



GVHS REGISTRATION POLICY and PROCEDURES

The Gypsy Vanner Horse Society[GVHS] maintains the studbooks of purebred Gypsy Vanner Horses. A horse cannot be called a Gypsy Vanner Horse until it has met all the criteria for registration with the GVHS studbooks as it is from time to time amended. There will be three separate studbooks maintained by the GVHS, The Regular Gypsy Vanner Studbook and The Gypsy Vanner Pre Studbook and a Temporary Studbook. All horse registered prior to April 1, 2009 are in The Gypsy Vanner Studbook.

I TO BEGIN THE REGISTRATION PROCESS SUBMIT THE FOLLOWING:

1. GVHS Registration Application
2. Appropriate photographs as shown in the document “How to Take Photos for Registration”
3. Fees
4. Other forms or documents as requested

II REGISTRATION FOR HORSES WITH VERIFIABLE PARENTAGE

- A. Horses with verifiable parentage:
 - a. Sire is registered in the GVHS Regular or Pre Studbook, and
 - b. Dam is registered in the GVHS Regular or Pre Studbook, then
 - c. Horse will be Registered in the GVHS Regular Studbook upon receipt of items in Section I, 1-5.
- B. Horses with verifiable parentage:
 - a. Sire is registered in the GVHS Regular or Pre Studbook, and
 - b. Dam can be DNA verified and,
 - c. The Registration Committee approves,
 - d. The horse will be registered into the GVHS Regular Studbook upon receipt of items in Section I 1-5.
- C. Horses with verifiable parentage
 - a. Non GVHS registered Sire can be DNA verified, and
 - b. Dam can be DNA verified (registered in Pre or Regular Studbook or unregistered), and
 - c. The Registration Committee approves,
 - d. The horse will be registered in the Pre Studbook after receipt of the items in Section I 1-5

III REGISTRATION FOR HORSES WITHOUT VERIFIABLE PARENTAGE

- A. Starting January 1, 2017, any mare or stallion with one or both parents not DNA- verified **will not be eligible** for registration until one of the following events occurs:
 1. DNA parentage qualification is confirmed on both sire and dam, at which time the registration will be processed based on the rules in place. OR

2. The horse is presented at a GVHS evaluation and scores a 7 (x2) or higher in breed type, AND a 70 or higher overall score in conformation/movement. The registration fee and the evaluation fee must be paid prior to the evaluation.
 - a. These scores will qualify the horse to be registered into the Regular Gypsy Vanner studbook after receipt of the items in Section I 1-5.
 - b. If a horse fails to achieve the required scores it can be presented again at a later date for re-evaluation. OR
 3. **HARDSHIP** Registration of a Stallion or Mare with unknown and/or unverifiable parentage. (1/1/2020)
 - a. The horse must be foaled prior to January 1, 2017.
 - b. Submit application documents and photos (see Section I). A video of the horse is also required. Specific instructions will be provided.
 - c. Pay the non- refundable hardship fee in addition to the registration and DNA fee.
 - d. The registration committee must approve the registration.
 - e. Upon approval the horse will be registered into the pre studbook and a letter H will be added to the registration number to designate the horse is a hardship registration.
- B. If the sire and dam of a horse submitted for registration cannot be DNA qualified “Unrecorded” may be put into that record as the sire and/or dam. If at a later date the sire or dam can be DNA verified then the GVHS records will be updated. The Registration certificate may be updated. (rev 2/19/2026)

IV STUDBOOK TRANSFERS

- A. To be eligible to transfer registration from the GVHS Pre Studbook to the GVHS Regular Studbook one of the following must apply:
1. The parentage is DNA verified and the horse qualifies to move to the Regular Studbook based on other rules in place. OR
 2. Horses may be presented at a GVHS Evaluation and score 7 (x2) or higher in Breed Type AND 70 or higher overall in Conformation/Movement.
- B. To be transferred from GVHS Temporary Studbook to permanent GVHS Registration:
1. If parentage becomes verified by DNA, horse will transfer to another studbook based on the current rules in place-
 2. Upon reaching 3 years of age, the horse can apply for permanent registration into the Pre-Stud Book. A temporary registration will expire on the horse’s fifth birthday if they have not applied for permanent registration. To go from temporary to permanent registration, the temporary registration certificate, temporary to permanent registration form and current photos must be submitted, and the horse must be approved by the Registration Committee. (rev.02/27/10)

