

# Update on Red & White Dairy Cattle Association Herdbook Services Transition

You may have heard that Holstein Association USA (HAUSA) and the Red & White Dairy Cattle Association (RWDCA) will soon be working together. The following is an update on what is happening and what you will need to know if you are registering red and white dairy cattle.

First, it's important to know that the two breed associations are not merging. RWDCA and HAUSA have always been separate breed associations and will remain that way. HAUSA will be registering animals for both associations. RWDCA will continue to promote red and white dairy cattle via the *Red Bloodlines* magazine and elsewhere, conduct shows and sales, collect membership dues, and hold an Annual Meeting and other membership events.

Red and white Holsteins registered by HAUSA will be recognized as being registered with both associations. The Holstein Association USA certificate of registration for all red and white Holsteins will include the statement

"This certificate is accepted by the RWDCA, for the specific purpose of participation within RWDCA programs." Animals that don't meet HAUSA's registration standards will be recorded in HAUSA's Cattle Identification Database (CID).

After the transition, Holstein registration rules and fees will apply. To receive the best rates for registering their cattle, red and white breeders will need to be Holstein Association USA members, and also members of their state Holstein association, if they aren't already. Red and white animals will be automatically registered for just the one fee; there will be no additional registration fees paid to RWDCA.

HAUSA will also classify animals for both associations. All HAUSA and RWDCA animals will be scored on the same scale, and those scores

will be included on HAUSA registrations and performance products. All previous RWDCA classification scores will be shown on pedigrees, but will not be included in genetic evaluations.



With HAUSA performing herdbook functions for both associations, RWDCA members will have access to the full range of Holstein products and services: type classification, pedigrees (both internet and printed), official genetic evaluations and genetic testing services, TPI and GTPI, the Red Book, MultiMate software, etc., while continuing to participate in RWDCA-sponsored shows, sales, and other membership events. Truly, the best of both worlds!

Both associations are looking forward to a smooth transition, and have been working diligently to ensure it is as seamless as possible. Many breeders are already members of both associations, so their HAUSA and RWDCA accounts are being matched up to avoid duplication. Likewise, many red and white animals are already registered by both associations or have common ancestry, so the herdbooks are being compared and consolidated into one.

With both the accounts and animals, there are often differences that can't be reconciled without a phone call. For example, we don't always know if J. W. Smith and John W. Smith, Jr. are the same person, father and son, or brothers! And sometimes animals were transferred to a Junior member for show purposes on one association's records but not the other.

As soon as possible, the official transition date will be announced. Until then, continue to submit RWDCA applications to the RWDCA office, and watch for more information as it becomes available. If you have any questions about the transition, feel free to contact either HAUSA (800.952.5200) or RWDCA (608.676.4900) and we will be happy to help.



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