

# GUIDING LINES

By MICHELLE REICHERT

*New registration reference lines went into effect in 2010. Review this primer before you register your foals and see how it affects your older horses, too.*

Effective January 1, 2010, new reference lines were approved by APHA regarding qualifying white markings used to determine the registration status of Paint Horses. Adopted in reference to RG-070 in the 2010 *Official APHA Rule Book*, these new reference points make it easier for more Paints to qualify for Regular Registry status. As a result, some Solid Paint-Bred Registry horses are eligible for advancement into the Regular Registry, which offers a wider range of opportunities on the track, in the show ring and beyond.

In order to qualify for the Regular Registry, your horse must have a natural Paint marking which falls within the new reference lines—a natural Paint marking is described as a solid white spot in excess of two inches with underlying unpigmented skin.

Let's take a look at the 2009 rule versus the 2010 rule regarding those reference points.

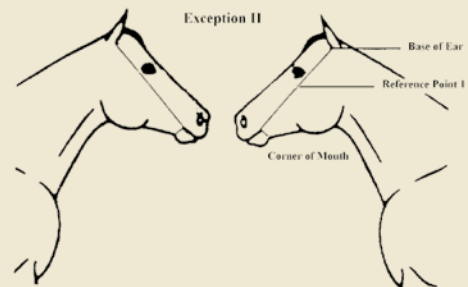
## Head Markings



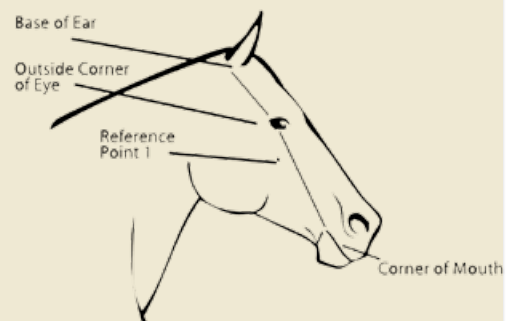
*The apron-faced marking as demonstrated on the horse above would not have qualified the gelding for Regular Registry under 2009 rules; however, he received Regular Registry papers under the new 2010 registration rules.*

## RG-070. Color Requirements D.2

2009 Rule RG-070 D.2 (Head markings, reference point 1): From the base of the ear to the corner of the mouth; or ...



2010 Rule RG-070 D.2 (Head markings, reference point 1): From the base of the ear to the outside corner of the eye, continuing to the corner of the mouth; or ...



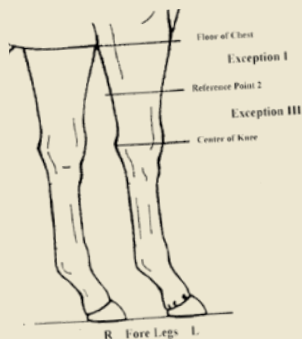


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## Front Legs

### RG-070. Color Requirements D.4

2009 Rule RG-070 D.4 (Front leg, reference point 2): A level line around the leg midway between the center of the knee and the floor of the chest; or ...

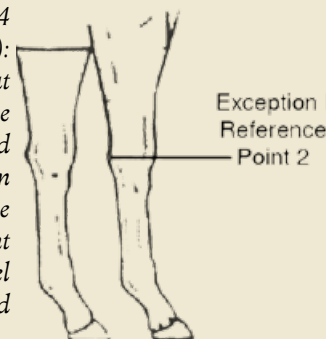


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The interesting marking on the left front leg of TC Casual Affair surpasses the new reference point 2 guidelines, which are now based around the center of the knee.

Someone Worth Knowing has high white on his left front leg, which meets new Regular Registry guidelines under the 2010 rules.

2010 Rule RG-070 D.4 (Front leg, reference point 2): A level line around the leg at the center of the knee. (The center of the knee is determined by using the bony protrusion on the back of the knee as the starting point and drawing a level line horizontally around the knee.)



