

THE NEW FOREST PONY BREEDING PROGRAMME

TO COMPLY WITH THE ZOOTECHNICAL STANDARDS (ENGLAND)
REGULATIONS 2018

Approved by the council of the New Forest Pony Breeding & Cattle Society (UK) December 2020

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NEW FOREST PONY BREEDING PROGRAMME

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BREEDING PROGRAMME - CHAPTER 1

DEFINITIONS

All definitions given in Article 2 of EU 2016/1012 (hereafter known as the Animal Breeding Regulation) apply to the New Forest Pony Breeding Programme.

Specifically:

'breed'

The New Forest Pony breed

'breed society'

NEW FOREST PONY BREEDING AND CATTLE SOCIETY

A Company limited by guarantee (registered in England & Wales with Company Number 3421046. Registered Charity Number 1064746)

(hereafter referred to as the Society, or the Breed Society, or NFPBCS)

'breeding programme'

The New Forest Pony Breeding Programme of the New Forest Pony Breeding and Cattle Society as set out in the following documents. This sets out the actions, including recording, selection, breeding and exchange of breeding ponies and their germinal products, designed and implemented to preserve or enhance desired phenotypic and genotypic characteristics of the New Forest Pony breeding population.

'purebred breeding animal'

A New Forest Pony is one which is entered as such in the New Forest Pony Stud Book.

'breeding book'

A stud book for the registration/entry of New Forest Ponies which shall be called the New Forest Pony Society's Studbook.

'main section'

'main section' means the section of the New Forest Pony Society Studbook in which purebred breeding New Forest Ponies are entered or registered and eligible for entry with details of their ascendants and, where applicable, their merits;

'competent authorities'

The Secretary of State, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), is the UK Competent Authority for the purpose of the Animal Breeding Regulation.

'operator'

The Breed Society, or breeders of New Forest ponies;

'germinal products' means semen, oocytes and embryos collected or produced from breeding animals for the purpose of assisted reproduction;

'zootechnical certificate' means breeding certificates, attestations or commercial documentation which are issued on paper or in electronic form for breeding animals and their germinal products and which provide information on pedigree, identification and, where available, results of performance testing or genetic evaluation;



BREEDING PROGRAMME - CHAPTER 2

LEGAL BASIS, LEGISLATION AND ENFORCEMENT

The Breed Society is legally bound to comply with all relevant charity, animal health, equine identification and zootechnical legislation.

EQUINE IDENTIFICATION LEGISLATION

Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2015/262 (Equine Passport Regulation)

The Equine Identification (England) Regulations 2018 (SI 2018 No. 761)

ZOOTECHNICAL LEGISLATION

Regulation (EU) 2016/1012 on zootechnical and genealogical conditions for the breeding, trade in and entry into the Union of purebred breeding animals (Animal Breeding Regulation)

Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2017/1940 as regards the content and format of zootechnical certificates issued for purebred breeding animals of the equine species contained in a single lifetime identification document for equidae.

Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/602

The Zootechnical Standards (England) Regulations 2018 (SI 2018 No. 1037)

ANIMAL HEALTH LEGISLATION

Inasmuch as the Animal Health Regulation will apply to equines from April 2021.

ENFORCEMENT

The Secretary of State, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs is the UK Competent Authority responsible for enforcement.



BREEDING PROGRAMME - CHAPTER 3

RECOGNITION OF THE BREED SOCIETY

LOCATION OF THE SOCIETY

The Animal Breeding Regulation requires that the Breed Society has its head office on the territory of the competent authority. The Society's Memorandum of Association requires that the Society's registered office is situated in England and Wales.

The Society's address registered with Companies House is: Deepslade House, Ringwood Road, Bransgore, Hants BH23 8AA

LEGAL STATUS OF THE SOCIETY

NEW FOREST PONY BREEDING AND CATTLE SOCIETY
A Company limited by guarantee, registered in England & Wales with Company Number 3421046.

