

*America's  
First*



# *2023* MEMBERSHIP HANDBOOK



# MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the American Shorthorn Association is to serve all members and enhance the value of the Shorthorn breed by managing data, maintaining the integrity of the herdbook, educating members and communicating the value of Shorthorn cattle resulting in the expanded use of Shorthorn genetics in the U.S. beef industry.

## VISION

Be recognized in the industry as a viable British breed that creates profitability in beef cattle production, with a family-friendly environment.

## CORE VALUES

Diversity: We value diversity of members and breeding programs

Transparency: We value the importance of a transparent database and herdbook

Family: We value programs and activities that encourage and support family-based beef production

Accountability: We believe its important for individuals to take ownership of their actions and decisions.

Honesty and Integrity: We believe that strong relationships are based on personal honesty and integrity

Technology: We value the role technology plays in advancing beef production and the Shorthorn breed.

Heritage/History: We celebrate the rich history of the Shorthorn breed

Customer service: We commit ourselves to treating our members like valued customers

## CORE STRATEGIES

Increase commercial interest in Shorthorn genetics

Educate, equip and empower our members

Continue to develop and support the junior program

Invest in research and development to enable breed improvement



# SHORTHORN ORIGIN

Shorthorns have known many different names throughout the history of the breed, each name conceived from the area where the cattle originated along the Northeastern coast of England in the counties of Northumberland, Durham, Yorkshire, and Lincolnshire. Before becoming known as Shorthorn they were coined Teeswater cattle due to the area in which the first development of the breed began, along the valley of the River Tees in the 1600's. When the breed began in Virginia, they became known as Durham. As the breed became more popular in America it began to become known by what we now call it, Shorthorn. The first recording of the herd registry began in 1822 in the Coates Herd Book.

## THE BREED IN THE U.S.

Throughout the years the herd registry became known as the American Shorthorn Herd Book. In 1846, this book was the first registry to be published by any breed in America. Shorthorns were the first improved breed to be imported into the new world; the breed's ability to adapt made them highly demanded, and their influence spread rapidly across America. Early settlers valued this breed for meat, milk, the power to pull the wagon and plow, and the ease in breeding to the Longhorn's which were brought into America by Spanish conquistadors. Midwest farmers began directly importing Shorthorns from Scotland in 1854.

Twenty-six years after the first published registry, members from nine states joined together in 1872 to form the American Shorthorn Association (ASA), the oldest beef breed organization in existence in the US. Today the ASA has an Appendix Registry (AR) program, which includes ShorthornPlus and Durham Red. The ASA is the only British breed with an ongoing Appendix program documenting the influence of related and nonrelated breeds. Currently, the ASA records more than 16,000 animals each year, maintains over 30,000 head in the associations whole herd registry, and boasts over 6,000 junior and senior members combined.



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ASA Membership Handbook  
[shorthorn.org](http://shorthorn.org)





# WHR RULES & FEES (WHOLE HERD REPORTING)

The Shorthorn breed is on the cutting edge of technology for herd management and multiple other options are available through the Digital Beef registry that went live July 1, 2015. The need to purchase an outside herd management system no longer exists for Shorthorn breeders, as we have made sure to have Digital Beef included with your membership. You can now manage your cow herd within the registry which means entering data only once. This makes registering and transferring much easier to complete without having to rely on information from paper notes or other software systems. Inputting performance weights as a group can be done all at once. The ease of putting in any activity has become more efficient through the registry. Many other breeds are moving to the Digital Beef registry system and it's nice to be on the forefront of this movement.

In addition to the registry, the ASA is a partner of the International Genetic Solution (IGS) Genetic Evaluation, the largest Multi-Breed Genetic Evaluation in the world with a combined 19,000,000 head in the database. The system will have capabilities to process updated EPDs weekly. Joining IGS puts Shorthorns on the cutting edge for genetic evaluations, as well as keep the breed EPDs comparable to 17 other breeds in the US, Canada, Australia and New Zealand. All this information is readily accessible in greater detail in the Digital Beef registry.

The Board of Directors unanimously approved a new rule, which begins January 1, 2022:

*"All Shorthorn & ShorthornPlus bulls born January 1, 2022 and after will be required to have a genomic profile and parentage markers on file in order to register any progeny with the American Shorthorn Association".*

This means that regardless of service type, all Shorthorn & ShorthornPlus bulls used for breeding need to be genomically tested (currently, this is the 100K test but could be subject to change according to Neogen standards in the future). This pertains to pasture sires/clean up bulls. The rule only affects Shorthorn & ShorthornPlus bulls born after Jan 1, 2022, so this rule won't really come into play until their progeny are born, late 2023 or 2024. Please be aware that AI sires still require the 3 genetic conditions as well – TH, PHA, and DS.

