

# **MURRAY GREY AUSTRALIA ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED**

No.1500112



## **By-laws**

# Introduction

The constitution is legally binding on members and because the Bylaws are referenced in the Constitution they are also binding. It is easier to change the Bylaws, so it tends to be more a day-to-day document. If there is any clash between the Constitution and the Bylaws, the Constitution will always take precedence.

## By-laws Part A

### Breed standards

While the history and original breeding for lines of Murray Grey cattle will all be different the animals used for seedstock and showing must meet the following standards.

1. Murray Grey cattle are naturally polled, accordingly horns or scours are not acceptable. The poll should be central and dominate (not off to the side such as seen with dehorned animals).
2. The feet should have a good pastern (depth of heel) and when walking the rear legs should follow straight behind the front legs. The rear hoof should cover where the front foot has just lifted from.
3. When standing, they should stand square. That is the feet should be evenly on the ground with a reasonable distance between the two front and two rear legs.
4. The claw set should be parallel and excess claw divergence or scissor claw is not acceptable. Ideally 5 but 3- 7 is acceptable.
5. The legs should be angled at the hock and pasterns but should not be too angled (sickled hock) or too straight (post legged).
6. Looking from the posterior the rear legs should be tapped down following a straight line and bow legged and excess tapering out (cow hocked) is not acceptable. An acceptable level of set is 12 o'clock to 11 o'clock.
7. The legs should not come together when walking and must not cross.
8. Double muscling is not acceptable.
9. The chest should be deep, wide, low, and of large girth, indicating strong constitution with ample space for vital organs. The back should be long, firm top line broad and strongly supported. The loin should be wide and strongly muscled. This portion of the back should be wide and the ribs long, well sprung, and close together. A good body depth and spring of rib with underside running parallel.
10. The tail should be long enough with adequate swish to deal with flies and pests. The tail should be thick at the tail head to give an indication of strength of spine.
11. The eyes should be alert, clear and set to the side.
12. If there is doubt about the genetic lineage of an animal the Registrar can require a DNA parent verification. The cost to be at the expense of the MGAA Inc. If the DNA test result indicates the animal has not tested as advertised or registered, the cost of testing is to be paid for by the owner.

## Females

13. The head should be feminine with bright, clear and alert eyes and a wide muzzle, with teeth contacting the palate, and showing no signs of undershot or overshot jaw.
14. The neck should blend neatly into the shoulders with a good width to the chest, and a neat, clean brisket flowing into a level underline with no extended gut.
15. A deep body with a good spring of rib is desirable to give plenty of heart, lung and rumen capacity.
16. The top line from the shoulders to the pelvis bones should be long and straight, with a slight slope from the hook bones to the pin bones - and plenty of width between the pin bones to provide ease of calving.
17. From the plates, a natural width of firm fleshed first thigh following down through a deep second thigh to a level flank, with good udder attachment and medium-sized, square teat placement.

## Bulls

18. A strong masculine head with broad muzzle, with teeth making good contact with the palate and showing no signs of undershot or overshot jaw.
19. A strong neck and broad top line to the shoulders with clean brisket.
20. The shoulders should be even to the animal and not dominate which could lead to calving issues.
21. The rump should be long, wide and square on top, with a slight slope from the pelvis to pins.
22. From the plates, a wide, firm fleshed first thigh following down through a deep, well rounded second thigh to a well filled deep flank.
23. The testicles should be of uniform size and consistency, suspended equally and not twisted.
24. The circumference of the testicles should be at least: 32 cm for bulls aged 12-18 months, 34 cm for bulls 18-24 months, and 35 cm for bulls over 24 months.
25. A loose, pendulous sheath is undesirable.
26. Hooding over the eyes should be reasonable.

## Colour

27. The four colours of the Murray Grey; Silver, Dun, Grey and Black are all acceptable colours for the seed stock.
28. Black animals must not be shown.
29. The colour should be generally uniform across the animal.
30. Patches of alternative underbelly colour (generally lighter or white) should not extend forward of the navel.
31. The undercoat of Murray Grey's should be dark.
32. The hoofs are to be dark.
33. The nose of the animal is to be grey.

