



The Canadian Thoroughbred Horse Society

National Office

To Industry Stakeholders;

November 7, 2016

Re: Location of Microchip Implant in Canadian Thoroughbred Horses

On Wednesday, July 27th, 2016, the National Directors' of the Canadian Thoroughbred Horse Society held a Board meeting conference call. One of the topics on the agenda was the implant location of the microchip that will become mandatory for all registered Thoroughbreds starting in the year 2017.

With much consideration and discussion on the subject, the Canadian Thoroughbred Horse Society's official position is as follows:

The Canadian Thoroughbred Horse Society welcomes any owner and breeder to microchip their horse(s) in the nasal area or the nuchal ligament (on the left side of the neck) for the year 2016, as the microchip is not a mandatory requirement for the year 2016. In 2017, however, when it is mandatory to implant microchips, the Canadian Thoroughbred Horse Society is **recommending** breeders to nasally implant Canadian-bred Thoroughbreds being registered with the Canadian Thoroughbred Horse Society.

This decision was mainly based on the very successful findings of a pilot project named "Alberta Thoroughbred Microchipping Project" based in Alberta and carried out by Alberta Agriculture and Forestry's Traceability Systems Specialist Adrienne Herron and fellow team members.

Further, The Jockey Club is aware that the Canadian Thoroughbred Horse Society is recommending that its breeders implant microchips in the nasal area rather than in the nuchal ligament.

Horses with microchips implanted in the nasal area will be considered eligible for registration as Thoroughbreds upon completion of all other requirements as described in the Principal Rules and Requirements of The American Stud Book. Owners **must** note the location of the microchip when submitting the microchip number to The Jockey Club and the Canadian Thoroughbred Horse Society.

If a Canadian-bred horse is microchipped in the nuchal ligament, after 2017, **it will not affect the eligibility** of Canadian-bred or Provincial status of that horse, granted that horse has met all Canadian-bred and provincial program requirements.

It is the hope that Canadian-bred horses will have nasal microchips and be recognized as Canadian-bred horses internationally through the distinction of a nasal microchip implant.

The Canadian Thoroughbred Horse Society believes nasal microchipping will become the industry standard in the near future.

Sincerely,

Canadian Thoroughbred Horse Society
National Office & National Board of Directors'

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