## Updated Membership Rules and Fee Changes, effective Jan. 1, 2016

1. Beginning Sept. 1, 2015 WHR will be the only type of membership available for new members.
2. One membership fee per member, regardless of WHR Breeder or TOC Breeder status.
3. TOC memberships will be grandfathered in and can stay a TOC type breeder after Sept. 1, 2015. To maintain the TOC breeder status their membership cannot lapse or become a member not in good standing. TOC grandfathered memberships are not transferable. If a TOC breeder loses membership status as a TOC breeder they must rejoin ASA as a WHR breeder.
4. Annual membership is for the calendar year Jan. 1 to Dec. 31 of each year. (Online users can find their membership ending date on the General Profile Page in the registry.)
5. All paid members will receive a 1-year subscription to the Shorthorn Country Magazine included with annual membership fee. (Out of the US subscriptions & First Class will need to pay additional postage.)
6. Annual membership has access to the Digital Beef Registry with built-in herd management software to manage your cow herd; with some of the following features: breeding dates, birth activity, Birth Weight, Weaning Weight, Yearling Weight, DNA, Embryo Transfer activity, semen inventory, and embryo inventory. All of these will enhance and streamline management of your herd as well as enable you to list cattle for sale and produce your own sale catalog in the registry.
7. Beginning Nov. 1<sup>st</sup> of each year members can purchase

their next calendar years membership. In Nov. and/or Dec. all members will be notified that their annual membership is due for the next calendar year. Online registry users please note: if you have not paid or renewed your membership by Jan. 1<sup>st</sup> of each year, when you log into the registry your annual membership fee will be automatically billed to your account. TOC Breeders must pay their membership prior to March 1<sup>st</sup> of each year. If not paid prior to March 1, your membership will lapse and you will be required to rejoin as a WHR Breeder.

8. Effective Jan. 1, 2016 you must be a member to register an animal at ASA.

9. No registration privileges will be granted until membership is paid each calendar year.

## WHR (Breeder Rules & Fees (updated Nov. 1, 2022)

WHR Breeders receive EPDs on all qualified animals. WHR is a program for performance data. In order for the EPD system to be the most effective, all data must be turned in on every cow's calf in the breeder's inventory. This provides the full value of performance data for accurate EPDs in the future. WHR Breeders are enrolling the cow, for activity on said calf born in the calendar year the assessment fee is paid. The assessment fees also include the processing of: registration of the natural calf (under one year of age at the time of registration) and one transfer (done less than 60 days from date of sale), as well as access to all performance data, (including ultrasound data, carcass data and genomic data - if applicable.)

Inventories will be available online or mailed upon request to WHR Breeders Nov. 1<sup>st</sup> each year. The breeder



will update their inventory and submit it online or mail it into the ASA. The inventory the WHR Breeder turns into the ASA for invoicing should include all females that are of calving age during the calendar year in which the assessment is paid. The WHR Breeder has to turn in their inventory before the invoice for the total herd assessment is created at the ASA.

Inventory and full payment is due before any animals can be registered in the calendar year in which the WHR assessment is due.

1. The Inventory the WHR Breeder receives in Nov. from the ASA will include all females that turn 21 months of age in calendar year the assessment is due. (Breeders have option to remove young first time females from inventory using the code that identifies animals too young to breed if they will not calve in assessment year.)

2. Any young female that will not calve in the calendar year which the WHR Breeder marks the code as "Short-horn heifer held from breeding" will not be charged an assessment fee for that year; it will remain active and will be added the next year without penalty.

3. The assessment fee is attached to the female for the calendar year. Therefore, cows that have had their assessment paid by a WHR breeder and sold to another WHR breeder will be part of the purchaser's WHR inventory. (Breeders should note when a cow is transferred and/or calf registered the waived fees for that female **may** have been used prior to entering the purchaser's inventory.)

4. WHR breeders can add a purchased animal (from TOC Breeder) to their WHR inventory for the same per cow assessment fee they initially paid on their WHR inventory for that calendar year. (ex, If you paid your inventory prior to Jan. 10 and paid \$18/head and purchased an unassessed animal Sept. 1, it can be added to your existing inventory for \$18/head, \*must call the ASA office for adjustment)

5. WHR Breeders must have paid their assessment fees on their inventory before they are eligible to register any calf born in that assessment calendar year. (ET or Natural)

6. The natural calf from an enrolled female (registered Shorthorn, commercial or from another breed) in WHR is allowed to be registered for free if the assessment is done on enrolled female and if the registration is completed before the calf is 12 months old.

7. Donor cows that are enrolled on a WHR inventory will be given either a free registration on their natural calf or ½ price of a regular registration fee on an ET calf, whichever is recorded first in the calendar year. After that any natural calf will get ½ price of a regular registration fee and all regular registrations fees will apply to any ET calf.