Registered Charity Number 1064746

RECOGNITION BY THE UK COMPETENT AUTHORITY AND THE EU COMMISSION

The Defra Guide to Zootechnical Rules and Standards, updated 1 November 2018, states that breed societies that were officially recognised in the UK before 1 November 2018, will continue to have this status.

On 15 April 2020, the Zootechnical Team, Agri-Food Chain Directorate, Defra, confirmed that the Society had been included within the request for Third Country Listing of Zootech recognised breeding bodies, sent to the EU Commission on 20 February 2020.

On 14 December 2020, Defra informed the Society that the European Commission had accepted Defra's application for third country listing of UK breeding bodies under Article 34 of Regulation (EU) 2016/1012. The Society is included in the list of breeding bodies published on the Commission's website. This means that UK New Forest Pony breeders and NFPBCS can continue to trade with EU filial New Forest Pony breed societies, on the same equivalent terms under the Zootech regime from 1 January 2021.

GEOGRAPHICAL TERRITORY OF THE NEW FOREST PONY BREEDING PROGRAMME

In the United Kingdom the New Forest Pony Breeding Programme will be carried out in England, Wales, Scotland, and Northern Ireland



BREEDING PROGRAMME - CHAPTER 4

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE NEW FOREST PONY BREEDING PROGRAMME

From the Memorandum of Association:

The Charity's objects are to promote and maintain the best standard of New Forest ponies.

From the Rules:

The objects for which the Society is established are:

- (a) To encourage the preservation and breeding of the best type of New Forest ponies.
- (b) To undertake to record New Forest ponies, and enter them in the New Forest Pony Stud Book.
- (c) To hold two Annual Shows, one for entered New Forest stallions, and one for the encouragement and improvement of the breed of entered New Forest Ponies. The dates to be determined by the Council.

4 In furtherance of the Objects but not otherwise the Charity may exercise the following powers:

- (a) To form and publish a Stud Book for the registration/entry of New Forest Ponies which shall be called the New Forest Pony Society's Stud Book.
- (b) To institute and encourage shows, sales, instructional courses and competitions, both new and existing, for the promotion of registered New Forest Ponies.
- (c) To publish and/or otherwise disseminate information on all matters concerning registered/entered New Forest Ponies.
- (d) To act in an advisory capacity in reported cases of ill treatment of New Forest Ponies.
- (e) To investigate, adjudicate or otherwise determine or settle cases of the doubtful or suspect registration of registered New Forest Ponies.
- (f) To consider and promote or oppose legislation affecting the Objects or any of them.
- (g) To draw, make, accept, endorse, discount, execute and issue promissory notes, bills, cheques and other instruments and to operate bank accounts in the name of the Charity.
- (h) To raise funds and to invite and receive contributions: provided that in raising funds the Charity shall not undertake any substantial permanent trading activities and shall conform to any relevant statutory regulations.
- (i) To acquire, alter, improve and (subject to such consents as may be required by law) to charge or otherwise dispose of property.
- (j) Subject to clause 5 below to employ such staff, who shall not be directors of the Charity (hereinafter referred to as 'the trustees'), as are necessary for the proper pursuit of the Objects and to make all reasonable and necessary provision for the payment of pensions and superannuation to staff and their dependants.
- (k) To establish or support any charitable trusts, associations or institutions formed for all or any of the Objects.
- (I) To co-operate with other charities, voluntary bodies and statutory authorities operating in furtherance of the Objects or similar charitable purposes and to exchange information and advice with them.

- (m)To pay out of the funds of the Charity the costs, charges, and expenses of and incidental to the formation and registration of the Charity.
- (n) To do all such other lawful things as are necessary for the achievement of the Objects.

Source: Articles of Association



BREEDING PROGRAMME - CHAPTER 5

RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF THE BREED SOCIETY

Article 14 and Annex I Part 1 B, of the Animal Breeding Regulation EU 2016/1012, as enacted in England by The Zootechnical Standards (England) Regulations 2018, set out the following rights and obligations of the New Forest Pony Breeding and Cattle Society.

