the application to register.
- c. Transfers marked "sold with AI breeding privileges" allow the transferee to register the first calf born after transfer of the dam without an AI certificate when bred via Artificial Insemination to a sire owned by the transferor at the time of conception.
- d. The Association shall not be involved in disputes arising from semen offered or received in conjunction with dams sold with AI breeding privileges as provided in Rule 501(c).
- e. See Rule 503.

**Rule 502: DNA-Marker-Typing**

All bulls that are the source of semen used for the purpose of Artificial Insemination must be DNA-marker-typed or must have been blood-typed before January 1, 2001.

**Rule 503: Out of Herd AI Service Certificates**

The following rules apply to registration of calves conceived artificially when the owner of record of the female is not the owner of record, or one of the owners of record, of the sire at time of conception.

- a. An AI Service Certificate for each calf to be recorded must accompany the application for registration of the resulting offspring. When AI Service Certificates are electronically stored in the first owner's membership file,

the AI Service Certificate need not accompany the application for registration. In the case of multiple births, only one AI certificate is required. (As amended on February 24, 2011)

**b.** A.I. Service Certificates may be obtained from the Association by Life, Regular, Junior or Nonresident Members of the Association who are the owner or co-owner of record of the sire at a fee established by the Board of Directors. Application for AI Service Certificates must be requested by one of the owners of record of the bull. Only one owner of record of a jointly owned bull is required to request AI service certificates. (As amended on February 24, 2011)

**c.** The issuance of an AI Service Certificate by the Association shall in no way be construed as guaranteeing conception, or if a calf results from such service, that it shall be eligible for registration. There shall be no refunding of fees paid to the Association for AI Service Certificates.

**d.** Unused AI Service Certificates may be assigned to the buyer by endorsement on the face of the certificates. AI Service Certificates electronically stored in a breeder's file may be transmitted to another breeder's file, upon notification to the Association.

**e.** A.I. Service Certificates shall not be issued on any sire that possesses a notation on its pedigree (Performance Registration Certificate, Angus Performance Pedigree, or any electronic pedigree) that identifies it being a potential carrier for a genetic condition for which there is a DNA test to determine if the animal is a carrier or not of that particular condition(s). Upon the completion and submission of such DNA testing results to the Association, A.I. Service Certificates shall be issued unless prohibited by a policy adopted to address the specific condition(s). (As adopted August 29, 2011)

#### **Rule 504: DNA-Marker-Typing**

A record of the DNA-marker type, or blood type if identified before January 1, 2001, of all bulls that are the source of semen for the purpose of Artificial Insemination must be filed with the Association before calves that are sired artificially by such bulls shall be eligible for registration or before "Out of Herd" AI Service Certificates may be obtained from the Association. The full suite of known commercially available tests for the genetic conditions monitored by the American Angus Association will be required for all bulls, born on or after January 1, 2018, that are the source of semen for the purpose of Artificial Insemination.

#### **Rule 505: Labeling of Semen**

**a.** It shall be the responsibility of the owner of record or each individual co-owner of record of a bull used artificially to require each person or organization collecting, processing, and freezing semen to identify the semen and permanently label it before freezing. Identity must include the registered name and registration number of the bull and date of collection for the resulting calves to be eligible for registration.

**b.** When semen is not properly identified by name and registration number of the bull and/or date of collection, the seller of the semen shall immediately inform the buyer(s) of the semen of the error.

#### **Rule 506: Death of Bulls Used Artificially**

Calves conceived after the death of a bull shall be eligible for registration under the same conditions and provisions governing the eligibility of calves conceived by artificial insemination prior to the death of said bull.

**Rule 600: Duty to Comply**

Rule 600: Duty to Comply

Rule 601: Maintenance and Verification of Accurate Breeding, Herd and Program Records

Rule 602: Maintenance of Accurate Records

Rule 603: Submission of Accurate Information to the Association

Rule 604: Questionable Submissions of Information to the Association: Cooperative Resolution

Rule 605: Unwillingness to Cooperate with the Association to Clarify Questionable Submissions

Rule 606: Elimination of Questionable Submissions from the Database

**Rule 600: Duty to Comply**

It is the duty of every member, affiliate, their employees, agents, and others acting on their behalf to comply with all policies or guidelines related to any program of the Association.