8. Registered Shorthorn & ShorthornPlus cows that are used as recipients & are enrolled in a WHR inventory will be given either a free registration on their natural calf or ½ price of a regular registration fee on an ET calf.

9. The resulting natural calf from a WHR enrolled female will get one free transfer if transfer is completed within 60 days from the date of sale.

10. Registered Shorthorn, ShorthornPlus or enrolled females that have had an assessment paid for in the calendar year & used as recipient (To give birth to an ET calf) will be given one free transfer on that resulting ET calf as long as the transfer is completed within 60 days from the date of sale.

11. Females enrolled in WHR receive one free transfer in

the same year she was assessed, if transfer is completed within 60 days from date of sale.

12. WHR Breeders receive waived multiple owner (more than one owner) transfer fees if completed less than 60 days from date of sale and it's first transfer of animal.

13. WHR Breeders receive waived initial entry fees (Commercial and/or foundation animals registered with another breed).

14. WHR Breeders receive free links to their website.

15. A reactivation enrollment fee will be charged for females removed from an inventory when they are needed to be re-enrolled in a breeder's inventory. Example: (assessment fee paid in 2019 not paid in 2020 and re-enrolled in 2021 charged a fee)

16. On the rare occasion that a WHR assessed cow has multiple natural calves born during an assessment year ASA policy allows for a reduced cost of the registration for the additional calf. The following conditions must be met.

a. The calves must be registered before 12 months of age.

b. The assessed cow either had twins or had a calf born early in the assessment year and calved again toward the end of the assessment year.

c. The WHR member must contact the ASA office to have access to the reduced registration cost.

### WHR Assessment Fee Schedule

Assessments fee schedule can also be found on [shorthorn.org](http://shorthorn.org).

November 1 - January 9: \$18/cow

January 10 - February 28: \$24/cow

March 1 - December 31: \$30/cow

Cost to re-enroll an inactive cow: \$25/cow

Effective January 1, 2019, penalties will be added to WHR breeder registrations for calves born to dams not assessed in the year the calf was born. To avoid penalties, assessments of all dams in the herd must be completed by December 31 of that year.

#### Penalties

Registrations, all sexes, under 12 months of ages - \$80

Registrations, all sexes, 12-24 months of age - \$100

Registrations, all sexes, over 24 months of age - \$140

Transfers processed within 60 days from the date of sale - \$25

Transfers processed over 60 days from the date of sale - \$45

Transfers to multiple owners within 60 days from the date of sale - \$35

*\*Penalties apply only to animals registered to a dam which was not assessed in the year the calf was born.\**

### EPD rulings for Whole Herd Reporting (WHR) and TOC Breeders

Only WHR Breeders will receive EPDs. TOC Breeders do not receive EPDs effective Jan. 1, 2015.

### WHR Annual Audit on Data Submitted

Each year three sires will be randomly selected from the top 50 bulls with the most registered calves. All data will be inspected and audited. Any suspect data or information will be fully investigated. Contemporary groups will also be subject to an on-farm audit conducted by a third party.





# REGISTRY HOW-TO

Visit [youtube.com/ShorthornASA](https://youtube.com/ShorthornASA) or [shorthorn.digitalbeef.com](https://shorthorn.digitalbeef.com) to watch our how-to videos on the below topics! We will be adding new ones in 2023.

How-To Videos Available:

Registering a Calf (simplified)

How to Transfer Cattle

Recording a Commercial Animal

Entering Breeding Information on Transfer

Doing your WHR Assessments Online

How to Print a Certificate

Get Back to Your Saved Work (Kickouts)

Recording Weaning & Yearling Weights

Calendar Calculator

Registering Unregistered Animals

Legacy Tab (animals no longer in your active herd)

Search the Breed

## SHORTHORN BEEF LOCALLY RAISED

In the early days of the global coronavirus pandemic, many Americans faced an unsettling reality: empty grocery store shelves.

Dramatic changes set in almost overnight and left families spending all of their time at home, limiting trips to the store and buying in bulk to prepare for the unknown. While the pandemic sent shockwaves across all levels of the U.S. economy, it also provided the chance to serve consumers in new and creative ways.

The American Shorthorn Association (ASA) recently launched an initiative to promote members who are offering beef products directly to consumers.

It's called Shorthorn Beef — Locally Raised.

The Shorthorn Beef program is an avenue for connecting the breed's cattle producers with those interested in buying locally raised beef. The effort includes promotional opportunities through social media, the ASA website and other media platforms.

View the growing list of producers at [shorthorn.org/shorthorn-beef](https://shorthorn.org/shorthorn-beef)! Contact the ASA office for more information.