# Size

34. The size of the animal and it's offspring is essential to the commercial success of a producer and as such the prime driver for Murray Greys will be what people are prepared to pay for seedstock to suit their breeding program. MGAA Inc. only offer the following as a guideline.
35. For Murray Grey's a frame score of 5 to 7 is generally acceptable.
36. The frame scoring system used is the one listed below in Fig.1.
37. For Square Meater's a 12-month-old bull is to measure 103 -113 cm at the shoulder height.
38. A Square Meater female is to be less than 107 at 12 months and less than 125 cm at mature height.

**NB: Murray Greys are measured at hip height and Square Meater's are measured at shoulder height.**

## Acknowledgments

*The original NSW Agriculture Agfact on frame scoring was written by Bob Freer, then of NSW Agriculture. These charts were taken from the new edition of the Agfact has been based on that first edition, on information provided by Sandy Yeates, then of NSW Agriculture, and on fact sheets produced by Kansas State University*

Age (months)	Females—hip height (cm)										
	Frame score										
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
5	84	89	94	99	105	110	115	120	126	131	136
6	87	92	97	102	107	113	118	123	128	134	139
7	89	94	100	105	110	115	121	126	131	136	141
8	92	97	102	107	112	117	122	128	133	138	144
9	94	99	104	109	114	119	124	130	135	140	145
10	96	101	106	111	116	121	126	131	136	141	147
11	98	103	108	113	118	123	128	133	138	144	149
12	99	104	109	114	119	124	130	135	140	145	150
13	101	105	110	116	121	126	131	136	141	146	151
14	102	107	112	117	122	127	132	137	142	147	152
15	103	108	113	118	123	128	133	138	143	148	153
16	104	109	114	119	124	129	134	139	144	149	154
17	105	110	115	120	125	130	135	140	145	149	154
18	106	110	116	121	126	131	135	140	145	150	155
19	107	111	116	121	126	131	136	141	146	151	156
20	107	112	117	122	127	132	137	141	146	151	156
21	108	113	118	123	128	132	137	142	147	152	157
Mature cows											
24	109	114	119	124	129	133	138	143	148	153	157
30	111	116	121	125	130	135	140	145	150	154	159
36	112	117	122	126	132	136	141	145	150	155	160
48	113	118	122	127	132	137	142	146	151	155	160

Age (months)	Bulls—hip height (cm)										
	Frame score										
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
5	85	90	95	100	105	110	116	121	126	131	137
6	88	93	99	104	108	114	119	124	130	135	140
7	92	97	102	107	112	117	122	128	133	138	143
8	95	100	105	110	114	120	125	131	136	141	146
9	98	102	107	113	117	123	128	133	138	144	149
10	100	105	110	115	119	125	130	135	140	146	151
11	102	107	112	117	122	128	133	138	143	148	153
12	104	109	114	119	124	130	135	140	145	150	155
13	106	111	116	121	126	131	137	142	147	152	157
14	108	113	118	123	127	133	138	143	148	154	159
15	109	114	119	124	129	135	140	145	149	155	160
16	110	116	121	126	130	136	141	146	151	156	161
17	112	117	122	127	131	137	142	147	152	157	162
18	113	118	123	128	132	138	143	148	153	158	163
19	114	119	124	129	133	139	144	149	154	160	165
20	115	120	125	130	134	140	145	150	155	160	165
21	116	121	126	131	135	140	146	151	156	161	166

Mature Bulls											
24	118	123	128	133	137	142	147	152	157	163	168
30	120	125	130	135	139	145	150	155	160	165	170
36	122	127	132	137	141	146	151	156	161	166	171
48	123	128	133	137	142	147	152	157	162	167	172

# By-laws Part B

## Breed promotion subcommittees

The success of the cattle long term depends on having the breed accepted by stud and commercial cattle producers as well as chefs and home cooks. The most effective, efficient, and credible means of doing this is by people who are raising Murray Cattle. To keep costs at reasonable levels, the local producers are encouraged to form subcommittees to promote the breed. The following bylaws are to be used by all breed promotion subcommittees.

