



Assessment guide for foal leg position



This booklet is designed to help you assess Foals allowing you to record any deviations. This must be done on a timely and regular basis.

If unsure Photographic views should be forwarded to the Veterinarian and the Farrier

Date:

Horse Breed/Type:

Age:

Colour:

Approx height:



Important Note:

It is our opinion that it is really imperative that the New-born Foal is assessed early and thoroughly a guide is 3 hours post-partum then at 3 days old, 3 weeks old, and 3 months. Foals develop rapidly and need constant assessment any observed deformity will need to be monitored and a treatment plan instigated ASAP !!

There is a temptation to leave certain deformities to auto-correct and some of them will but unfortunately permanent damage to the foot itself may occur !!

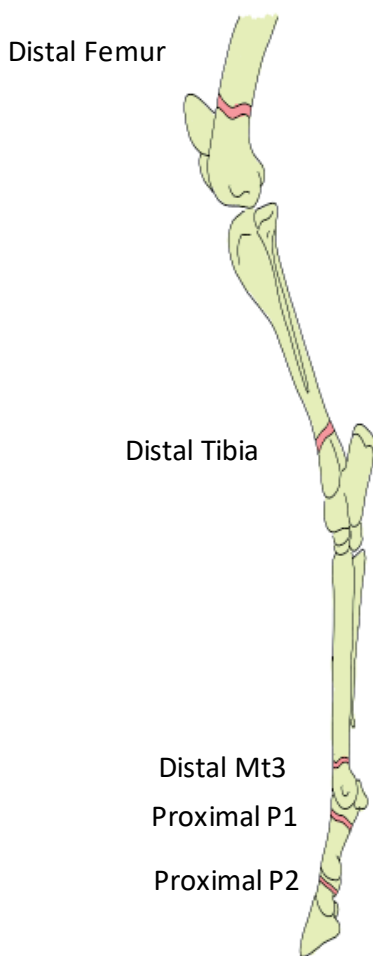
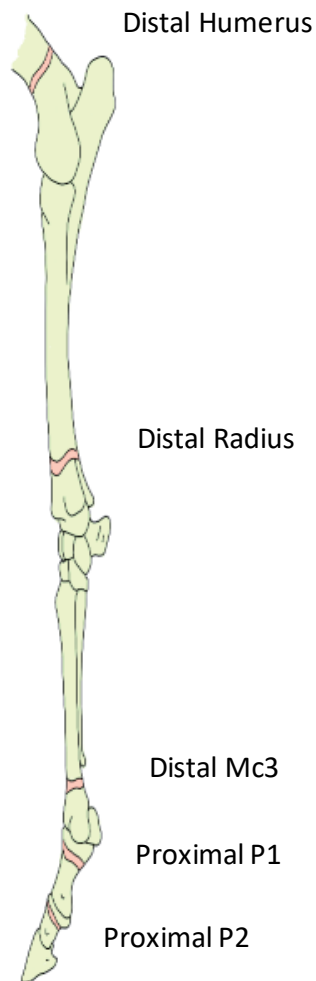
Deformities can be either Congenital (Born with deformity) or acquired and developed postpartum.

Any proposed treatment plan has the best prognosis for correction if implemented early as well as limiting further complications and damage occurring to the weight-bearing and loading structures of the foot due to incorrect placement and loading on them as the tissues develop, which can have a profound effect on the form and function of these structures later in life !!

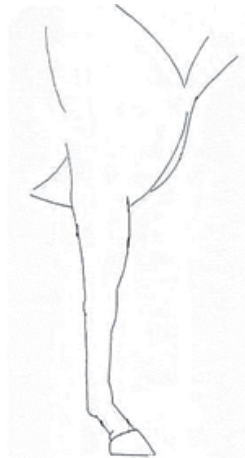
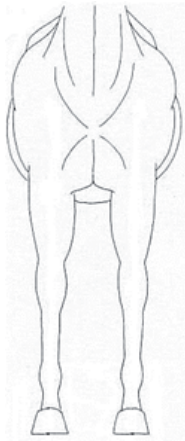
A clear understanding of the weight distribution across the Physeal (Growth Plates), as well as rapid growth periods and closure times, is essential to understanding Angular limb Deformities.

Physeal Plate	Rapid Growth Period in Months	Closure Time in Months
Distal Tibia	0 - 6	24
Distal Radius	0 - 8	24 - 30
Distal 3rd Metacarpal	0 - 3	12
Proximal P1		6
Proximal P2		6

Diagrams of position of Physeal (Growth) Plates Fore and Hind Limb



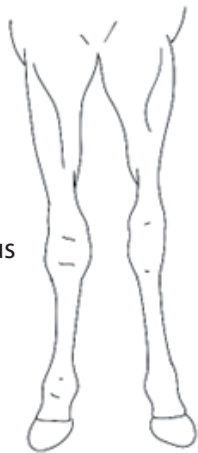
Using the diagrams provided. Assess the forelimb conformation of the Foal from a static assessment.