**Rule 601: Maintenance and Verification of Accurate Breeding, Herd and Program records**

It is the responsibility of every breeder to have and maintain accurately kept records by which, if necessary, the Association can verify any information or data submitted to it in connection with any activity or program of the Association, including but not limited to the breeding, showing, registration, purchase or sale of Angus cattle or any program sponsored by the Association.

**Rule 602: Maintenance of Accurate Records**

Every breeder shall maintain accurate verifiable records, including any records established or required separately under these rules or any program of the Association.

**Rule 603: Submission of Accurate Information to the Association**

All members who apply for registration or transfer of animals in the American Angus Herd Book and all members participating in any Angus program shall submit only accurate information, based upon properly maintained and verifiable records.

**Rule 604: Questionable Submissions of Information to the Association: Cooperative Resolution**

Whenever the accuracy of any information (including data) submitted to the Association in connection with the registration or transfer process or any Angus program is deemed questionable by Association staff, the Association staff may attempt to resolve the matter informally in accordance with this rule or it may refer the matter to the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors. Subject to the prior approval of the Executive Committee, Association staff may request that the submitting member resolve such concerns by cooperating with Association staff and, upon written request, agreeing to any reasonable request of the Association, which may include one or more of the following:

- a. the member's consent to allow an on-site examination of all relevant animals,
- b. the member's consent to an on-site examination of all breeding and herd records,
- c. the member's consent to an on-site examination of all Angus records,
- d. the member's consent to the on-site DNA-marker-type or blood-type testing of all relevant animals, or
- e. any other actions deemed appropriate by the Executive Committee.

**Rule 605: Unwillingness to Cooperate with the Association to Clarify or Resolve Questionable Submissions**

If a member is unwilling or refuses to cooperate with the Association staff in response to a written request to do so, the Chief Executive Officer shall notify the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors of such fact in writing and that Committee may, in its discretion, take action under the provisions of Article VIII of the Bylaws.

**Rule 606: Elimination of Questionable Submissions from the Database**

Notwithstanding any provision of these Rules, the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors may, in its discretion, direct the Association's staff to eliminate from a database any questionable submissions that it determines impact the integrity of any Angus program. Such elimination may take place only after the Association has provided written notice to the submitting member of its intent to do so. Such notice shall contain an explanation for the action taken and afford the impacted member a subsequent opportunity to be heard, pursuant to the hearing provisions of Article VIII.

**Rule 700: DNA-Marker and Blood-Type Testing****Rule 700: DNA-Marker and Blood-Type Testing**

- a. Each animal for which a Registration or Transfer application is or has been received by the Association and each animal owned by a member participating in any Association program may be subjected to a DNA-marker-type test to verify accuracy of parentage or a blood-type test to determine that the animal or related animals are pure.
- b. The Executive Committee of the Board of Directors, or the Board of Directors, may require that a DNA-marker or blood-type test be made, by such agencies as it may designate, of any animal the purported sire or dam of which has been alleged to have been incorrectly recorded.
- c. The owner or owners of record of any animal in question and the owner or owners of record of the purported sire and dam shall afford representatives of the Association reasonable opportunity to secure blood or other DNA material from the animals involved in any such investigation, including granting such representatives the right to enter their property.
- d. The Chief Executive Officer of the Association may determine who shall pay the costs of any such investigation, including laboratory fees, undertaken pursuant to the provisions of Rule 700(b).
- e. If a member of the Association or an owner of record refuses reasonable opportunity to representatives of the Association, or its designated agents, to secure blood or other DNA material as set forth in this Rule, the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors, or the Board of Directors, may in their discretion take action under the provisions of Article VIII of the Bylaws.

