

Regulations for registering Miniature Longhorns with the TLBAA

- 1) All Miniature Texas Longhorns (MTL) must be descended from registered standard-sized Texas Longhorns
- 2) Until a sufficient pool of registered stock has been established, all MTLs submitted for registration or reclassification must pass visual inspection and/or other genetic tests as needed to prove purity and/or parentage.
 - a) The burden of proof rests on the member applying for application and all required tests will be paid for at said member's expense.
 - b) Visual inspection will be based on photographs.
 - Two to three photographs must be submitted for each animal, depending upon age.
 - Front with the animal standing directly in-front of the camera with the hindquarters in line with the head (required for all ages)
 - Side with the animal looking straight ahead and not at the camera (required for all ages)
 - Side with the animal looking directly at the camera (required for animals 5 years of age and older)
 - Photos of both the sire and dam are required for all animals that are being registered or reclassified that are under one year of age.
 - Only one photo is required of each (sire and the dam) and should show the side of the animal with the animal looking directly at the camera
 - Visual appraisal to include inspection for: evidence of hump, horn shape and length (mature cattle only ≥ 5 years of age), evidence of dwarfism and recognized color patterns
 - Animals must be at least 6 months old before they are eligible for registration or reclassification as MTLs.
 - There is no age restriction on registering MTLs if both the sire and dam are registered as MTLs.
 - There is no review required for animals being registered as MTLs, if both the sire and dam are registered as MTLs
- 3) All MTLs currently registered with the TLBAA will have two registration options:
 - a) Retain current registration papers, forfeiting rights to participation in association sanctioned MTL activities
 - These animals may not be advertised as "TLBAA registered Miniature Texas Longhorns," they may only be advertised as "TLBAA registered Texas Longhorns."

- b) Submit animals for reclassification as a MTLs, contingent upon passing inspection as per paragraph 2b, retaining the right to participation in all association sanctioned MTL activities.
 - Only animals in the MTL registry may be advertised as “TLBAA registered Miniature Texas Longhorns.”
 - Only those animals registered with the MTL registry will be eligible for association sanctioned miniature cattle exhibitions.
- 4) Registering animals as MTLs
 - a) An MTL application along with a registration application must be submitted when registering animals having neither or only one registered MTL parent and the animal must pass inspection before the application will be processed.
 - b) When registering animals that have both their sire and dam in the MTL registry, only the registration application is required and the animals do not need to pass inspection before the application will be processed.
- 5) Cattle registered with another Texas Longhorn registry (e.g. ITLA or CTRLR) must first be brought into the TLBAA Standard Texas Longhorn registry before an application may be submitted to re-classify the animal as a MTL.
- 6) Bulls that have been Artificial Insemination (AI) Certified within the standard TLBAA or ITLA registries are not eligible for reclassification as MTLs.
- 7) Once an animal is accepted for registration or reclassification as a MTL, its registration number will be marked with an “M” and a new registration certificate will be issued on blue parchment to differentiate the MTL registration certificates from the standard registration certificates.
 - a) All offspring conceived after the reclassification date must be registered as MTLs and will not be eligible for standard registration, regardless of physical size.
 - b) Animals descended from miniature stock but not meeting the size requirements will be considered “Breeding Stock” Miniatures. These animals will be eligible for registration as will their offspring, however they will not be eligible for any competition or exhibitions sanctioned by the association.
 - “Breeding Stock” MTLs will not be separated within the registry and it will be the member’s responsibility not to enter them in competitions or exhibitions sanctioned by the association.
 - “Breeding Stock” MTLs must be advertised with the “Breeding Stock” designation.
- 8) Any animal of standard size ancestry is eligible for MTL status (except AI Certified bulls) if it passes all required inspections and tests.

Height Measurement Procedure

To make a hip height measurement, a measuring square is held vertically alongside the animal's hip with the perpendicular sliding arm positioned level and directly over the hook bones. The measurement read from the vertical portion of the square where the perpendicular arm attaches.

For accurate height measurements it is necessary for the animal to have its legs set squarely and head in a normal position.