OBLIGATIONS IN ORDER TO MEET THE REQUIREMENTS FOR RECOGNITION AS A BREED SOCIETY

NFPBCS has declared to Defra that:

- (a) it has a sufficient number of breeders participating in the New Forest Pony Breeding Programme;
- (b) its Articles of Association, Rules and the New Forest Pony Breeding Programme set out its dispute procedures and ensure equal treatment of breeders participating in its breeding programme;
- (c) it has set out the rights and obligations of breeders participating in the New Forest Pony Breeding Programme, including where membership of breeders is provided for.

RIGHT OF AUTONOMY

The New Forest Pony Breeding and Cattle Society has the right to define and carry out its New Forest Pony Breeding Programme autonomously, provided that it complies with the Regulation and any conditions of its approval set by Defra.

RIGHT OF NFPBCS TO EXCLUDE BREEDERS FROM THE NEW FOREST PONY BREEDING PROGRAMME

NFPBCS has the right to exclude breeders from participating in the New Forest Pony Breeding Programme where those breeders fail to comply with the rules of that breeding programme or with the obligations set out in the Articles of Association.

NFPBCS provides for membership, and NFPBCS has the right to exclude breeders from membership where those breeders fail to comply with their obligations set out in the Articles of Association.

NFPBCS shall, without prejudice to the role of the courts, have a responsibility to settle disputes that may arise between breeders, and between breeders and the breed society, in the process of carrying out the New Forest Pony Breeding Programme, in accordance with the Articles of Association, the Complaints and Disciplinary Procedure, and at various points throughout the Breeding Programme, the dispute procedure specific to that section as stated.



BREEDING PROGRAMME - CHAPTER 6

RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF BREEDERS OF NEW FOREST PONIES

Article 13 and Annex I Part 1 B, of the Animal Breeding Regulation EU 2016/1012, as enacted in England by The Zootechnical Standards (England) Regulations 2018, set out the following rights and obligations of breeders.

RIGHTS OF BREEDERS OF NEW FOREST PONIES

Breeders of New Forest Ponies shall have the right to participate in the New Forest Pony Breeding Programme provided that their purebred breeding New Forest Ponies are kept on holdings located within the United Kingdom.

Breeders of New Forest Ponies participating in the New Forest Pony Breeding Programme shall have the right:

- (a) of ownership of their New Forest Ponies.
- (b) to have their purebred New Forest Ponies entered in the main section of the New Forest Pony Studbook established by the New Forest Pony Breeding and Cattle Society provided they comply with the Requirements for Entry into the Approved Section of the New Forest Pony Studbook.
- (c) to participate in any performance testing and genetic evaluation established by the Society.
- (d) to be provided with a zootechnical certificate as required.
- (e) on request, to be provided, with up-to-date results of any performance testing and genetic evaluation for their breeding ponies, where such results are available.
- (f) to have access to all the other services provided in relation to the New Forest Pony Breeding Programme by the Society.

RIGHT OF MEMBERSHIP OF THE SOCIETY

The Articles of Association of the Society provide for membership, and New Forest Pony breeders have the right:

- (a) to become a member of the Society;
- (b) to participate in the defining and development of the breeding programme in accordance with the Articles of Association and Rules of the Society.

RIGHT OF EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES AND NON-DISCRIMINATION

The Society operates on the basis of equal opportunities and non-discrimination on behalf of employees, members and customers. None of these receive more or less favourable treatment on the grounds of: race, colour, ethnic or national origin, gender, sexual orientation, marital status, disability or religion.

RULES REGULATING THE SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES WITH BREEDERS PARTICIPATING IN THE NEW FOREST PONY BREEDING PROGRAMME

The Society has adopted a Complaints and Disciplinary Procedure published separately.