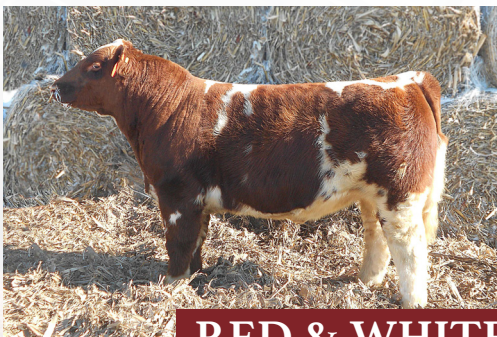


# SHORTHORN COLOR

A white animal should be white from head to toe. This animal usually possesses darker (red) hairs around the nostrils, perhaps the eye sockets and especially in the ears, around the tips of the ears and in the bush of the tail.



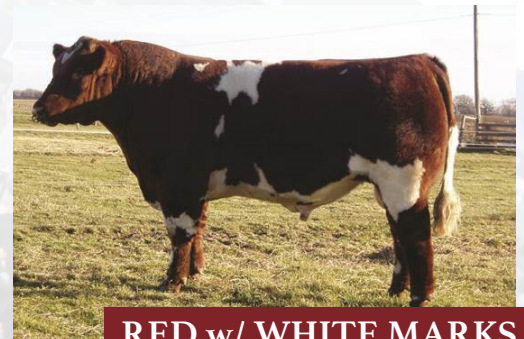
**WHITE**



**RED & WHITE**

A red and white animal is at least 30 percent red or white and the remaining percent the opposite color. This may be red on white or white on red which gives a splotching effect to the coat color. The color present in the small amount is found above the juncture of the side(s) and underline on one/both sides of the body.

This animal has a red body with white marks above the juncture of the underline and side(s) and/or white marks on one or more legs. If white marks are found on the head forehead, or face the animal is considered to be red with white marks.



**RED w/ WHITE MARKS**



**ROAN**

A roan animal has red and white hair over the entire body giving it a mixing or roaning effect. Dark roans have more red than white hair and light roans have more white hair than red hair. Redneck roans have a red neck, head and front end and the remainder of the body is light roan or shows more white hair versus red.

The animal's body color is predominantly red. There is no white on the legs; but some white is allowed on the underline in front or behind the navel. If the white ascends past the junction of the side(s) of the body and the underline of the body, or the animal has white on the head, then the animal is not considered to be red.



**RED**





- AR = Appendix Registration  
DR = Durham Red  
x = Polled  
s = scurred  
S = Sport  
\* = Foreign Blood

**10** Information as to any animal listed on this certificate is based solely on information provided to the ASA when this certificate was issued. EPD information is updated semiannually and the information shown may change in future updates.

# TRANSFER APPLICATION

| 1   |  | 2   |   |
|---|--|---|---|
| <b>APPLICATION FOR TRANSFER</b><br>PLEASE PRINT. ITEMS MARKED WITH AN ASTERISK (*) MUST BE COMPLETED. |  |   |   |
| <b>SINGLE OWNER:</b>  |  | <b>Name:</b> ANIMAL NAME<br><b>Reg #:</b> x0123456<br><b>DOB:</b> 04/07/2002<br><b>Tattoo:</b> 2109 |   |
| 3   | *SOLD TO: _____  | *BUYER MEMBER #: _____  | 4 |
|   | *DATE OF TRANSFER: _____   | *ADDRESS: _____   | 5 |
|   | *CITY: _____   | *STATE: _____   | 6 |
|   | *ZIP: _____  | *PHONE #: _____   |   |
|   | *RETURN CERTIFICATE TO: NEW OWNER <input type="checkbox"/> SELLER <input type="checkbox"/> *IS THIS TRANSFER BETWEEN IMMEDIATE FAMILY MEMBER? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> |   |   |
| 5   | <b>ONLY USE IF SOLD TO MULTIPLE OWNERS:</b>  |   |   |
|   | MULTIPLE OWNERS: LIST ALL OWNERS (LIMIT 3) AS THEY ARE TO APPEAR ON CERTIFICATE WITH FULL ADDRESS AND MEMBER # FOR EACH  |   |   |
|   | OWNER 1- % _____   |   |   |
|   | OWNER 2- % _____   |   |   |
|   | OWNER 3- % _____   |   |   |
|   | <b>BREEDING INFORMATION FOR FEMALE</b> 8   |   |   |
|   | *I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE ANIMAL NAMED ON THE REVERSE SIDE IS OPEN <input type="checkbox"/> OR BRED <input type="checkbox"/>  |   |   |
|   | *SIRE REGISTRATION #: _____ *SIRE NAME: _____  |   |   |
|   | A.I. <input type="checkbox"/> DATE: _____ NATURAL SERVICE <input type="checkbox"/> PASTURE EXPOSED FROM: _____ TO _____  |   |   |
|   | *SIRE REGISTRATION #: _____ *SIRE NAME: _____  |   |   |
|   | A.I. <input type="checkbox"/> DATE: _____ NATURAL SERVICE <input type="checkbox"/> PASTURE EXPOSED FROM: _____ TO _____  |   |   |
|   | <b>ONLY COMPLETE IF COW WAS NATURALLY BRED AND/OR SERVICE BULL IS NOT OWNED BY SELLER:</b>   |   |   |
|   | <b>NATURAL SERVICE SIRE</b>  |   |   |
|   | OWNER'S SIGNATURE: _____ 9   |   |   |
|   | MEMBER #: _____  |   |   |
|   | ADDRESS: _____   |   |   |
|   | CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____  |   |   |
|   | SELLER'S SIGNATURE: (MUST BE SIGNED BY ALL OF OWNERS LISTED ON REVERSE BEFORE TRANSFER IS COMPLETE) 10   |   |   |
|   | _____<br>_____<br>_____  |   |   |
|   | <b>THIS TRANSFER IS NOT EFFECTIVE UNTIL FILED WITH:</b><br><b>AMERICAN SHORTHORN ASSOCIATION</b><br>7607 NW PRAIRIE VIEW RD<br>KANSAS CITY, MO 64151<br>(816) 599-7777<br>www.shorthorn.org 11         |   |   |
|   | ALL WORK MUST BE PAID FOR AT TIME OF SERVICE.  |   |   |

