# REGISTRY POLICY

## of the
## *KSAR Open Registry*

## I.  GENERAL

The Karakul Shepherds Alliance Registry (KSAR) shall maintain a complete set of records for Karakul sheep — paper, digital, and (future) online, which shall be placed into permanent files and properly indexed. The complete file shall be known as the *KSAR Open Registry*. It shall contain applications for registration, certificates of registration, photographs, videos, transfers of ownership, flock histories, plus other such records or documents relevant to the registration of Karakul sheep.

### A. KSAR REGISTRY
The Registrar shall keep and preserve a complete file known as *KSAR Open Registry,* containing records of:

1. The ear/neck tag numbers, EID#s (electronic IDs), tattoos, name, color, date of birth, gender, breeder, owner, sire and dam registration numbers for every Karakul sheep accepted for entry in KSAR.

2. All ownership transfers of sheep registered with KSAR.

### B. REGISTRATION
1. For all registrations, each flock needs to have a KSAR flock number assigned. Use *Farm & Flock Finder.*

## II. QUALIFICATIONS FOR REGISTRATION

### A.  PUREBRED KARAKUL
Registration shall extend to and be available to all rams and ewes, if the sire and dam are registered in the KSAR Registry.
### **OR**
The sire and dam are registered in other American Karakul registries; any combination, not necessarily the same registry. Sire and dam do not have to transfer registrations to KSAR for their offspring to be registered with KSAR.

Process:
1. Complete a KSAR Application and provide a photo of applicant sheep.
2. Provide copies of sire and dam registrations and pedigrees from outside registries when applicable.
3. Send to KSAR Registrar with appropriate payment.

### B.  TRANSFERS FROM OTHER REGISTRIES
KSAR accepts transfers of certificates from other American Karakul registries. A new certificate will be issued as a *duplicate* with a KSAR registration number.

Process:
1.  Provide the original certificate, or a copy of the certificate with all information and photos.
2.  Certificate transfers from other Karakul registries must include a useable photo. If photo is too grainy for use on a new certificate, a current photo is usually required. If unavailable, check with Registrar.
3.  Send to KSAR Registrar with appropriate payment for duplicate certificate.

### C.  KNOWN FLOCKS
*Known* US Karakul flocks are those that have descended from earlier recognized flocks and registrations. Some are defined by the Alliance as sub-populations that have been isolated from one another for several generations, with the consequence that they are somewhat genetically distinct. They are frequently designated a Bloodline. Even though some may not have reached a minimum of five years of isolation or line-breeding generations to be defined a Karakul Bloodline, they may still be considered a Known flock due to the recognized history of the breeder. KSAR will register adults and lambs, rams and ewes from all Known flocks. RECOMMENDED BEST PRACTICE: Register oldest first-rams with dams, then sales/exhibition sheep with dams.

Process:
1.  Complete a KSAR Application.
2.  Provide photos of applicant sheep. Instructions are on the Application.
3.  Send to KSAR with appropriate payment.

**D. UNKNOWN FLOCKS (NO HISTORY)** – a process for less than 1% of all registrations (to date)
In keeping with The Livestock Conservancy recommendations in *Guideline for Flock Registrations[1]*, KSAR has established a protocol to help assure the quality standard of Karakul breed-type specifically for considering *ewes* that lack a discernable history, i.e. *not* descendant from Known flocks with recognized shepherds.
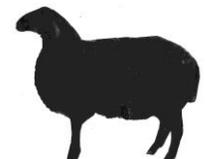
Process towards individual registration from No History *flocks*:

1.   North American Karakul shepherds interested in bringing their flock into KSAR please contact the Registrar.

2.   A completed **Flock Finder** form (paper or online) should be completed and sent to the KSAR Registrar along with multiple pictures of the flock and individual animals that reflect the characteristics of the flock. Photos will be evaluated by Alliance Advisors, and with sheep approval a Flock number assigned.

3.   A history of the flock, *as much is known*, is written and kept on record by KSAR. Recognition for registrations is *by location*. (see Sections 7 & 14 below)

4.   If sheep have been kept separate to maintain different lines, these should be noted and tracked.

5.   No other breeds should be kept on the same property. Crossbreeding is too likely when multiple breeds are kept. If other breeds are kept, they must be noted and *steps taken* to avoid inadvertent crossbreeding.

6.   In the future, it is preferred that population updates be provided annually on approximate numbers of animals and sources of additions, which ideally will only come from sources recognized by KSAR.