## Q&A

**Q:** How will this affect any horses you have in the future?

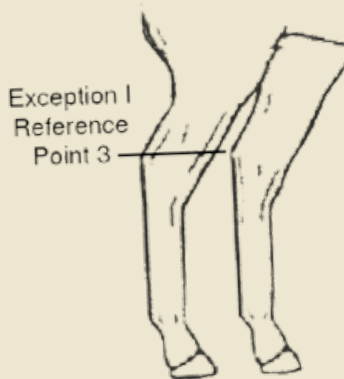
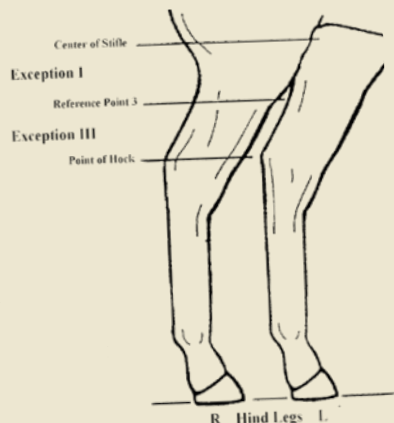
**A:** This could affect everything from a horse you are considering to buy, your breeding decisions, whether your Paints qualify for stakes races or provide new opportunities to compete in APHA shows.

If you are looking to purchase a prospect or older horse that is already registered as a Solid Paint-Bred, but might qualify for Regular Registry, you may be inclined to purchase that horse and apply for the upgrade. By changing the status of your Solid Paint-Bred mare, your choices of stallions to breed her for a stakes race-eligible foal are greater. If your Paint stallion qualifies for Regular Registry, the mares to which he can be bred for stakes race-eligible foals increases as well. APHA show opportunities are also greatly expanded, as more classes and events are available for Regular Registry horses.

## Hind Legs

### RG-070. Color Requirements D.5

2009 Rule RG-070 D.5 (Hind leg, reference point 3): The point represented by a level line around the leg midway between the point of the hock and the center point of the stifle.



2010 Rule RG-070 D.5 (Hind leg, reference point 3): A level line around the leg at the point of the hock. (This hock line is determined, starting at the point of the hock and drawing a line horizontally around the hock.)



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The stocking on Awesome Scotch Bar's right hind leg extends several inches beyond the new reference point 3 and affords him Regular Registry.

## Q&A

**Q: How could this affect you with the horses you currently own?**

**A:** These new reference lines could affect you in several ways:

- Solid Paint-Bred Registry horses you currently own might now qualify for a status change to the Regular Registry.
- Unregistered, minimally colored foals might now be eligible for registration in the Regular Registry.
- Foals produced from previously Solid Paint-Bred mares (now advanced to the Regular Registry) by Quarter Horse or Thoroughbred stallions could now be stakes race eligible.


For foals whose registration forms were completed prior to January 1, 2010—but who now qualify for the Regular Registry—simply send in the original certificate, a request for a status change, the photos showing the qualifying area and applicable fees.

Mares and stallions that now qualify for the Regular Registry reap another benefit for their race-bred foals. Once their status has been officially changed, they can be bred to a Solid Paint-Bred, Quarter Horse or Thoroughbred and the resulting foal is eligible to run in stakes races.

**Q: What do I need to do to change my horse's registration, and how much will it cost?**

**A.** Send APHA the horse's original certificate and current photos of the right and left side views, along with close-up photographs of any qualifying white areas (face or leg). Also, send an "Affidavit for Corrected Certificate"—available on our website at [apha.com/forms](http://apha.com/forms)—or simply include a written request for a corrected certificate.

The status change fee is \$40 plus the difference in the registration fee between Solid Paint-Bred and Regular Registry at the time of the horse's original registration. If you are unable to figure the difference, simply send the \$40 and required paperwork along with a note for APHA to contact you regarding the additional fee.

The less-restrictive qualifying rule regarding white markings provides increased opportunities for your Paint Horses and their offspring. Take advantage of these new rules to give your Paints the greatest possible advantage. For more information, contact the Registration Customer Service team at (817) 222-6423 or by calling APHA at (817) 834-2742. Forms and other information can be found at [apha.com/forms](http://apha.com/forms). 

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