- 1) First & Last name of new buyer
- 2) If you have been assigned a number enter here.
- 3) Enter the date of transfer or sale date (mm/dd/yyyy)
- 4) Enter the 10-digit phone number
- 5) Mark where you would prefer the new certificate mailed.
- 6) Mark yes if you are transferring to a member of your immediate family.
- 7) Use this area only if you are selling to multiple owners
- 8) Complete this information if the female is pregnant on the date of the sale
- 9) Use this area if the female was serviced naturally by a bull which you do not own
- 10) Sellers sign here
- 11) Mail the completed form to this address with corresponding payment. \*see fee schedule at [shorthorn.org](http://shorthorn.org)





# EPD FAQ's

## ***What are EPDS?***

Expected progeny differences (EPDs) are a very important tool used in genetic selection. EPDs are used to compare the differences in predicted performance of animals' offspring for specific traits. Calculation of EPDs is driven by pedigree, progeny and individual performance, and genomic data. The American Shorthorn Association offers 13 different EPDs for specific traits. Additionally, ASA provides three economic (\$ Value) indexes, providing a single value for the selection of breeding stock that optimizes selection on a number of traits that define profit in a particular production scenario.

**Calving Ease Direct (CED):** The most important EPD in sire selection for use on heifers. This value is expressed as a percent of unassisted births; a more positive number is more desirable.

**Calving Ease Maternal (CEM):** Reflects a bull's ability to sire daughters who calve unassisted. The value is expressed as a percentage of unassisted births, with a more positive number being more desirable.

**Birth Weight (BW):** An indicator of birth weight and calving ease. Larger BW EPDs typically, but not always, indicate more calving difficulty.

**Weaning Weight (WW):** Weaning weight measures the differences in weight of calves at weaning, and is also reported in pounds. A higher WW EPD indicates an expected higher weaning weight.

**Yearling Weight (YW):** Like other weight traits, YW measure the differences in weight of animals at yearling, and is also expressed in pounds. Higher YW EPDs indicate a higher expected yearling weight.

**Milk (MK):** The expected differences in weaning weight of a bull's daughters' calves due to their milking ability. A higher MK EPD indicates a higher weaning weight due to the bull's daughters' milking ability.

**Total Maternal (TM):** TM predicts the total difference in weight of a bull's daughters' calves at weaning. A portion of this difference in weight comes from the milking ability of the bull's daughters (MK EPD), and a portion comes from the genes for growth passed from the bull to his daughters and then on to their calves. The TM EPD is calculated by taking  $\frac{1}{2}$  of a bull's WW EPD + his MK EPD.

**Stayability (ST):** Stayability is a measure of the percentage of a bull's daughters that will still be in the herd at six years old. Like CED and CEM, Stayability is expressed as a percentage. A higher ST EPD indicates a higher percentage of daughters staying in the herd.

**Yield Grade (YG):** This EPD is an indicator of overall carcass yield based on the USDA Yield Grade 1 to 5 scale (1 is the highest yield, 5 the lowest). Animals with a lesser value for their YG EPD are more likely to produce offspring with more desirable USDA Yield Grade scores.