**Rule 800 Series: Show Rules**

Rule 800: Show Rules

Rule 801: Ownership of Animals Presented for Exhibition

Rule 802: Age Classification of Animals Presented for Exhibition

Rule 803: Identification of Animals Presented for Exhibition

Rule 804: Conformation and Structure of Animals Presented for Exhibition

Rule 805: Alteration of Conformation and Structure by Use of Prohibited Substance or Unethical Fitting

Rule 806: Submission of Cattle for Inspection

Rule 807: Enforcement of Association Rules at Association-Approved Livestock Shows

Rule 808: Exhibitor Conduct

Rule 809: Relationship Between These Rules and Show-Specific Rules

Rule 810: Certain Junior Shows

**Rule 800: Show Rules**

The Association regularly appropriates funds toward the payment of premiums at certain Fairs, Shows and Exhibitions. These funds are appropriated for the purpose of rewarding member exhibitors or member owners of those animals whose conformation is most desirable and properly attained. In the case of breeding stock, it is for the additional purpose of recognizing conformation most likely to add value to breed improvement. In order

to carry out these purposes, the Association has established these Show Rules. Simply stated, these rules have been drafted to ensure that all animals presented for exhibition at Association-approved livestock shows shall be in their natural conformation and structure, free of any alteration or modification by injection or internal or external administration of any Prohibited substance or by any involvement in Unethical Fitting.

**Rule 801: Ownership of Animals Presented for Exhibition**

a. Each registered animal entered for competition at any Association-approved livestock show must:

1. be exhibited in the name of the member owner of record of the animal at the time it is presented for exhibition; and in the event that there is more than one owner of record, in the name of at least one of such owners of record, who is a member of the Association; and,
2. be exhibited in compliance with the Rules or Regulations governing the ownership of animals at the Fair, Livestock Show or Exposition at which the animal was exhibited.

b. The exhibition of any animal, the legal title to which has passed by public or private sale subject to a reservation of the privileges of exhibiting such animal subsequent to its sale and prior to its transfer on the records of the Association, shall not be deemed a violation of the provisions of paragraph (a) (1), of this Rule.

**Rule 802: Age Classification of Animals Presented for Exhibition**

Each member exhibitor or member owner is responsible for having each animal entered in the proper class or classes in which it belongs according to the birth date of such animal.

**Rule 803: Identification of Animals Presented for Exhibition**

a. Each member exhibitor or member owner is responsible for having each animal identifiable at check-in time by legible primary identification marks corresponding to either (1) the Certificate of Registration of such animal, the original of which must be available for inspection prior to the exhibit at each show, or (2) another approved current proof of ownership issued by the American Angus Association. (As amended on September 11, 2010)

b. If inspection of primary identification marks by an authorized representative of the Association reveals that primary identification marks are absent, illegible, or not in conformity with registration, the animal shall be barred from exhibition at the show where examined.

1. In instances where a purchased animal is presented for exhibition with primary identification marks absent, DNA-marker-typing may be required before registration is validated and the new identification marks are recognized.
2. In instances where a registered animal is presented for exhibition by the original member owner with primary identification marks absent, a written statement may be required to be filed with the Association office documenting proper identity and confirming the fact that re-application of primary identification marks has been accomplished.
3. In instances where a registered animal is presented for exhibition with two or more sets of primary identification marks, DNA-marker-typing may be required in order to validate registration.
4. In instances where a registered animal is presented for exhibition with primary identification marks not in agreement with registration, the original owner may be required to document accuracy to the Association. DNA-marker-typing may be required to validate registration.
5. In instances where a registered animal is presented for exhibition with primary identification marks in agreement with registration but type (tattoo vs brand) of identification is incorrect, the owner may be allowed to show, and the original registration paper must be returned for correction.



**Rule 804: Conformation and Structure of Animals Presented for Exhibition**

Each member exhibitor or member owner is responsible for having each animal fitted and presented in the showring in its natural conformation and structure without improper alteration.