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V The REGISTRATION COMMITTEE: (rev 12/2012)

- A. Upon receipt of the complete application, the Registrar will communicate the registration photographs to Registration Committee members. The Registration Committee members will only see the photos and assigned number, the information regarding the sire and dam of the horse if known and the height of the horse. The Registration Committee will not be provided information regarding the owner, importer, or name of the horse. The Registrar will receive written confirmation of the Registration Committee members accepting or denying approval. If the horse is approved, the Registrar will continue to process the registration based on the rules that apply.
- B. The Registration Committee has five Committee members, plus one alternate, all appointed by the Board of Directors:
 - 1. There are no term limits. The Board of Directors can add or remove a committee member at any time. (1/2019)
 - 2. Each Committee member must attend and complete a GVHS training seminar.
 - 3. Registration Committee members must be a general or lifetime member of the GVHS and in good standing.
 - 4. Registration Committee members must sign the GVHS Code of Ethics.
 - 5. A Registration Committee member must have access to high speed internet and email service, and the ability to respond in a timely manner.
 - 6. The Registrar cannot serve on the Registration Committee.
 - 7. A member of the Board of Directors should always be on the Committee, however, there should be no more than the one Board representative on the Registration Committee as the BOD must remain independent to undertake any reviews upon appeal of Registration Committee decisions.
 - 8. The Director on the committee will always serve as the alternate. The alternate will only be included in the horse approval decision if a regular committee member is unavailable for an extended period of time, such as an illness or vacation, or if the horse is owned by one of the regular committee members. (1/2019)
 - 9. No Registration Committee member should be actively judging GVHS horses during their term.
 - 10. For a horse to be approved by the Committee, 4 of the 5 Committee members reviewing the horse must agree in order for the horse to be approved.
 - 11. If a committee member declines to accept the horse for registration they must convey the reason in writing (email) to the Registrar.
 - 12. The decision of the Committee can be appealed in writing to the Board of Directors by submitting the written appeal through the Registrar's office.

VI ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION (AI) AND TRANSPORTED SEMEN

- A. **Types.** On-Premise and Off-Premise (Transported Semen) Artificial Insemination includes the use of fresh extended, fresh cooled, and/or frozen semen.

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- B. **Transported Semen.** Breeding by the use of transported semen refers to any breeding by artificial insemination that takes place at a location other than the premises where the stallion whose semen is used is standing.
- C. **Artificial Insemination** – the same rules and documentation applies to artificial insemination using fresh extended and fresh cooled semen, as applies to live breeding. See Section XII Breeding Records.
- D. **Frozen Semen of Live Stallion** -The use of frozen semen of a live stallion is allowed. The owner, leese, or owner's agent will be responsible for the filing and fees of the Stallion Breeding Reports and for providing mare owners with a breeding certificate.
- E. **Frozen Semen of Deceased Stallion Use Permitted.** The use of frozen semen of a deceased stallion will be permitted indefinitely after the stallion is deceased. The stallion must be registered in the Gypsy Vanner Studbook, with official DNA recorded before his death. The owner of the stallion must provide the date of death of the stallion along with the original Certificate of Registration to the Society. The original Certificate of Registration will be returned to the owner of the deceased stallion after the front of the certificate is marked "Deceased".
 - a. **Only GVHS Registered Mares May be Used.** Only GVHS registered mares at the time of breeding will be eligible for breeding with frozen semen from a deceased stallion.
 - b. **Owner of Stallion at Death Responsible for Stallion Breeding Reports Involving Frozen Semen.** The recorded owner, or authorized agent, of the stallion at the time of death is responsible for the filing, and the fees associated with, the Stallion Breeding Report for any breeding in which frozen semen is used. All other rules governing Stallion Breeding Reports apply.
 - c. **Signature of Breeder's Certificate Involving Use of Deceased Stallion's Frozen Semen.** The signature of the recorded owner, or authorized agent of the recorded owner of the stallion at the time of death will be required on the Breeder's Certificate. The recorded owner or authorized agent of the recorded owner of the stallion at the time of death is the only person allowed to sign the Stallion Breeding Reports.
 - d. **Genetic Information on File; Qualification of Offspring.** Genetic DNA profile information must be on file for the deceased stallion and any mare bred using the frozen semen of the deceased stallion. An applicant horse must qualify as an offspring of the both the reported sire and dam as determined by a laboratory approved by the GVHS.

