



The American Driving Society, Inc.

ADS Pony/VSE Measurement Card FAQ

1. Which animals are required to have an ADS Measurement Card?

All animals of competition age participating in classes or divisions for ponies and VSEs are required to submit a measurement card with their entries for any ADS recognized competition event. **ADS Article GR13.4:** The “competition age” of any horse will be the age reached during the current calendar year.

2. Is there more than one type of Measurement Card?

ADS Temporary Measurement Cards are used for ponies and VSEs under the Competition Age of 8. Ponies and VSEs that have reached the Competition Age of 8 years are eligible for Permanent Measurement Cards.

3. What are the allowed competition heights for ponies and VSEs in ADS competitions?

Allowed heights for ADS Competitions:

- i. Pony 120 cm – 148 cm with or without shoes, 149cm with shoes.
- ii. Small Pony 99 cm – under 120 cm with or without shoes.
- iii. VSE under 99 cm

4. Are animals measured barefoot or shod?

Animals may be measured either way.

5. What proof of an animal's identity acceptable?

Photographic Coggins, equine passport, microchip, or breed registration certificate.

6. Are photographs taken?

Yes, if there is no other form of identification with photographs.



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7. What format of photographic images is acceptable?

4 color photographs are necessary: image from head on, each side and from the rear showing all feet on the ground.

8. How do I obtain a copy of my animal's ADS Measurement Card?

The owner of the animal holds sole custody of the completed ADS Measurement Card. It is the owner's responsibility to maintain the card. Copies may be made by the owner.

9. Is there a digital version of the ADS Measurement Card?

Digital copies may be acceptable at the discretion of the Organizer of the event.

10. What happens to the ADS Measurement Card if the animal's ownership changes or the animal is leased?

A measurement card is valid for the current competition year regardless of the owner or lessee of the animal.

11. Can the permanent height ever be disputed?

Appeals should be made to the ADS Executive Committee.

12. Who is allowed to perform a measurement?

Any trained ADS Licensed Official, USEF Measuring Official, or a veterinarian familiar with measuring.

13. Who must be present?

An agent for the owner of the animal and a trained ADS Licensed Official or a veterinarian familiar with measuring.

14. How are the authorized measuring personnel trained?

ADS Licensed Officials are trained at ADS Measurement Clinics.



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15. How can my club hold an ADS Measurement Clinic?

Contact the ADS Event Standards Committee:
eventstandards@americandrivingsociety.org

16. Where is the measurement performed?

Anywhere eligible measurement personnel and suitable footing is available.

17. How is the measurement performed?

A trained ADS Licensed Official, measurement-trained FEI or USEF Licensed Official, or veterinarian using a Sure Measure Stick, a USEF measurement stick, or an aluminum stick with a level that measures in centimeters, at the highest point of the withers with the animal standing calm and relaxed with weight on all four feet on a smooth, level surface with the head and neck lowered in a relaxed position.

18. What measuring devices are used?

Sure Measure Sticks, USEF measurement sticks, or an aluminum stick with a level that measures in centimeters.

19. Can an animal's height change in certain circumstances, besides age, natural growth and development, hoof growth and shoeing changes?

Animals in a highly alert or excited and agitated state will likely measure taller than if they are calm and relaxed.

20. Can the ADS Measurement Card be used as proof of height in a sales transaction?

No, ADS Measurement Cards are for use at ADS competitions only.

21. Where can the ADS measurement rules and guidelines be found?

In the ADS Rulebook and the ADS Policies and Procedures available on the ADS website.



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22. What happens when a pony or VSE arrives at an ADS-recognized competition without an ADS Measurement Card?

After July 1, 2020, ponies/VSEs must have an ADS Measurement Card to compete at an ADS-recognized event. The card should be submitted with the entry forms for the event. If a trained ADS Licensed Official or a veterinarian is available, the animal may be measured. Organizers are not required to provide measurement officials at their event.

23. Are ponies and VSEs participating in ADS-Recognized Recreational Events required to have an ADS Measurement Card prior to participating?

Measurement cards are not required for clinics and recreational events. However, the animal may be measured if eligible measurement personnel and suitable footing is available.

24. Are USEF Measurement Cards accepted?

Yes.

25. Are measurement cards from other organizations accepted?

Measurement cards from other organizations are accepted ONLY if the organization measured from the top of the highest point of the withers. Measurement cards from organizations which measure from the last hair will NOT be accepted.