At various points throughout the Breeding Programme, the dispute procedure specific to that section is stated.



BREEDING PROGRAMME - CHAPTER 7

THE STRUCTURE OF THE NEW FOREST PONY STUDBOOK

The New Forest Pony Breeding and Cattle Society maintains and operates the New Forest Pony Studbook in accordance with its own rules and all current zootechnical legislation (principally Articles 15 and 16 of (EU) 2016/1012, as enacted in England by The Zootechnical Standards (England) Regulations 2018).

The Studbook allows for formal registration of New Forest Ponies to ensure the integrity of bloodlines and to provide a definitive ancestry record.

THE DIVISIONS OF THE NEW FOREST PONY STUDBOOK

The sections that make up the New Forest Pony Studbook are as follows:

- The Approved or Main Section
- The X-Register or Unapproved Section (Non-breeding)

A Part-Bred Register is maintained separately.

These are described in more detail below.

The Approved or Main Section of the Studbook

The Approved section is for ponies that are approved for breeding and can be shown in registered New Forest Pony or affiliated Mountain & Moorland classes.

Females that meet the required criteria are registered straight into the Approved section.

The Y section is for entire male ponies until they reach their third year (taken as at 1 January). Yearling colts may be shown in registered New Forest classes.

When males are either licensed as a stallion as a 2-year-old or gelded they will be entered into the approved section and may be shown in registered New Forest pony classes.

Gelding earlier will also qualify the pony for the approved section on production of a signed certificate from the attending vet. Male foals that are gelded early can be entered at first registration into the approved section as geldings on production of a veterinary certificate.

The X-Register or Unapproved Section of the Studbook (Non-breeding)

This section of the studbook was introduced to allow the Society to comply with EU legislation (European Commission Decision 96/78/EC, which became mandatory in the UK in December 2005). It allows for registration by breed societies of ponies that would

otherwise be ineligible for studbook entry. These ponies are not approved for breeding into the Approved or main section of the Studbook.

The X-Register is open to ponies whose sire and dam are registered in the Studbook but the pony does not fit the criteria for the Approved section.

A pony will be entered in the X-Register if its registration has not been notified to the Society within the correct timescale, that is after the registration deadline date in the year of birth, and the pony has not been DNA parentage verified (sire and dam).

Ponies can be entered into the X-Register at time of foal registration because

- their colour or markings do not meet the breed standard (for example, have excess white markings);
- they carry two copies of the cream dilute gene;
- their sire is an unlicensed stallion.

Ponies can be moved to the X-Register at a later age if they grow to exceed the breed standard height of 148 cm.

There is no grading up to the Approved Studbook so the progeny of X-Register mares will be registered into the X-Register.

X-Register ponies are not eligible to be shown in registered New Forest Pony or affiliated Mountain & Moorland classes.

X-Register ponies are issued with a specially marked maroon-covered Society passport.

Filial societies may use a different name and may have additional similar registers (eg sports register) provided it is made clear that these sections are for unapproved (non-breeding) ponies, and there is no grading up to the Approved Studbook.

A Part-Bred register is maintained separately.

Supplementary Section

There is **NO** supplementary section, as defined in Article 17 of (EU) 2016/1012, in the New Forest Pony Studbook. **The Appendix** closed in October 1990 (Volume 32 of Studbook). It had been for mares and geldings bred on the Forest and known to the Council to be of purebred New Forest stock.

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BREEDING PROGRAMME - CHAPTER 8

REQUIREMENTS FOR ENTRY INTO THE APPROVED SECTION OF THE NEW FOREST PONY STUDBOOK

DEFINITION OF A NEW FOREST PONY

A New Forest Pony is one which is entered as such in the New Forest Pony Studbook.

ENTRY INTO THE STUDBOOK

General Rules, Dates, Fees

The only way to register a New Forest Pony is through the New Forest Pony Studbook.

The Society is bound to meet all zootechnical and equine identification (passport) legislative requirements.