**Rule 805: Alteration of Conformation and Structure by Use of Prohibited Substance or Unethical Fitting**

a. Each member exhibitor or member owner is prohibited from altering the conformation or the structure of an animal by injection or internal or external administration of any Prohibited Substance or by involvement in an Unethical Fitting. The member exhibitor and/or member owner is responsible for the acts of any nonmember fitter found to have altered an animal in violation of these Rules or the Rules and Regulations of any Association-approved livestock show.

b. Exhibitors, individuals assisting exhibitors or member owners who participate in shows that are administered by or receive premium support from the American Angus Association shall not be allowed to use any form of coloring agent at such show on any animal exhibited. (As amended June 8, 2023)

The Association may adopt and implement various tests designed to monitor this prohibition, including but not limited to a "white towel" or "white glove" test. No aerosol cans or other pressurized containers will be allowed in designated make up areas.

**Rule 806: Submission of Cattle for Inspection**

Each member exhibitor or owner shall: (1) submit any registered Angus cattle to such tests and examinations by authorized representatives of the Association or of the relevant Association-approved livestock show as may be requested thereby; (2) release the Association, its officers, directors, employees and agents from any and all claims for damages arising in connection with the administration of any such test or examination and any and all decisions based upon or otherwise using or incorporating the results thereof; and (3) in the event such member exhibitor or member owner desires to dispute or challenge the results of any such test or examination applied to his animals, do so only in accordance with the procedures established by the Rules of the Association.

**Rule 807: Enforcement of Association Rules at Association-Approved Livestock Shows**

Authorized representatives of the Association have the authority to enforce the rules set forth herein, including barring a registered animal from a livestock show at which it is to be shown, if there are reasonable grounds to believe a violation has occurred.

**Rule 808: Exhibitor Conduct**

Member exhibitors and member owners, as well as their representatives and employees, shall act in a sportsmanlike and professional manner in the showring. Judges and show officials shall be treated with courtesy and respect. Exhibitors shall not engage in or direct any abusive, threatening, or obscene conduct toward judges, show officials or other exhibitors.

**Rule 809: Relationship Between These Rules and Show-Specific Rules**

These Rules supersede the Show Rules published by an Association-approved livestock show, to the extent that there is a conflict.

**Rule 810: Certain Junior Shows**

The Board of Directors may, from time to time, also adopt and disseminate rules and guidelines to be used at selected junior shows at which the Association appropriates funds toward the payment of premiums. Such rules and guidelines may be enforced by authorized representatives of the Association.

**Rule 900: Membership**

Rule 901: Regular and Life Memberships

Rule 902: Junior Membership

Rule 903: Affiliate and Nonresident Memberships

Rule 904: Membership Name Change

**Rule 901: Regular and Life Membership Transfers**

Life Memberships issued before Oct. 1, 1980, and Regular Memberships may be transferred only once, upon request, to:

- a. A joint membership with a spouse or other immediate family member(s) not the subject of any prior suspension or expulsion, if originally issued to an individual.
- b. To an immediate family member who is not the subject of any prior suspension or expulsion.
- c. To an heir designated by will or, if intestate, by designation of other heirs. The transfer to an heir will be completed upon the Association's receipt of a letter from the executor of the estate or receipt of a Court Order, directing the transfer to take place.
- d. To a surviving partner of a partnership.
- e. To one of the individuals of a dissolved partnership, designated by transfer endorsement signed by the other partner or partners.
- f. To a stockholder of a corporation designated by transfer endorsement of the corporation, properly executed by an authorized agent of the corporation.
- g. To a member or stakeholder of any related legal entity, if properly authorized by an appropriate agent of the entity.
- h. If originally issued as a joint membership, from a joint membership to an individual membership upon agreement of all joint members or (in the case of a divorce), upon the Association's receipt of a divorce decree or other Court Order, directing the Association to change the owner of the membership.
- i. If originally issued as a personal name that is changed (in the case of marriage, divorce, adoption, etc.), upon the Association's receipt of legal name change documents, directing Association to change the owner of the membership.

Only one transfer of a Regular and Life Membership will be permitted.

**Rule 902: Junior Membership**

A Junior Membership may be converted into a Regular Membership or Life Membership upon request as provided in Article I of the Bylaws of the Association.