**NB: the purpose of breed promotion subcommittees is to promote the Murray Grey cattle breed, not for individual stud promotion. If the breed is promoted appropriately the flow on effects will benefit studs.**

1. Breed Promotion groups are acting as a subcommittee of the MGAA Inc. and must be approved by the MGAA Inc. committee.
2. Each Breed Promotion Group Subcommittee (BPGSC) operates under the MGAA constitution but apart from the sharing of good ideas and annual audit and report to the MGAA they will act as autonomous groups.
3. The annual report will consist of a financial report showing profit and loss, current membership, meetings throughout the year and plans for the following year.
4. Each BPGSC will have a chair, secretary and treasurer and general members.
5. The minimum quorum is four (4) current members of MGAA for any meetings.
6. BPGSC can be made up of a mixture of MGAA and non-MGAA people.
7. Voting is by current members of the BPGSC, majority rules and in the event of a tie, the chair can use their casting vote (usually for the status quo).
8. Bank accounts may be opened for day to day operations. These must be reported on to the MGAA by the 31<sup>st</sup> May each year.
9. Fund raising for promoting Murray Grey's is encouraged.
10. Education of members, commercial cattle producers and the public is deemed as an essential aspect of the BPGSC.
11. If a BPGSC will no longer continue to function the money earned by the Group will be returned to the MGAA for distribution to BPGSC's.
12. All published documents must use the MGAA style guide.
13. If a BPGSC is planning to use animals as part of a display the owner must hold a minimum A\$10m public liability insurance.

# By-laws Part C

## Standards for showing of Murray Grey cattle

The purpose for showing cattle is to display your animal for others to examine and rate compared to breed standards and the other cattle on display. It is an opportunity to display your animals to spectators and for them to view your animal with a view to possibly purchase or consider in the future. While the show ring should be a spectacle it is not about illusion or inaccurate representation.

This code has been written to ensure exhibitors have a clear understanding of expectations on them and their cattle in the show ring. The essential point that follows is it is all about the animal.

## Cattle

1. All cattle shown must be 93.75% Murray Grey (pure bred).
2. The cattle should be in good condition and should appear as neither poorly nourished nor too well conditioned as either of these two extremes represent poor animal welfare.
3. Correctly bred cattle will have naturally well-set feet and should not need modification. Accordingly, there should be no feet trimming for the correction of naturally occurring faults, however environmental conditions may cause degradations that would put the animal at a disadvantage in comparison with others in the show ring. Under these circumstances foot trimming is allowed and if asked by a judge if trimming has occurred the exhibitor must answer correctly.
4. There is to be no hoof colouring.
5. During cattle preparation, any device that is used to redeposit or remove fat deposits to enhance the look of the animal such as heat irons, neck sweat collars, needling, etc. is banned.
6. As cattle coats are very subject to environmental variabilities beyond the control of exhibitors as a result to set an even field, clipping is encouraged.
7. Apart from post washing hair conditioners there is to be no coat enhancements that would change the colour of the coat.
8. There is to be no hair extensions used on the cattle.
9. Surgical alteration that would correct imperfections or enhance an aspect of the cattle is not permitted.
10. Glues or adhesive products are not permitted on coat or teats that could change the natural set or natural features of the cattle.
11. Calves still on their mothers must not be deprived of free access to the udder for more than 4 hours for a calf less than 5 months and not more than 6 hours for calves 5 to 9 months.
12. No supplementary milk apart from the natural mothers is permitted.
13. Non-steroidal or other anti-inflammatory medication is not to be used within 48 hours of showing.
14. No sedatives or other medication that could alter the animal's temperament are to be used that could still have half-life effect that could cover the period of showing.
15. The exemption to Clauses 12 and 13 is if a legally qualified veterinary practitioner has used the medication during the care of an animal and this information must be conveyed to the Chief Steward and Judge.