**Carcass Weight (CW):** expressed in pounds as a predictor of the differences in hot carcass weight of a sire's progeny compared to progeny of other sires.

**Marbling Score (MB):** evaluation of intramuscular fat deposition in the ribeye as expressed in percentage intramuscular fat. Higher values indicate genetics that are expected to have a higher marbling score and quality grade.

**Backfat (FT):** Fat thickness measures the amount of back fat on a carcass. FT is reported in inches. A lower FT EPD indicates a bull whose progeny will have less fat on the carcass than a bull with a higher FT EPD.

**Ribeye Area (REA):** REA measures the difference in ribeye area of a bull's progeny. REA is measured in square inches. A higher REA EPD is indicative of expected larger ribeyes.

**Calving Ease Direct (\$CEZ):** This index assumes a bull will only be mated to heifers, not cows. The potential profitability of the sire is measured by the incidence of live calves at birth. Moderate mature size is also emphasized in the index, but performance is not a priority.

**British Maternal Index (\$BMI):** This multi-trait selection index attempts to measure a bull's potential profitability when complimenting the British cow base (Angus, Red Angus, Hereford, etc.). Shorthorn females can

likewise be gauged at adding value to British or British composite bulls of other breeds. A balance of growth and carcass traits is desired with a strong maternal component aimed at optimum reproductive efficiency and cow longevity.

**Feedlot (\$F):** \$Feedlot places strong emphasis on growth and carcass traits. This multi-trait index assumes the sire will be mated to a mix of heifers and cows and attempts to measure profitability when progeny are sold on the fed market. On the female side, mature size should be monitored closely when selecting for \$F.

### ***What is accuracy?***

The accuracy of an EPD is a measure of the confidence of the genetic merit prediction. Accuracy of an EPD ranges from 0 to 0.99. As EPD accuracy increases, you can be more confident that the EPD is a true indicator of an animal's genetic merit. Accuracies increase as more performance data is recorded on progeny and relatives of an animal. When looking at the accuracy of an animal's EPDs, here are some rules of thumb to consider:

**Accuracy less than 0.40:** Low accuracy. Young animals and animals with little recorded progeny performance data will generally have low accuracy EPDs. Low accuracy EPDs are the most apt to change.

**Accuracy 0.41-0.60:** Medium accuracy. Animals have some progeny data recorded, but there is still possibility for medium accuracy EPDs to change.

**Accuracy 0.61-0.80:** High accuracy. Animals have large quantities of progeny data recorded. EPDs in this range are not likely to change.

**Accuracy greater than 0.81:** Very high accuracy. The animals with the greatest amounts of progeny data fall into this category. EPDs are unlikely to change.

# DNA/AI CERT. FAQ's

### ***When is DNA testing a requirement?***

- In order for bulls to be AI sires
- In order for cows to be Donor Dams
- When both parents are confirmed carriers of DS
- When registering ET calves, both the Donor Dam and Sire require DNA to be on file
- Herd sires; Shorthorn, ShorthornPlus, & Durham Red bulls born after January 1, 2022, who will sire calves

### ***How do I test my animal?***

The lab can use blood, hair, tissue (TSU), or semen for DNA testing. You can find the DNA submission form on [shorthorn.org/dna-testing/](http://shorthorn.org/dna-testing/). Both need to be sent together to the ASA office for processing.

### ***How long does it take to obtain DNA results?***

Typically, anywhere from 3-6 weeks. We email results, so be sure to include your email address on the submission form.

### ***What if the sire is older and I can't get a sample on him to test?***

This question pertains to older cows too! The answer is simple- you can test the resulting calf in place of the parent, for whatever test they are missing.

### ***Is there a correlation between DNA and AI certificates?***

Yes! In order for a bull to be considered 'AI Sire Qualified', he must have parentage, TH, PHA, and DS on file. Then, AI certificates can be released on him. Once all DNA is on file, his owner(s) can choose to make him a non-certificate bull.

### ***Where can I get AI certificates?***

You will need to either contact the owner of the bull, or a semen distributor, for AI certificates. You will need one certificate per calf.



# AJSA SCHOLARSHIPS

The Shorthorn Foundation and the American Shorthorn Association believe offering college support to the youth of the association is very important, as they are a part of the future of the industry and the Shorthorn breed. The Foundation, as well as the ASA, sponsor scholarships which are made available to American Junior Shorthorn Association members.

AJSA members are eligible to apply for up to three of the scholarships: Mike Dugdale Memorial Scholarship, John C. “Jack” Ragsdale Scholarship, Don Longley Memorial Scholarships (4), Lyle and Katharyn DeWitt Memorial Scholarship, Jesse M. & Jennie S. Duckett Memorial Scholarship, Charles B. “Chuck” Leemon Memorial Scholarship, Jared & Justin Bedwell Memorial Scholarship and the John Miller Scholarship.