VII FROZEN SEMEN OF A GELDING

- A. **Use Permitted.** The use of frozen semen of geldings will be permitted indefinitely after the date of castration. The gelding must be registered in a Gypsy Vanner Studbook before castration. The original Certificate of Registration along with the date of castration must be submitted to the Society. Proper notation will be made to the Certificate of Registration without charge and returned to the recorded owner showing the horse as a gelding.
- B. **The same rules** in Section VI will apply to use of frozen semen of a gelding.

VIII EMBRYO TRANSFER

General Definition. Embryo transfer is the transfer of an embryo from its genetic dam, known as the donor mare, to another mare, known as the recipient mare that acts as the host and carries the foal.

A. Status Noted on Certificate of Registration. If the applicant horse is the result of an embryo transfer it may be noted on the registration certificate.

B. Use of Frozen Ovum Permitted. The use of a frozen ovum, or egg, of a deceased mare will be permitted indefinitely after the mare is deceased. The deceased mare must have been registered with the Society at time of death. The recorded owner of the mare must provide the date of death of the mare along with the original Certificate of Registration to the Society. The original Certificate of Registration will be returned to the owner of the deceased mare after the front of the certificate is marked "Deceased".

C. Only Registered Stallions May be used. Only stallions registered in the Gypsy Vanner Horse Studbooks at the time of breeding are eligible for breeding with the frozen ovum of a deceased mare.

D. Signature of Breeder's Certificate Involving Use of Frozen Ovum. The signature of the recorded owner of the deceased genetic dam at the time of breeding will be required on the Breeder's Certificate portion and Ownership section of a Registration Application. If there is a Transfer of Ownership of the foal at the time of registration, the recorded owner of the deceased genetic dam will be required in the Transfer section of the Registration Application.

E. Genetic Information on File; Qualification of Offspring. Genetic DNA information must be on file with the Society for the deceased mare and any stallion breeding to the frozen ovum of the deceased mare. All applicant horses must qualify as an offspring of both the reported sire and dam as determined by a laboratory approved by the Society.

F. Disclosure of Reproductive Material Upon Transfer of Ownership. Upon the transfer of ownership of a GVHS-registered mare, the seller shall disclose on the official GVHS Transfer of Ownership form whether any reproductive material from that mare remains in the seller's possession. If such reproductive material exists, the seller shall indicate whether ALL, SOME, or NONE of any of the reproductive material including but not limited to embryos, oocytes (eggs), and ICSI-derived reproductive material is being transferred to the buyer. (7/21/26)

IX CLONED FOALS. Cloned horses and their offspring (9/2023) **are not eligible** for registration.

X CRYPTORCHID STALLIONS. The use of cryptorchid [mono and bilateral cryptorchid] stallions for breeding is prohibited. No offspring from a cryptorchid stallion will be accepted for registration.

XI REGISTERED NAMES

- A. The complete name of a horse must not exceed forty (40) spaces, inclusive of prefix, letters, punctuation marks, and blanks.
- B. A complete name which has been previously recorded for a registered Gypsy Vanner Horse cannot be used.
- C. No names will be accepted that are deemed to be offensive.
- D. The Registrar may refuse to accept a name that it deems to be confusingly similar to a name or prefix previously recorded or to be otherwise unsuitable.
- E. A previously used name followed by "Second," "Third," or "Junior," etc., can be used.
- F. Numerical symbols cannot be used in the name of a horse except as part of a farm name.
- G. A horse's name may not be changed once the horse has been registered except as allowed in section XVI below.
- H. If the application is for an imported horse the name submitted can be different from the name on the passport or other import documents. If there is a passport for the imported horse a

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copy of it must be submitted with the registration application. If no passport was required for import, a copy of other importation paperwork can be submitted.

XII. REGISTERED PREFIXES

A registered prefix is a name, word, letters, or combinations of these, preceding a name, recorded with the Registrar and used exclusively by the owners of Gypsy Vanner Horses for the purpose of distinguishing horses bred by them from those of other Gypsy Vanner Horse breeders.