# Exhibitors

16. The exhibitors are to wear sturdy boots, blue denim, or blue moleskin long trousers, a long or short sleeved light blue shirt, a green sleeveless woollen jumper, and a neutral-coloured broad rimmed hat.
17. Sleeveless shirts are not permitted.
18. Stud ownership identification is not permitted on any clothing.
19. If the time of showing is hot, then the shed captain may decide jumpers are optional.
20. The overall dress is meant to be uniform and add to the spectacle, no items are to be worn that would detract from this uniformity or aid in gaining more of the judge's attention. Accordingly, there is to be no items worn that would be attention seeking such as bling on footwear and clothing including trousers, hats and belts.
21. An appropriate show cane should be carried.

## Supporting information Part D

### Style sheet

This style sheet has been provided to ensure consistency across documents used by MGAA Inc., it is not meant to restrict imaginative ideas and concepts but to ensure a professional and consistent approach to documents and publications.

The font used is Calibri (body) and generally size 11 for the body of typed documents. Topic headlines and sub headlines are variable size of Calibri (body) and may be bold or underlined as required.

### Registered trademarks

The following pictures, diagrams and logos are registered trademarks of the MGAA Inc. and can only be used with permission. If sub-committees wish to use any of the registered material, they should provide details of the context that it is to be used for and submit to the Committee for approval. This is not expected to be a protracted process, but it will align with our responsibilities of Incorporation and ensure brand protection.

Figures 1, 2 and 3 are the general logo used to documentation and brand identification. Figures 3, 4 and 5 are to be used for generic display such as showing shirts.



Figure 1





Figure 2



Figure 3



Figure 4



Figure 5

# Supporting information Part E

## Suggested code of conduct for the sale of animals

The sale of or purchase animals can range from matter of fact to highly emotional responses. If an animal or animals do not meet expectations this can sometimes lead to loss of reputation of not only the vendor but of the breed. Methods of marketing and selling animals will vary a lot from one producer to another and this code of conduct is not to limit a producer's ability to earn money from the sale of animals but to provide protection for both vendors and customers.

Part E has been produced to ensure that both parties understand each other's responsibilities. This does not set precedent or legal obligations; it is a voluntary code, and a vendor may vary the conditions of sale anyway they feel fit. However, deviations from this code must be detailed to the customer.

1. Repeated or flagrant disregard of this code may lead to an MGAA member losing membership.
2. In extreme cases any animals owned by the MGAA member may be deregistered.

## Code (vendor)

- A. It is assumed that any animal put up for sale is structurally sound and fit for purpose.
- B. If the animal has been receiving any medication for recent injuries or illness this must be conveyed to the potential customer.
- C. Any modification of the animal must be conveyed to the customer. This includes hoof modification, teat modification, etc.
- D. Obligations such as JBAS must accurate.
- E. If the animals have had high levels of supplementary feed the details should be provided to the customer to assist with letdown to normal feed patterns.
- F. Females should be fertile and be capable of receiving natural service. If this turns out not to be the case the female (or freemartin) should be replaced with a similar standard animal or a full refund decided by the vendor.
- G. Bulls should fertile and be capable of providing natural service. This should be warranted for 2 years unless another period has been defined. Injury sustained through fighting other bulls, poor surface such as joining on concrete cattle forcing yards, etc. would not be covered.
- H. Claims about the genetic capability of the animal should be supported by appropriate history records
- I. If a female is sold Pregnancy Tested In Calf (PTIC) greater than the first trimester, it is expected that she should produce a calf on ground. If there have been no external influences such as biotoxins, poor feed or water, rough or in appropriate treatment.
- J. If the vendor arranges transport, they are responsible for the animal until delivery.
- K. For genetic lots, the semen should have been stored well and have reasonable levels of fertility.
- L. Embryos should have been stored correctly and if implanted by a competent person should have a minimum pregnancy rate of 25%.