## Mike Dugdale Memorial Scholarship

The \$1,500 Dugdale Scholarship is awarded to a collegiate upperclassman who is an active AJSA member with a sincere interest in improving the beef cattle industry after college.

## John C. “Jack” Ragsdale Scholarship

The \$1,500 Jack Ragsdale Scholarship is awarded to a high school senior or college freshman who is an active AJSA member with an appreciation for the purebred livestock industry, and a sincere interest in learning how to evaluate livestock.

## Don Longley Memorial Scholarships

Each year four \$1,500 Longley Memorial Scholarships are awarded. The scholarships are sponsored by The Shorthorn Foundation and awarded to high school seniors or college freshmen based upon Shorthorn involvement, academic achievement, need, and participation in community activities.

## Lyle & Katharyn DeWitt Memorial Scholarship

The one \$1,500 Lyle and Katharyn DeWitt Memorial Scholarship is sponsored by The Shorthorn Foundation and awarded to high school seniors or college freshmen based upon Shorthorn involvement, academic achievement, need, and participation in community activities.

## Jesse M. & Jennie S. Duckett Memorial Scholarship

The \$1,500 Jesse M. & Jennie S. Duckett Memorial Scholarship is sponsored by The Shorthorn Foundation and

awarded to high school seniors or college freshmen based upon the applicants’ involvement in Agriculture, educational background, ACT scores, and high school and/or college GPA.

## Charles B. “Chuck” Leemon Memorial Scholarship

The \$2,500 Charles B. “Chuck” Leemon Memorial Scholarship is sponsored by the family of Chuck Leemon in cooperation with The Shorthorn Foundation and awarded to a college student based upon the applicants’ involvement, future goals and career plans in Agriculture, college GPA, and character references.

## Jared & Justin Bedwell Memorial Scholarship

The \$1,500 Jared & Justin Bedwell Memorial Scholarship is sponsored by the family of Jared & Justin Bedwell in cooperation with The Shorthorn Foundation and awarded to a high school senior, college freshman or college sophomore based upon the applicants’ involvement, future goals and career plans in Agriculture, college GPA, and character references.

## John Miller Scholarship

The \$2,500 John Miller Scholarship is awarded to the collegiate upperclassman (including trade schools) who is an active AJSA member with an emphasis to be placed on the recipient having interest in making Shorthorns more viable in the commercial cattle industry.

Please note that scholarship candidates may only apply for up to three scholarships offered by The Shorthorn Foundation.



# SHORTHORN LASSIES

The National Shorthorn Lassies serve as the women's auxiliary of the American Shorthorn Association. Officially organized in 1956, Lassies encourage and extend the influence of Shorthorn Breeding, promote the interest of its membership, encourage activity, and cultivate closer relationships among members. The Lassies also arrange exhibits at national shows, present awards, publicize the breed, provide reception committees, and conduct activities that pertain to the National Queen contest along with other promotional activities. A National and Alternate Lassie Queen are selected at the National Junior Shorthorn Show & Youth Conference and serve a one year term.



# INTERNSHIPS



Paid full time internships are offered each summer. Applications are open to any self-motivated, energetic, college student with an interest in an agricultural related field after college. This is an outstanding opportunity to attain training and work experience in an association atmosphere. Interns will assist with programs of the ASA and AJSA, such as the planning and execution of the National Junior Shorthorn Show & Youth Conference. Activities include, but are not limited to composing press releases, creative design work, media interaction, correspondence with planning committees, and data entry input and event organization.

# BECOME A LEADER

The American Junior Shorthorn Association is led by a team of nine outstanding individuals. Eligible seats are filled by their peers to lead the organization and carry out activities, programs, and events for the association. This is an opportunity to learn about teamwork, responsibility and leadership. The mission is to positively impact the leaders of tomorrow and today by committing themselves to the Shorthorn breed, its members and each other. Visit [juniorshorthorn.com](http://juniorshorthorn.com) for more information on junior board requirements. Applications are due April 10th.





# SUMMIT LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

The Summit Leadership Conference is hosted by IGS breed partners for juniors age 14-22. This event fosters new friendships and develops leadership skills for the future. The conference is hosted every other summer and attendees will expand their knowledge on the agricultural industry. Participation is not limited to Short-horn juniors; anyone involved with the agricultural industry can attend.

## NATIONAL JUNIOR SHORTHORN SHOW & YOUTH CONFERENCE

Junior Shorthorn enthusiasts from across the nation participate in this event not only with animals but also other activities. Other educational opportunities are provided by contests, workshops, youth conference sessions, and social functions throughout the week.

