

Standard of Excellence

HEIGHT: Not to exceed 14 hands high.

HEAD: Head should show quality, with alert, well proportioned ears, flat forehead, large dark well filled eyes, with open nostrils. The head should be set on a well defined gullet.

NECK: Neck should be slightly crested with good length of rein and no sign of coarseness.

SHOULDERS: Shoulders should slope back to well defined withers. The shoulders should show no trace of heaviness or coarseness and the chest should be neither too narrow nor too wide.

BACK: Back should be strong and the loins well coupled with deep girth and well ribbed.

HINDQUARTERS: The hindquarters should be well rounded and showing good proportionate length of croup.

TAIL: The tail should be well set on, perfectly straight and gaily carried.

LEGS: Bone should be quite flat, showing strength without coarseness. Joints should be well shaped and proportionate to the pony. Cannon bones should be short and straight and pasterns of moderate slope and with proportionate length.

HOOVES: The hooves should be strong, neat and well shaped.

GAIT: Action should be smooth showing free flexion of joints without exaggeration. The stride should be of good length, straight and true.

GENERAL: The pony should have good presence and should show quality, character, alertness and good ground coverage. The feet should be well placed, standing square and true.

The Australian Pony Today

Although times have changed and ponies today are not required to earn their keep to the extent of yesteryear, the same qualities that made the Australian Pony so popular then, are still appreciated today—versatility, soundness and a quiet and tractable temperament.

Their character and true pony type has placed the breed well to the fore in the world of showing. Such is their ability to adapt that the same pony can collect a prestigious show ring award one day and compete equally well at Pony Club the next.

An Australian Pony competed successfully in harness, in England and the U.K. against top class competition. Several Australian Ponies have been exported to America and have competed successfully in the field of hunter equitation.

The Australian Pony has provided an excellent base for the foundation sections of all other pony breeds, enabling them to upgrade and achieve pure bred status within their sections.



AUSTRALIAN PONY STUD BOOK SOCIETY Inc.

For Particulars of registration and membership contact the Registrar:

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The Australian Pony Stud Book Society Inc.



Established: 1931

The Australian Pony



The Australian Pony

One of the nine pony breeds registered under the umbrella of the Australian Pony Stud Book Society Inc. There has been a separate section for Australian ponies within the Australian Pony Stud Book since its inception in 1931. They are allotted the suffix 'A' following their registered number. The height limit is 14hh.

Brief History of Australian Pony

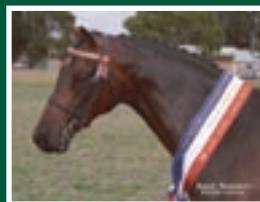
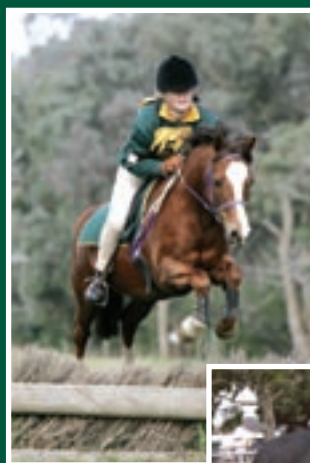
The Australian Pony, unique to this country, is a breed evolved from the blending of various breeds of equine imported to Australia since the early 1800s.

Within the bloodlines of the Australian Pony can be found the best of the Welsh Mountain, Welsh and Hungarian pony breeds, Arab, Thoroughbred, Hackney and with an infusion of lesser known breeds.

The breeding of ponies was established in many states well before the turn of this century. Purebred ponies of various breeds had been imported from England and the U.K. from around 1890, further imports ensured interest in pony breeding flourished.

It must be remembered that in those early days, the majority of ponies had to earn their keep, by providing transport for the family either by saddle or harness, as well as performing numerous other tasks. Therefore of necessity, they had to be sound, versatile and of good temperament, as showing was not the primary role for most of them.

With the foundation of the Australian Pony Stud Book Society in 1931, initially three breed sections were set in place within the Stud book. Shetland pony, Hackney pony and Australian. The latter incorporated all other Mountain and Moorland pony breeds imported to this country from the turn of the century to that time. This section also contained the registrations of the 'homebred' ponies thus establishing the genetic pool responsible for the Australian pony as a breed.



The Australian pony quickly established itself as a versatile, hardy and tractable pony, able to fill the requirements needed for a pony in those times.

The Third Generation Australian Pony

There are two lines of breeding within the Australian Pony section. Those breeders who use the permitted single outcross to the APSB Welsh Section A or B and those who choose to breed within the section and follow the Third Generation Australian Pony line. The Third Generation pony is one whose parents and grandparents are registered in the Australian section, and who are Australian on breeding and not a purebred of another breed. Classes for eligible ponies are included at royals, and major agricultural shows throughout Australia.