The Gypsy Vanner Horse Society will record and recognize exclusive use of a prefix for registration purposes:

1. The word(s) selected as a proposed prefix cannot be the complete name of a registered Gypsy Vanner Horse.
2. The applicant can only have one active prefix.
3. The prefix application has been correctly completed and submitted with the appropriate fee.
4. The Registrar does not deem the prefix to be confusingly similar to a name or prefix previously recorded or otherwise unsuitable.
5. The prefix will be at least 2 spaces and will be included in the 40 character limit that can be used in the name on the registration. A number may be used in a prefix but not in the horses name following.
6. A prefix can only be owned by one person or farm and cannot be transferred, except In instances of herd or dispersal sales where all or a large part of a herd is sold to one purchaser, the herd prefix may be transferred to the new owner(s) upon written permission of the prefix owner and approval of the BOD.
7. The Gypsy Vanner Horse Society reserves the right to approve or deny use of any prefix.
8. No prefix considered offensive in anyway will be approved.
9. Registration of a prefix by The Gypsy Vanner Horse Society protects it from being used by others when registering Gypsy Vanner horses. It does not protect the name beyond the Gypsy Vanner Horse Society use.
10. The registration of a prefix does not supersede the US laws concerning trademarks or certification marks.
11. ~~A, word name, letter, or combination of these, preceding a name, not recorded as a prefix with the Registrar, may be used by other breeders, until registered for the exclusive use of one breeder.~~ Only a GVHS registered prefix will be included on a horses name (1/1/2024)
12. A registered prefix can only be used by the recorded owner of that prefix. The recorded owner of a prefix may grant permission, in writing and on file with the Registrar, to allow an immediate family member in the same household to allow use of that prefix.
13. If a person (or Farm) purchases a prefix it then must be used as the prefix of the name when registering all foals bred by the person (or Farm).
14. Every animal bred by the prefix owner shall be named using their registered prefix
15. The breeder is considered to be the person who owns or leases the dam at the time of breeding of the mare. (Dec 2020)
16. Animals sold in utero will use the prefix of the owner of the dam. (Dec 2020)
17. The words Vanner, Romany, and Gypsy can not be used alone as a prefix.

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18. Horses that were named prior to registration of a prefix can have the prefix added to their current name by submitting a name change form. This includes horses that may already have registered offspring. Name change fee applies. This does not count as the "one time only" name change. (Dec 2020)

19. Horses that are submitted for a name change and the breeder has subsequently registered a prefix, that prefix is required to be added to the new name. (Dec 2020)

20. A breeder may choose to abandon a prefix and may immediately purchase a new one. This can be done a total of 2 times by the same breeder. (May 2022)

XIII CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION

A. The original Certificate of Registration will be issued in the name of the person who was the recorded owner or recorded lessee of the dam at the time of foaling or in the name of the person designated by the recorded owner or the recorded lessee.

B. Foals pre-sold in-utero, or sold as embryo transfers, will still be considered owned and bred by the owner of the dam, and a transfer of ownership must be made.

C. A Certificate of Registration is a certification of information contained in the records of the Registrar.

D. The Registrar will issue registration numbers in consecutive order, based upon the order in which the applications are processed by the Registrar.

E. A breeder has the option to have a "NOT FOR BREEDING" registration certificate issued for genetic issues of a filly prior to being sold. The breeder will submit a veterinarian statement regarding the genetic issue to the GVHS registrar. The information will be reviewed on an individual basis. Once a horse is designated, as NOT FOR BREEDING, no offspring from that horse will be eligible for registration. Colts with genetic issues are expected to be gelded prior to being sold. (6/2023)

XIV TRANSFER OF RECORD OF OWNERSHIP

A. To transfer the recorded ownership of a registered horse, the original certificate of registration shall be returned and a transfer form correctly completed, properly signed and the appropriate fee must be submitted to the Registrar upon every change of ownership of the horse.