- Purebred and ShorthornPlus Shows
- Bulls, Heifers, Steers, Cow/Calf pair Classes
- Owned and Bred & Owned Shows
- Photography, poster, and arts contests
- Speech, salesmanship and quiz bowl contests
- Showmanship, judging and other contests

### JUNIOR NATIONAL FAQs

Q: What is the minimum age to show at Junior National?

A: Exhibitors must be between 7-22. (Must be 7 and no older than 21 by Jan. 1 of the current year.)

Q: What are the ages to be able to participate in contests at NJSS?

A: Participants must be 5-22. (Must be 5 and no older than 21 by Jan. 1 of the current year.)

Q: Do you have to be a junior member to participate at NJSS?

A: Yes, you are required to be a member to participate at NJSS.

Q: What percentage is required for ShorthornPlus animals?

A: All females must be at least 50% to show in the ShorthornPlus show. Steers can be 25% to show.

Q: What qualifies as bred and owned?

A: To show an animal as bred and owned, the exhibitor must have owned the dam of the calf they are exhibiting at the time of conception. The dam must have been in the individual exhibitor's name and not a farm name.

## EDGE NEWSLETTER

The EDGE newsletter, the official publication of the AJSA, is available once a year. It keeps members up-to-date with the current news and opportunities of the AJSA and contains additional information pertaining to the National Junior Shorthorn Show and Conference.

**AJSA Membership Handbook**  
[juniorshorthorn.org](http://juniorshorthorn.org)

**Stay up-to-date on all Junior Shorthorn activities.**  
[facebook.com/americanjuniorshorthornassociation/](https://facebook.com/americanjuniorshorthornassociation/)

# HISTORY OF THE AJSA

The newly formed American Junior Shorthorn Association (AJSA) held its first National Shorthorn Youth Conference on July 22, 1968, in Louisville, Ky., where the first president, Mark Tracy, of Boulder, Colo., was elected. AJSA began the National Junior Shorthorn Show as a stand-alone event in 1973 at the fairgrounds in Springfield, Ill. In 1981, the Youth Conference and Show were combined to form an annual summer event, held in various cities throughout the United States. AJSA now boasts more than 4,000 junior members and is one of the top junior beef programs available in the U.S. While participating in Shorthorn projects, youth develop skills that can be transferred to careers in the agricultural industry. The association also provides youth with many opportunities leading to careers in any field of their choosing.

## THE SHORTHORN FAMILY

Members of the AJSA enjoy being a part of one of the largest youth organizations in the beef industry. Since the association is member driven and led by a Junior Board of Directors, all Shorthorn juniors make a contribution to the future of the organization. Often acknowledged as “The Shorthorn Family,” members are enthusiastic about helping each other and working together to improve the breed. Many states have active state junior associations who work on year-long projects and travel together to various Shorthorn functions.

## MISSION

The AJSA strives to brighten the future of the Shorthorn breed by engaging its members in opportunities which develop character, promote valuable skills, and build life-long friendships.



The Shorthorn Youth Development Fund was established in 2020 to provide financial support to develop Shorthorn youth as cattle producers and responsible, productive citizens. The fund is dedicated to enriching the lives of youth interested in agriculture, through support for the educational and leadership activities of the American Junior Shorthorn Association.

According to a 2015 survey conducted at the Shorthorn Impact Conference, 61% of the breeders in attendance were junior members. These active members of the American Shorthorn Association prove how important youth development is, and that junior involvement is the pathway to the future success of our breed.

One example of excellent programming for junior members is the National Junior Shorthorn Show & Youth Conference. Close to 400 young people and their families come together to compete with cattle in the show ring and as individuals and teams in a variety of contests. It's an action-packed week of learning and fun that develops skills, knowledge and confidence, along with love for the breed and friendships that last a lifetime. The cost to produce this annual event is more than \$250,000, raised through sponsorships and donations.

The Shorthorn Youth Development Fund is a non-profit organization and resource that allows you to directly invest in the future of the breed that is your business, your lifestyle and your passion. The reason for building this new fundraising platform was to streamline the donation process and make contributing to youth development more accessible for everyone, especially those whose business directly benefits from junior and family customers.

The fund accepts checks, credit cards and direct debit from your bank account. You can even set your contribution up to be billed directly to your DigitalBeef Shorthorn Registry account on a one time, monthly or quarterly basis. No contribution is too small, and every dollar counts!

By making the commitment to “pay it forward” to the Shorthorn Youth Development Fund, today's breeders accept responsibility of seeing to it that our youth have the development opportunities they need to prepare for their time as the Shorthorn breeders of tomorrow.

Contact the ASA office for more information on how to get involved.

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# 2023 MEMBERSHIP HANDBOOK