**Rule 903: Affiliate and Nonresident Memberships**

Affiliate and Nonresident Memberships in the Association are not transferable.

**Rule 904: Membership Name Change**

In the event a member requests to change the name of a membership for any reason and would like to retain the original member code, a membership name change fee established by the Board of Directors will be assessed to the member at the time of the name change. (As adopted September 11, 2020)

**Rule 1000: Sale Guarantees**

The American Angus Association is not liable for any warranties made by the seller of cattle.

**Rule 1100: Association Fees**

- a. All fees of whatever nature due the Association shall be paid in advance, accompanying requests for services.
- b. Nonpayment of fees is sufficient cause for:
  - 1. Withholding the processing of registrations or transfers, performance data or other types of work being performed by the Association;
  - 2. Cancellation of registrations or transfers which have been processed but not paid for, removal of performance data from the Association's database; and/or,
  - 3. Temporarily suspending a member's rights and privileges of membership in the Association until such time as the fees are paid.

**Rule 1200 Series: Compliance with These Rules**

Rule 1200: Compliance with These Rules

Rule 1201: Submissions of Information to the Association

**Rule 1200: Compliance with These Rules**

It is the duty of every member, affiliate, their employees, agents, and others acting on their behalf to comply with these Rules.

**Rule 1201: Submissions of Information to the Association**

Whenever under these Rules there is a duty or requirement for a member to submit or provide information to the Association, such submission shall be truthful, accurate and verifiable.

**Rule 1300: Failure to Comply with These Rules**

Rule 1301: Failure of Members to Comply

Rule 1302: Failure of Affiliates to Comply

Rule 1303: Failure of Nonmembers to Comply

Rule 1304: Notices to the Membership of Disciplinary Action Taken

**Rule 1301: Failure of Members to Comply**

- a. The failure of any Life, Regular or Junior Member of this Association to comply with its Rules shall be grounds for discipline, including suspension of some or all privileges and rights of membership or expulsion, in accordance with the provisions of Article VIII of the Bylaws of the Association and subject to the discretion of the Board of Directors.
- b. Any suspension shall set forth a specific time period for such suspension, following which the Board of Directors may entertain a request for reinstatement to the full rights and privileges of membership.

**Rule 1302: Failure of Affiliates to Comply**

- a. The failure of any Affiliate Member of this Association to comply with its Rules shall be grounds for suspension of some or all privileges and rights of such membership or expulsion.
- b. Any suspension shall set forth a specific time period for such suspension, following which the Board of Directors may entertain a request for reinstatement to the full rights and privileges of membership.

**Rule 1303: Failure of Nonmembers to Comply**

The failure of any nonmembers to comply with the Rules of this Association shall be grounds for prohibiting such individuals from participation in any event or program sanctioned, funded, or authorized by the Association or taking any other action, which, in its discretion, the Board of Directors may take.

**Rule 1304: Notices to the Membership of Disciplinary Action Taken**

a. If a member has been disciplined, the Association shall publish such fact to the membership in the next regularly scheduled issue of the *Angus Journal* and/or the appropriate electronic communication platform, unless the action taken has occurred during the pendency of an investigation under Article VIII. In that event, publication shall be left to the discretion of the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors. (As amended February 25, 2022)

b. If disciplinary action of a member has been terminated by the Board of Directors, the Association shall publish such fact to the membership in the next regularly scheduled issue of the *Angus Journal* and/or the appropriate electronic communication platform. (As amended February 25, 2022)

**Rule 1400: Litigation Forum and Expenses: agreement of all Members****Rule 1400: Litigation Forum and Expenses: Agreement of All Members**

a. All members shall not commence any civil action, whether in law or in equity, against the Association in any courts other than those Federal or State courts located in the State of Missouri.

b. Following judicial review of any final decision, action or Rule of the Association contested by said member, whereby the member fails to have the Association's decision, action or rule reversed or overturned, said member shall reimburse the Association for the reasonable attorney's fees, court costs and other expenses incurred by the Association in defense of the lawsuit.