Breed Guidelines for Registered Miniature Texas Longhorns

A. Functional Efficiency			
Characteristics of Miniature Longhorns	Desirable	Objectionable	Unacceptable[†]
1. Fertility	Early maturity and longevity Cows - Feminine, regular and early calving Bulls - Masculine, virile, high libido		Obvious abnormal reproductive organs, sterile animals
2. Sheath	Retracted prepuce, small orifice, flat small-sized navel flap		Long pendulous sheath, nonretractable prepuce. Excessive navel flap both male & female
3. Udder and teats	Well attached, balanced	Extra teats, loose udder attachment	
4. Disposition	Mild, tractable	Nervous	
5. Size*	Mature Height (≥ 3 yr): Frame Score ≤ 1 Cows – $\leq 45''$ Bulls – $\leq 48''$		Mature Height (≥ 3 yr): Frame Score > 1 Cows – $> 45''$ Bulls – $> 48''$
6. Hair (dependent on environment)	Short, straight, slick coat		Long, curly hair
7. Hide	Vascular, mellow and pliable navel flap		Extra large sheath/navel flap or excessive dewlap
8. Legs and feet	Squarely set, sound feet and joints	Sickle hocks, "post" legs, extra close, weak hocks	Very short legs, obviously abnormal feet/legs/joints

B. Conformation

Characteristics of Miniature Longhorns	Desirable	Objectionable	Unacceptable [†]
1. General type or form	<p>Good length with moderate depth and thickness. Top of hips higher than top of shoulders. Elliptical shaped body for heat adaption.</p> <p>Sound dense bones. Strong legs with free movement; Bulls slightly thicker and heavier muscled than cows. Exhibiting crest development on neck.</p>		Exhibiting any evidence of other breed type influences
2. Head	Showing masculinity and femininity according to sex; moderate width with pronounced length from poll to muzzle. Straight profile.	Short, blocky head. Convex forehead. "Roman Nose"	Nose extremely "pinched-in" above nostrils showing evidence of dwarfism
3. Ears	Medium to small, short elliptical ears		Overly large, excessively round or pointed ears
4. Muzzle	Mealy mouthed, pigmented		Wry nose, over shot or undershot jaw
5. Neck	Trim in cow. Muscular in bull.		Ewe neck, very long or very short
6. Shoulders	Free moving, smooth and well muscled	Open on top, sharply dropping down behind shoulders	
7. Brisket	Trim and free from excessive fleshiness	Excessive fat, downward sloping and excessive dewlap	
8. Heart Girth	Elliptical and full	Pinched girth	

Characteristics of Miniature Longhorns	Desirable	Objectionable	Unacceptable[†]
9. Back	Strong topline with slope upward from shoulders to hook bones		Excessive “sway back” or evidence of hump / raised muscling over loin region
10. Loin	Reasonably broad and full	Extremely narrow or low	Evidence of hump or raised muscling
11. Ribs	Moderately well sprung, elliptical	Slab sided	
12. Hooks	Broad, reasonably prominent and sloping slightly downward toward pin bones	Narrowness in hooks	Levelness from hooks to pin bones, hook bones lower than pin bones or excessive slope from hook bones to pin bones
13. Rump	Long, moderately sloping from hooks to pins	Short	Narrow and extremely droopy from hooks to pins or pin bones higher than hook bones
14. Tail / Tail Set	Long with full switch / tail set square with evidence of traditional “fish hook” feature	Very short tail, Wry tail	
15. Hindquarters	Reasonably broad and muscular, moderately wide at pins	Extremely narrow	Double muscling

C. Color

Characteristics of Miniature Longhorns	Desirable	Objectionable	Unacceptable[†]
1. Coat			Showing coat color/pattern not found in standard size Registered Texas Longhorn Cattle

D. Horns			
Characteristics of Miniature Longhorns	Desirable	Objectionable	Unacceptable[†]
1. Tip-to-Tip Measurement <i>Only Applicable to Mature Animals (≥ 5 yr)</i>	Cows: Slender, wide twisted outward; measurement equal to or greater than hip height at maturity Bulls: Horns with longitudinal length and a forward and upward sweep; measurement equal to or greater than hip height at maturity	Cows: Horns that curve sharply upward. Less than half the hip height at maturity. Bulls: Horns that curve sharply upward. Less than half the hip height at maturity.	Cows: Horns that curve sharply upward. Less than 1/4 the hip height at maturity. Bulls: Horns that curve sharply upward. Less than 1/4 the hip height at maturity.
2. Total Horn Measurement <i>Only Applicable to Mature Animals (≥ 5 yr)</i>	Cows: Slender, wide twisted outward; greater than the hip height at maturity Bulls: Horns with longitudinal length and a forward and upward sweep; greater than the hip height at maturity	Cows: Horns that curve sharply upward. Less than 3/4 the hip height at maturity. Bulls: Horns that curve sharply upward. Less than 3/4 the hip height at maturity.	Cows: Horns that curve sharply upward. Less than half the hip height at maturity. Bulls: Horns that curve sharply upward. Less than half the hip height at maturity.

* Animals ≥ Frame Score of 1 will not be rejected from the MTL registry.

† Cause for rejection of MTL reclassification or registration application.