



# APPALOOSA HORSE CLUB EST. 1938

*The International Breed Registry for Appaloosa Horses*

## NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **New Racing Rules In Effect**

**MOSCOW, Idaho**— In light of the recent decision by the American Quarter Horse Association to transition race horses to microchips in place of lip tattoos effective January 1, 2024, the Appaloosa Horse Club will be following suit. This transition will take place on January 1, 2024, along with AQHA. If your horse has been tattooed before January 1, 2024, that horse will be allowed to race, will continue to be identified by that tattoo, and will not need to be microchipped.

The ApHC Staff, Executive Race Committee, and Board of Directors are hard at work developing a system to identify, track, and manage the microchips. We understand that this transition is sudden, and we will be doing our best to work with all race participants in the coming weeks and will update members as more information becomes available.

ApHC will not dictate the location of the microchip implantation. However, when the microchip number is provided to ApHC, the location must also be declared. The microchip number and implant location will be stored in the horse's file in the ApHC database. In the coming weeks there will be information for members on reporting microchip numbers to ApHC and for track identification processes.

The ApHC will require International Organization for Standardization (ISO) compliant chips. ISO (International Organization for Standardization) is a highly recognized accreditation federation for developing market relevant international standards. ISO standards are recognized worldwide. ISO 11784 and 11785 define the standards that regulate radio-frequency identification (RFID) of animals. To be compliant, the microchip must operate at a radio frequency of 134.2 KHz and contain 15 digits. ApHC will record any microchip placed in a horse reported by the owner, however, if a horse is being identified for racing, the microchip must be ISO compliant. ApHC recommends the use of ISO compliant chips.

Please contact the ApHC racing department at ext. 248 if you have questions. More information will be available soon and we will keep you up to date as this develops.

*The Appaloosa Horse Club (ApHC) was established in 1938 with a mission of preserving, promoting and enhancing the Appaloosa breed. The ApHC has since registered more than 700,000 Appaloosas, which are known for their distinctive color, intelligence and even temperament. True to their reputation as an extremely versatile breed, Appaloosas can be found in nearly every discipline including racing, endurance riding and serving as reliable family horses. The international breed registry is headquartered in Moscow, Idaho, the heart of the Palouse region—the Appaloosa breed's namesake and point of origin.*