7.   First ID of flocks with No History is by *source location*—KSAR will assign Breeder Name/Farm and City, State to a flock number with the suffix -NH (No History). Unidentified breeders from 2nd-hand sales and auctions will be assigned Unknown shepherd #, City/Region, State to a flock number with -NH.

Consideration for individual sheep registration can proceed. BEST PRACTICE: Register oldest ewes first. Advisors will evaluate applications and photos on a case-by-case basis.

Process towards *individual* No History registrations:

8.    *Ewes only* will be considered from Unknown-No History flocks, auctions, and 2nd-hand sales. A minimum of 4 identifying photos of head, side, tail, and birth coat photos as a lamb, or of lamb progeny, should be submitted with the Application.

9.   Individual sheep applicants should fall within the range of traits set forth in the *Standard of Perfection,* exhibiting the physical appearance and visual distinctness of the Karakul, standing on their own merits.

10.   The most distinct feature of Karakul sheep is the lamb birth coat with patterned curls or smooth waves, high luster, and silky texture. Breeding for birth coat quality is highly encouraged to retain Persian lamb genetics. The individual, and/or the progeny, must exhibit a reasonable degree of Curls, Luster, Texture, Pattern, and short to normal Development in its birth coat. To qualify, at least two of these must be represented; they do not have to be top-quality, but present. Photos of these characteristics are best evaluated if taken after the lamb is dried and within 2 weeks of birth.

11.   The broadtail of the Karakul is another distinctive characteristic, joining the sloping rump with a broad base. The upper tail should indicate fatty development on each side and around the tail bone relatively as wide as the body, lying flat against it. Size will vary due to condition, but the skin sack should be present whether filled with fat or not. The lower tail should be a slender appendage, relatively small, with little fat and ending in a narrow point; sometimes docked.

12.   A refined head, face and eyes set Karakul sheep apart. Please note the breed-type head that is described in the *Breed Standard*, first section.

13.   The unique topline must be present—showing indentation in front of and back of the withers, highest at the loin, sloping angularly at the rump and blending into the low set broadtail.

### D. UNKNOWN FLOCKS (NO HISTORY) continued

14.   Once evaluated and accepted, individual farm ID numbers will be recorded, and the assigned KSAR registration number will carry the suffix -NH2 for No History at the 25% level. These Karakuls ewes will be tracked for two successive generations with the suffix -NH3 and -NH4 added to progeny registration numbers. <u>Out of -NH ewes please consider the registration of *exceptional* rams *only*</u>. At the third generation, 3% or less No History blood, the suffix is dropped and progeny are considered American Karakuls. If bred with New Zealand rams, the progeny are considered International NZ (*see below*).

| Generation | Percent |
|---|---|
| NH2 | 25% + |
| NH3 | 12% + |
| NH4 | 6% (range 3.1 - 11.9%) |
| 5 (no suffix) | 3% or less |

The unregistered *parents* will have sire/dam listed as: Breeder Name/Farm and City, State as their *Name/ ID*, first KSAR identifier, along with individual farm ID numbers, if available. In the rare circumstance where breeder is unidentified, parents will be listed as from Unknown shepherd #, City/Region, State. Recognition is *by location*. (Sections 3 & 7 above) Without registration numbers, this identifies the flock into which sire and dam were born. No registration numbers will be assigned to the parents unless applied for.

This provides a transition point for individuals to progress from No History Karakuls into a registry. For the future genetic soundness of the breed KSAR acknowledges that a viable registry recognizes all qualifying sheep, and equally excludes sheep that fall outside ranges set in the *Standard of Perfection*.

### E. INTERNATIONAL

**1. CANADA**   Due to shared ancestors from the 1914 importations, Karakuls from the US and Canada are related. KSAR will consider registration applications from Canadian sheep, should breeders desire that service; imports to the US will also be considered. In the future, Canadian flock numbers and sheep registration numbers will carry the suffix -CA.

**2. NEW ZEALAND**   Karakuls with ancestors relating back to the 2005 New Zealand import will be placed into a separate section of the KSAR Open Registry called International New Zealand. The assigned KSAR registration number will carry the suffix -Z followed by a number that tracks generations based on the NZ bloodline percentage %:

| Generation | Percent |
|---|---|
| Z1 | 50% + |
| Z2 | 25% + |
| Z3 | 12% + |
| Z4 | 6% (range 3.1 - 11.9%) |
| 5 (no suffix) | 3% or less |

Linebred individuals i.e., NZ on *both sire and dam* sides, will have higher percentages and will need more breedings to American Karakuls to lower the NZ bloodline to 3% or less.

a. When a Karakul is registered, the % of NZ influence is noted by the Alliance Registrar on their certificate. Any Karakul, currently *or* previously registered, with 3% or less NZ will be classed as American.