B. Whenever legal title of a registered horse passes to another person by reason of death of the recorded owner, foreclosure of any lien, by any order or decree of court, or otherwise by operation of law, the Registrar may transfer the registration of the subject horse to the new owner:

1. Upon court order of competent jurisdiction or other satisfactory proof of authority for the transfer.

2. Upon payment of the transfer fee.

3. Upon satisfaction of such other requirements as may be required by the GVHS Board of Directors.

XV DUPLICATE REGISTRATION CERTIFICATES

A Duplicate Registration Certificate may be issued:

1. providing there is satisfactory proof of loss, destruction, or other reason for the unavailability of the original Certificate is provided.

2. An official Registry application for a Duplicate Registration Certificate has been correctly completed and submitted by the owner to the Registrar.

3. Clear, discernible color photographs of the horse are provided upon request, individually labeled with the name, registration number, date of birth, coat color, sex, markings, and date the photograph was taken. Photographs must show full views of the left, right, front, and rear of the horse. In order to show all markings, photographs must include all four legs, left and right side views of the body, front view of the head, and rear view of the hindquarters.
4. By the issuance of a Duplicate Registration Certificate all prior certificates of the horse are declared null and void.

XVI NAME CHANGE

A horse's name may be changed one time per the life of the horse by the recorded owner if:

1. The horse has not been shown in a sanctioned GVHS show.
2. The horse has no registered offspring.
3. A registered prefix is not removed.
4. The original Certificate of Registration is returned along with the name change request, applicable fee, and a letter from the person who originally registered and paid to register the horse (2/2023), agreeing to the name change.
5. The new name must meet the requirement of subsection XI above.
6. Addition of a prefix only name change (XII. 18.) will not be considered the "one time only" name change. (Dec 2020)
7. If a breeder has a registered prefix at the time of the name change that prefix must be added to the name. (Dec 2020)

XVII BREEDING RECORDS

All stallion owners should submit an annual stallion breeding report to the Registrar on the form provided by the Gypsy Vanner Horse Society.

The stallion owner must provide to the owner of each mare bred a breeding certificate as provided by the Gypsy Vanner Horse Society.

A. DEATH

Upon the death of a registered Gypsy Vanner Horse the original registration certificate must be returned to the registrar within 90 days. The certificate will be recorded with the date of death and returned to the final owner of the deceased animal. The date will also be recorded in the permanent records of the registry.

B. LEASE

An official GVHS lease agreements must be filed with the Registrar with the following:

1. Registration name and number of the horse being leased.
2. Names and addresses of lessor(s) and lessee(s) clearly typed or printed.
3. Beginning and termination dates of the lease. If termination date is "until further notice," so state.
4. The personal signatures of the lessor(s) and lessee(s).

C. APPLICATION DENIAL

1. Any application for registration or transfer may be denied if it is not established to the satisfaction of the Registrar that all matters relating to the registration or transfer are in proper order.

2. For any situation in which it appears that there may have been irregularities in connection with the registration or transfer of any horse, the Registrar may require the recorded owner(s) or recorded lessee(s) of that horse to furnish such blood type or DNA analysis reports and other documents relating to the circumstances of the registration or transfer. In the event of failure to furnish this information, the registration or transfer, as well as all entries that may have been made with respect to the descendants of that horse, may be expunged by the Board of Directors of the GVHS.
3. The burden of proof for the registration or transfer of a horse is the responsibility of the applicant.
4. If the registration or transfer is denied, the Registrar will send a notice to the owner in writing via mail or email, the reason for the denial. The Registration or Transfer process should result in the owner receiving an approval or denial letter within 60 days. Regardless if a horse is accepted for registration or denied, the fees are non-refundable. A horse can be resubmitted for registration or transfer if the reasons for denial are resolved. In a re-application the fees will not have to be paid again.

D. APPEAL PROCESS FOR DECLINED REGISTRATION

If the horse has been declined registration by the Registration Committee but meets all other requirements the owner has the right to appeal the decision by the following:

1. If the horse can be better presented in other photos you may submit new or future photos to the registrar, which will be resubmitted to the registration committee. There is no time limit to do so.
2. Request that the Registrar submit the photos and information regarding the horse to the GVHS Board of Directors to request review of registration decision.
3. Present the horse at a GVHS Evaluation, pay the evaluation fee. If the horse scores 7 (x2) or higher in breed type AND a score of 70 or higher overall it will be registered in the GVHS Regular Studbook.