

North American Shetland Sheepbreeders Association Registration Rules

1) Registration

Only members in good standing with registered flocks may register or transfer purebred Shetland Sheep in the U.S. and Canada. Sheep must be purebred Shetland offspring of previously registered (NASSA, RBST, SSS, or Canadian Livestock Record Corporation-CLRC) parents. Cross-bred or graded-up individuals are not eligible for registration. Shetland sheep previously registered as provisional ("P" prefix) are now considered part of the main NASSA register (same as if they were "S" prefix.) A member's dues must be paid for the year a lamb is born, and for the current year, in order to register that animal. All dues must be paid at the current membership rate. To register animals, submit the information on the official form, signed and dated by the owner of the animal at birth. A computer printout containing the necessary information is also acceptable, provided it is properly signed and dated. To register animals born to a leased ewe, include a signed statement from the owner of the ewe, indicating the dates that the lease was effective. To register lambs sired by rams not owned by the breeder, include a completed ram lease form signed by the owner of the ram. To register lambs sired through artificial insemination, follow the steps outlined in the AI policy. Once registered, an animal's registered name and flock prefix may not be changed. Gross errors may be corrected by the original flock owner, upon submission of proof of error. Duplicate names within a flock shall have a roman numeral appended.

2) Unworthy or Unsound animals

Unworthy or unsound sheep should not be registered. This includes: rams without two testicles of approximately equal size in the scrotum; rams which have horn growth endangering health; and any sheep with serious hereditary health problems or abnormalities.

3) New Flocks

Before registering sheep, new members must register their flocks and their chosen flock name prefix (maximum 12 characters), which will prefix the names of all sheep born in that flock. If a flock prefix is not registered with NASSA, the registration applications will be returned to you. If a name is not provided, the animal will be registered with its NASSA registration number, ear tag number, or tattoo as its registered name.

4) Record Keeping

Each breeder is responsible for keeping accurate records of his/her flock and breedings. A ewe will be exposed to only one ram per cycle so that the sire of the lamb(s) is known.

Pedigree records should be kept so that the exact breeding of all sheep in the flock is known. Breeder records will be made available to NASSA upon request.

5) Ear Tags

All sheep must have individual ear tags or tattoos of the breeder's choice affixed prior to registration.

6) Registration Certificates and Pedigrees

NASSA supplies registration certificates and 4-generation computer-generated pedigrees for each sheep registered.

7) Flock Book and Online Database

The Flock Book has been replaced by the online database. Access is through the website: www.shetland-sheep.org.

8) Transfers

At the time of sale, provide the buyer with either the original registration papers for any animal sold, or a copy of same. In the case of as yet unregistered animals, the seller may provide the buyer with copies of the registration papers of the animals' sire and dam. Per registration rules, it remains the responsibility of the owner of the animal at birth to register the lamb. Transfer of ownership should be completed within 60 days of the sale.

9) Adherence to Standard

Inspection of flocks or individual Shetlands is not required for registration. However, if the breed standard or registration rules are found to be violated, flock or individual sheep registrations may be suspended.

10) Breed Standard

NASSA uses the Shetland Sheep Standard, as adopted by the Shetland Sheep Flock Book Society in 1927. All registrations should conform to this standard.

11) Rules & Fees

Registration rules and associated fees may be periodically updated. Fees must be paid in US funds. Please submit a work order if using a paper registration form. Prices are listed on the registration form.

For questions concerning registration, please contact the NASSA Registry P.O. BOX 231, 420A Lincoln St Wamego, KS 66547 (785) 456-8500 e-mail: registrar@shetland-sheep.org website: www.shetland-sheep.org