**3. OTHER COUNTRIES**   Imports from other countries do not reflect the history and more than a century of selection to develop the American Karakul breed. Any additional imports will *not* be considered for registration at this time. Once the number of New Zealand Karakuls is determined and their numbers will not be detrimental to the American Karakul's status, limited imports may be considered for registration.

## III.   FLOCK BOOK & SECTIONS

With a 3-section flock book Karakul shepherds may choose their preference: **American, International, No History**:

1) to maintain or increase the NZ influence; sheep will be classed and registered as **International** NZ.
2) to breed solely American Karakuls. Sheep will be classed **American** with 3% or less *other blood* (NZ, No History)
3) acquiring Karakul ewes at auctions or 2nd-hand sales will be classed as **No History** Karakuls for 3 generations (if bred with **American** or **International** Karakuls).

The Livestock Conservancy (TLC) recognizes only *100%* American Karakul sheep, with no influence from outside International lines, for Heritage status counts on their Conservation Priority List. These sheep will be classed internally by the Alliance to generate numbers for the Conservancy.

**For Registry documents or references, check our website or contact:  <u>KSAR Registrar, PO Box 1200 Colville, WA 99114</u>**

## IV. OTHER REGISTRATION NECESSITIES

### A. SECTIONS & SUFFIXES
The KSAR Registrar will assign, or *not* assign, suffixes at the end of registration numbers, which will sort the sheep into types, resulting in—

3 SECTIONS of the *KSAR Open Registry* Flock Book:

1. **American** Karakul, 97% to 100%
2. **International** Karakul—New Zealand, Canada (future)
3. **No History** US Karakuls

SUFFIXES:
-AM      American, 100% (internal tracking purposes only for TLC)
(no suffix)  American Karakul
-NH      No History
-Z       New Zealand
-CA      Canada (future)
It is possible for a sheep to have more than one suffix.

### B. IDENTIFICATION
All sheep submitted for registration in the KSAR Open Registry must be identified by an individual number that is unique to the animal within the flock. This can be done with Farm Tags, USDA Tags, Tattoos, or microchip EIDs (Electronic ID Numbers). All identification should be listed on the sheep's application form.
NOTE:
Breeders are urged to keep all registered animals properly identified at all times. Lost tags should be replaced promptly. *For registered sheep, print new tag numbers on the issued certificate, initial & date in the margin.*

### C. ORIGIN
First owner should originate application for registration. It is the responsibility of the owner at time of birth to properly identify and register the sheep with KSAR.

### D. CORRECTION OF CERTIFICATES
When certificates are received from KSAR, they should be checked for accuracy. If an error is found, the certificate will be re-issued. Errors made by KSAR will be corrected free of charge.
Errors made by the owner, a duplicate certificate fee will be charged.
Certificate alterations for *corrections and additions are acceptable if initialed and dated in the margin.*

### E. DUPLICATE CERTIFCATES
Duplicates may be required for shows, exhibits, and travel to authenticate corrections, or replace lost/damaged certificates. Duplicate certificates are also used for Transfers from Other Registries.

### F. TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP
Every change of ownership of KSAR registered sheep *used for breeding* must be recorded to KSAR. The owner completes the Transfer of Ownership, found on the back of the Registration Application or Certificate. It is *highly recommended* the owner (seller) pay the applicable fees for transfer and send the certificates to the Registry. This prevents the loss of sheep and their records from the KSAR Flock Book.

If new buyers do not want registration certificates transferred, or insist on handling the certificates themselves, please contact the KSAR Registrar with buyer name, destination city/region, date of transfer for ALL Karakuls sold, *registered or not*. If buyer does not want his or her name given, please provide the destination location and KSAR Registrar will assign an Unknown shepherd #, City/Region, State.
**This will help KSAR to track possible *future* hidden Karakul flocks, with a *history*, instead of No History.**

### G. FEES    All fees are payable in advance and must accompany all applications and transfer requests.

Thank you for supporting your Karakul Shepherds Alliance!

Reference:   1.   Sponenberg, Phillip, 2014, *Guideline for Flock Registrations*, White Paper.

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