## Code (customer)

- M. If the customer arranges delivery, they are responsible for the animal from point of pick up.
- N. The paddocks the new animals are sent to should be appropriate for the animal(s).
- O. All bovines are social animals and should be accompanied on arrival by a female or steer until they become used to their new environment.
- P. For purchased bulls the bull to cow ratio should be reasonable for the age and condition of the bull.
- Q. Any purchased genetic lots need to be transported or stored appropriately.
- R. If an animal is not meeting expectations contact should be made with an appropriately qualified and experienced veterinary officer for a professional opinion. If it is deemed that the animal has been appropriately cared for but is not to the expected standard, then the vendor is to be contacted for discussion. If it is deemed that the animal is to be replaced or the purchase price refunded, the vendor is to receive the salvage rights on the original animal.
- S. Assuming the animal has not died due to illness/ disease or in any way be suffering, the animal should be in or restored to a similar condition score they were purchased at.
- T. The vendor does retain the right to have a second party independent veterinary officer to check the animal.
- U. For PTIC females the customer needs to understand that embryotic loss can occur particularly during the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> trimester due to malformation which the vendor has no control over. However, point I still applies.
- V. The customer should try to ensure that the animal has access to a rising nutritional plane during the first two trimesters and last two weeks of gestation. The animal should not have a high level of fat that could impede delivery.

# Supporting information Part F

## Fees and charges

1. Annual membership---\$200 due on July 1<sup>st</sup> each year.
2. Initial annual membership--\$200 due on July 1<sup>st</sup>, however if initial membership is commenced on or after January 1st the first payment of \$200 will provide membership coverage until July 1<sup>st</sup> the following year (maximum coverage 18 months).
3. Initial junior membership--\$50 per child for 1 child and \$100 for 2 or more junior memberships from the same family and is a once off payment for juniors aged from 8 years up to 21 years. N.B. junior members are encouraged to input into all aspects of the MGAA Inc but cannot vote on matters of the national body such as AGM's.
4. Annual junior membership—\$100 for people aged 21-25, however if initial membership is commenced on or after January 1st the first payment of \$100 will provide membership coverage until July 1<sup>st</sup> the following year (maximum coverage 18 months). N.B. junior members are encouraged to input into all aspects of the MGAA Inc but cannot vote on matters of the national body such as AGM's.
5. Educational facilities-- \$50 annually.
6. Late payments--25% loading on the fee due.
7. Animal registration--\$40 One off lifetime payment due before the animal reaches 2 years of age.
8. Animal registration--\$50 One off lifetime payment due before the animal reaches 3 years of age.
9. Animal registration--\$60 One off lifetime payment due if the animal exceeds 3 years of age.
10. Transfer from another recognised Murray Grey organisation--\$30 regardless of animal age and provided ancestry can be provided in the format required by MGAA Inc.
11. Animal transfer-- \$25 per animal. Note to transfer an animal from one MGAA member to another MGAA member the original certificate must be signed and sent to the registrar's office for updating.
12. Advertising of animals or genetic lots on the MGAA Inc. web site is subject to Price On Application (POA) from the web site manager.

## Supporting information Part G

1. The MGAA supports the membership by individuals, partnerships, trusts, corporations, schools, clubs and other Joint Venture organisations.
2. At any breed promotion meeting or general meeting any one person from that organisation can speak and vote at the meeting.
3. However, in the event that there is a problem with ownership of the cattle or for sale or transfer of animals from that organisation there is to be one nominated person from the organisation.
4. The following form is to be used if that responsibility is to be transferred to another person.
5. The form is to be completed by all individuals nominated in the original application for membership (or their updated replacements as has occurred during the time of the membership).

# MURRAY GREY AUSTRALIA ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

(incorporated under the *Associations Incorporation Act 2009*)

## NOMINATION FOR RESPONSIBLE PERSON FORM



The Secretary

Murray Grey Australia Association Inc.

I/ we, corporate entity (Please print name)

\_\_\_\_\_

Of, (address) \_\_\_\_\_

Member REF/CET \_\_\_\_\_

Being a financial member of the Australian Murray Grey Association Inc., hereby nominate

\_\_\_\_\_ for the position of Responsible Person

(Please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Signed this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ (month and year)

Signature of Member \_\_\_\_\_

(Please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Signed this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ (month and year)

Signature of Member \_\_\_\_\_

In the case of more than 2 members the name, date and signature will required of all principals