

## New Forest Pony Breeding and Cattle Society

### Forest Fed Competition

The Forest Fed competition is a unique event run by the NFPBCS for fully registered purebred New Forest mares lawfully depastured on the open New Forest.

The competition has been running for many years and is a way to recognise how, as commoners, 'we' are retaining the true native type of the New Forest pony and that is hardy enough to be out all year round. These true native type ponies are incredibly important for the future of the breed and many studs away from the forest have over the years purchased true to type forest mares to run with their own stallions in order to consolidate the true native type

The Dale Memorial Trophy was first presented in 1925-the Rev Dale was himself very keen that native type and hardiness should be preserved. The forestfed first began in 1911 as noted in the attached scan from A Celebration of New Forest Ponies.

#### Classes:

Entries are judged on type, conformation, action and overall condition.

There are two sections:

- Mares 5 years old or over that have run the Forest for 11 of the 12 months and had at least one foal.
- Maiden mares, aged 5 to 8 years who have never had a foal but known to the Agister to have been depastured constantly for three years.

All entries are not to have been fed on any concentrated short feed.

#### Showing and Judging:

Owners are usually responsible for showing their own animals to the judge on the open Forest in their natural state and normally takes place between the end of February / early March. Details will be forwarded to you nearer the time to make the appropriate arrangements if you decide to enter.

Judging is split between four areas of the forest, based roughly on the agister areas (Robert Maton, Michael Maton, Mike Lovell and Peter Rix), so depending on where your animal runs will decide which area it is judged in. There is a separate judge for each area. Judges for each area will decide on premiums to be awarded.

#### Cups and Prizes:

The winner of each area goes forward to the Overall Championship where the judges will decide on an overall winner. The Overall Championship winner will be awarded the Dale Memorial Cup and the Overall Best Maiden Mare the Broxmore Challenge Cup.

Cups awarded to Area Winners include:

- Peckham Cup (Robert Maton's area)
- Bessant Cup (Michael Maton's area)
- Nancy Deed Cup (Michael Lovell's area)

- Olga Golby Cup (Peter Rix's area)

There are also some additional cups to be awarded:

- Pinkney Cup for the Best Mare who foaled in the previous year and whose foal was weaned before Christmas
- Golding Cup for the Best Mare north of A31
- Keppel Pulteney Cup for the Best Young Commoner

The highest placed mare from each area where applicable, will also be judged at the same time as the Overall Championship.

**Not only are there some great cups to win but there is prize money too!** The Overall Champion for the Dale Memorial Cup will receive £35 prize money, area winners £20 each, reserve area winners £15 each and special cup winners £15 each.

For any premiums awarded it is £20 for mares that have had a foal and £15 for the maiden section.

It is important to note for Young Commoners, the cup and prize money will be awarded to the highest place mare belonging to a Young Commoner **aged under 35 years**. The mare must be registered in their own name and depastured on the forest meeting the conditions of the schedule.

If a mare is not awarded a premium, then she is not eligible for the special cups mentioned above.

**Additional Benefits of Entering:**

**The Society will also award 'Graded Mare' status if a mare has gained three Forest-Fed premiums (note Maiden Mare premiums are not eligible).**

**Graded mare status recognises the correct breed standard including type (deep girth, plenty of bone), overall conformation and straight movement. It is recorded in the Stud Book.**

**Graded Mares are eligible for three free foal registrations.**

Entries close 31<sup>st</sup> January 2023, entry fee is £5 per animal. The schedule and conditions can be found on the [New Forest Pony website](#) under News & Events/Latest News.

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