

MEMBERSHIP TIPS

by Jerry Cassady, director of member services



Recent Rule Changes

During the recent quarterly board meeting of the American Angus Association, the Member Services committee adopted several key rule updates that may affect you and your program. Each of these updates passed with a unanimous vote by the committee.

First, Rule 102 was updated to include additional language to better protect the Association regarding the naming of animals. This was a simple, straightforward addition of wording that allows additional flexibility for editing the names assigned to animals within the registry.

Registration Naming

Rule 102: Registration — Form, Content and Methods

d. Miscellaneous

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.*

Second on the list was updating the rule associated with using multiple sires within a pasture. With parent-verification technology, exposing females to more than one sire during the breeding season has become popular with members to take advantage of the benefits of competitive breeding. As outlined within the Association Charter, the first purpose of the Association is to maintain breed purity. Therefore, if multiple sires are used, sire verification through parentage testing will be required for subsequent offspring.

Multi-sire Pasture Parentage Requirements

Rule 103: Animals Ineligible for Registration

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.**

The next rule discussed was the addition of requiring the condition bundle test for donor dams. As you know, parentage markers are required to be on file for all donor dams used for embryo transfer (ET). With this new requirement, donor females will also need to be tested for all conditions monitored by the Association prior to allowing resulting ET offspring to be registered. This new requirement will apply to any donor female born on or after Jan. 1, 2023. By

requiring condition testing for high-impact animals such as sires used for artificial insemination (AI), and donor dams used for embryo transfer (ET), the breed and the membership are better protected from unknown carrier animals that may have incorrect ancestry (see sidebar). This language was also applied to the rules associated with clone registration applications.

Donor Dam Bundle Requirement

Rule 104: Animals Eligible for Registration

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

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.**

Cell Clone Bundle Requirement

Rule 104: Animals Eligible for Registration

e. Calves resulting from cell-cloned transplants.

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.


The final proposed rule change focused on the fitting and exhibiting animals at events utilizing our show rules, regardless of financial support from the Association. This approved change was a rewording of section b. within Rule 805.

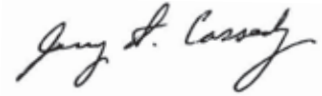
**Coloring Agents Statement Update
Rule 805: Alteration of
Conformation and Structure by
Use of Prohibited Substance or
Unethical Fitting**

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 you take a moment to review these rule changes and edits to the Breeder's Reference Guide, make note of how these updates may affect your management practices.

For example, if you are flushing donor females born since 2023 with an active ET program, know that you will need to add the condition bundle to each donor female. If you are exposing females to more than one sire in a pasture during breeding season, resulting calves will need to be sire-verified prior to registration. 



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Editor's note: In the event you have questions, or if you need more information regarding these rule changes, feel free to contact the Member Services department at 816-383-5100 or email me directly at jcassady@angus.org.

Requirements for AI Sires

- Parentage markers on file
- Condition bundle test — born on or after Jan. 1, 2018

Requirements for donor dams

- Parentage markers on file
- Condition bundle test — born on or after Jan. 1, 2023



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