



Membership Renewal

For 2023, the ABA will be conducting their annual renewal of membership and directory listing to help better serve our members and potential members. Enclosed, you will find the breeder directory listing form that must be

filled out and returned back to the ABA by January 31, 2023, to

ensure that your name will be listed in the directory.

The ABA membership runs January through December, this form will also allow for you to renew your senior membership in a timely manner. You can save time by completing the form online at www.americanberkshire.com.

Advertise With Seedstock Edge Media



Looking to get the most out of your advertising? Look no further! Seedstock Edge offers different ranges of digital and print advertising to help breeders and business grow. For more information on how you can get noticed email rose@americanberkshire.com for inquiries.



January 17-21, 2023
Perry, Ga.

Berkshire Entries Due December 15th
at: www.americanberkshire.com

Greetings American Berkshires Association members,

As we approach the holiday season, let us reflect on 2022. Let us focus on the positive relationships we have made at national, state, county or jackpot shows throughout the year. Also, the relationships we have strengthened with Registered Berkshire customers at farm markets, selling breeding stock, or just in casual meetings reliving the rich history of the American Berkshire Association.

There is tremendous excitement and demand about the Berkshire breed and the American Berkshires Association Board of

Directors, along with the staff, look forward to working with all segments of the membership to provide opportunities to meet the demand for Registered Berkshire Pork.

Happy Holidays & Prosperous New Year!



Sincerely,

Pete Brummer, ABA President of Board of Directors

New For 2023 NJSa Events

Effective January 1, 2023, all NJSa Junior Show purebred gilts, will exhibit by weight within month of birth. This method of exhibition was developed to exhibit gilts that have a measurable trait and keep birthdate as a show parameter.

The issue of over-aging purebred animals has been addressed as a serious concern for decades and has been identified as a long-term threat to the sustainability of the NSR and purebred swine industry. The intent of the rule change is to correct what is, and has been, a serious problem in the industry. Without technology to accurately determine age and maturity of animals, the new policy's intent is to level the playing field for breeders and junior members alike. The Executive Committee believes that this new policy will allow animals of similar size to be compared and evaluated equally, without the advantage of age at NSR events. Weights, farrowing dates, and Weight per Day of Age (WDA) will be published in show catalogs and when appropriate, used as consideration for judges to make decisions. For more information regarding these changes, contact the National Swine Registry.



By Law & Constitution Changes

ARTICLE XIX - Markings and Identification Requirements, Section 1: Color Sentences 5-7
New language (effective January 1, 2023):

The ideal color pattern is black with six white points (face, four socks, tip of tail). Less desirable, but acceptable, are sandy colored hair in the areas where white and black border. Color Qualifications for Registration (boars, gilts and barrows must meet the following color requirements in order to be recorded): A Berkshire must have white on the face and tail, unless the tail is docked. Three of four legs must be white. A Berkshire must not have a spotted or mottling pattern, which is defined as an intermixture of black and white and/or red skin/hair anywhere on the pig's body (defined as anything above the elbow and flank and excludes the legs and under belly). Examples of spotted or mottling patterns include: cheetah and giraffe spotted markings anywhere on the back or side of the pig. Also, a Berkshire must not have a contiguous area of white and/or red skin/hair that exceeds 64 square inches anywhere on the body of a mature pig (approximately 8 x 8 square inch area on a 300 lb. pig; this would be equivalent to 11 square inches on a 50 lb pig). Finally, a Berkshire cannot have a full or ¾ belting pattern that is defined as white skin or hair that fully encircles or nearly encircles the body anywhere between the base of the ear and base of the tail.

By-laws Article XVIII – General Recording Requirements, Section 13

New Language (proposed changes effective January 1, 2025):

All sires used to register Berkshire litters must be DNA banked and tested for the stress (HAL-1843) and Redement Napole (RN) genes. The sire's stress and Redement Napole results must be negative for litter registrations, however if the status of the boar is a negative mating and the boar does not test negative, we will follow the Standard Procedures for DNA Testing and Report of Results.

Constitution Article II – Section 2

New Language (addition of a 3rd sentence):

If a member has multiple accounts and has a past due balance greater than 120 days on any of their accounts, the member will lose voting rights on all accounts and will be ineligible to serve on the Board of Directors

Keep an eye out when announcements are made for the 2023 Summer show schedule! We can't wait to see you at The Exposition and The Summer Type Conference and National Junior Summer Spectacular this upcoming Summer!



New For 2023 Open Show Entry Fees

Effective January 1, 2023, all Berkshire Open Show entry fees will be raised to \$40.00 per head. Please note that all late entries are doubled in fees.

Questions About Markings & Identification?

Check out our online guide here at: <https://americanberkshire.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/Current-Berkshire-Breed-Color-Standards.pdf>



Or send your pictures or questions to: Office@americanberkshire.com for further clarification.

Have an Account Balance?

Members are encouraged to send payment in with their pedigree work, or leave their card on file. Leaving a card on file will help to ensure that your work is always paid for upon completion.

Did you also know that you can pay your account online at



www.americanberkshire.com? All you need is your breeder number and the total due on your account. Why pay online? Paying online can help reassure that your ABA account is current and cuts out the risk of losing your payment in the mail. Remember, any account that is over 120 days without payment is subject to suspension of all ABA services.