Cranial assessment deviations to observe.	Lateral assessment deviations to observe.
Carpal Valgus Carpal Varus Fetlock Valgus Fetlock Varus Rotation Off Set Carpus	Flexor Laxity Carpal Contracture DDF Contracture SDF Contracture



Carpal Varus



Carpal Valgus

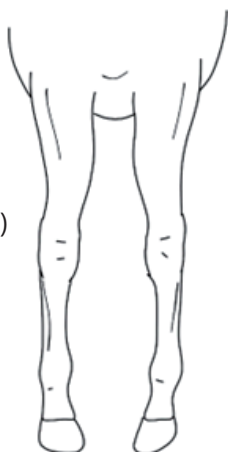
Fetlock Valgus



Fetlock Varus



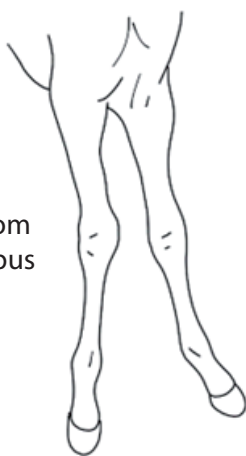
Off Set (Knee)
Carpus



Severe Capital
Valgus RF



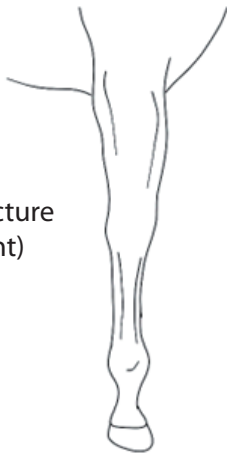
Rotation viewed from
direction of RF Carpus



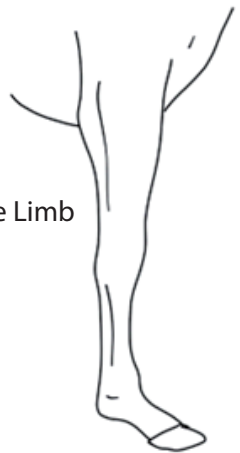
Carpal Contracture



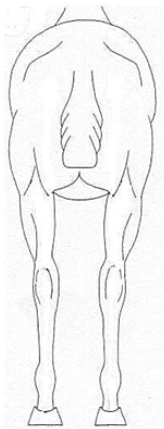
SDF Contracture
(Fetlock Joint)



Flexor Laxity fore Limb



Using the diagrams provided assess the Hindlimb Conformation of the Foal from a static assessment.

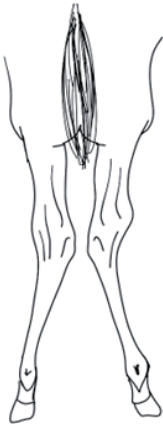


Caudal Assessment	Lateral Assessment
Tarsal Valgus Tarsal Varus Fetlock Valgus Fetlock Varus Windswept	DDF Contracture SDF Contracture Flexor Laxity

Tarsal Valgus
Cranial oblique



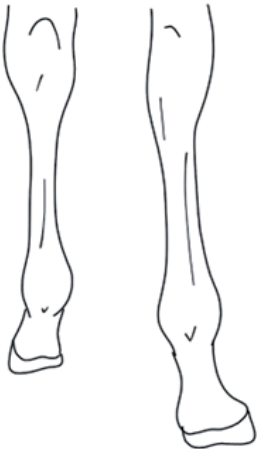
Tarsal Valgus
Caudal view



Fetlock
Varus Hind



Fetlock
Valgus hind



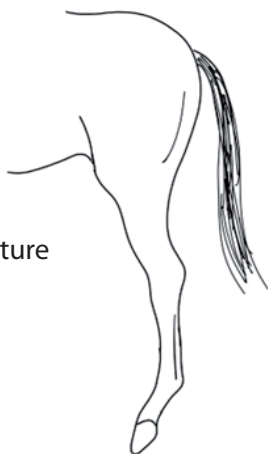
Tarsal Varus
Caudal view



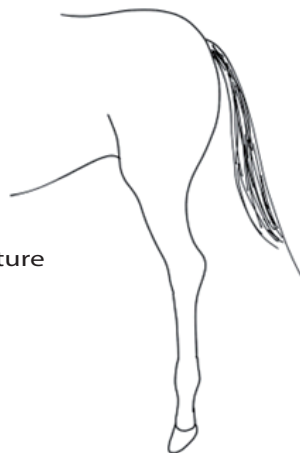
Windswept
Caudal View



DFF Contracture



SDF Contracture



Flexor Laxity Hind



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