The Council shall examine and when thought fit approve the applications for entry of eligible ponies into the New Forest Pony Studbook.

Applications for entry are to be received by the date set down in the legislation (currently 30 November of the year of birth).

On payment of the appropriate fee, as prescribed from time to time by the Council, the owner of a pony approved as eligible for entry into the Studbook shall have such pony entered in the Society's Studbook.

The equine single lifetime identification document (passport) is only valid if it is in the correct owner's name.

Eligibility for Entry into the Main or Approved Section of the New Forest Pony Studbook

A pony is eligible for entry if its sire and dam are entered in the Approved section of the Studbook.

In all cases the pony must meet the Breed Description.

Rules for Sires

No foal can be entered into the Approved Section of the Studbook unless the sire has been entered and licensed at the time of conception of the foal.

The licensing procedure is set out in the document: Inspection of Two and Three Year Old Colts, and Stallion Licensing: Policy and Procedures.

All sires (whether using natural service or assisted reproduction) must be entered into the studbook in which the foal is being registered, and it is the duty and responsibility of the registering society to ensure that the stallion (dead or alive) is fully eligible. This involves checking that he has a current breeding licence, has passed any required genetic tests, and has been DNA-profiled and sire-verified. The registering society must have a copy of the DNA profile listing the genetic markers and a report giving the results of genetic tests. This is irrespective of the country of birth of the stallion, his current country of residence, and the country that initially licensed him. The registering society must maintain the unique identification number (UELN), in order to ensure the continuity of the identification of the stallion. All filial societies should cooperate in making this information available to one another.

Identification of the Pony

Stud stallion owners must make a return of all mares served. No foal may be entered into the Studbook until this return or a covering certificate is received, excluding Forest-run foals.

Foals must be identified as 'foal at foot'.

Foals must be identified in accordance with all current zootechnical, equine identification and animal health legislation on the identification and registration of equines, and the rules set out in the New Forest Pony Breeding Programme.

Verification of Parentage

All ponies must be open to inspection and DNA-profiling/parentage verification, and photographs may be required showing front, back and both sides of pony.

Where there is any doubt over the parentage of an animal as stated in the registration document issued by this society, the Society may insist that the animal be DNA-profiled and parentage-verified at the owner's expense to confirm parentage.

The Council reserves the right to test all ponies in the approved studbook for parentage or genetically-inherited conditions at any time, at the owner's expense. Refusal to test will result in the removal of the pony from the approved studbook. The Council will determine the conditions under which samples will be taken. The Council may carry out re-tests in the event of anomalous results.

Name of Pony

The name of a pony in the Studbook shall not be changed after entry into the Studbook.

Each name in the Studbook shall be unique.

CANCELLATION OF ENTRY

The Council shall have the right to cancel the entry into the Studbook of any pony entered in the Society's Studbook if it is satisfied that after entry or transfer the entry was authorised

as a result of a mis-statement by the owner or any person acting on the owner's behalf, or fails to comply with the conditions of entry into the Studbook.

WITHDRAWAL FROM THE APPROVED SECTION OF THE STUDBOOK

Any pony that is believed to be over the breed height of 148 cm must provide a JMB certificate showing that it does not exceed the maximum height allowed for the breed or it will be withdrawn from the Approved Section of the Studbook and moved to the Unapproved Section of the Studbook (the X-Register).

Filial societies should note that 148 cm is the absolute upper limit for the breed and ponies measuring over this limit should be given the opportunity of being re-measured by a vet under controlled conditions approved by the filial studbook society. If after re-measurement by a vet under controlled conditions the pony still measures over the limit then it should be removed from the main section of the Studbook.

In the case of breeding stock that measures over-height, the future progeny of such ponies would no longer be eligible for the main section of the studbook.

Any pony found to have excessive white markings beyond those permitted by the Society at the time of submission of its application for entry into the studbook will be withdrawn from the Approved Section of the Studbook and moved to the Unapproved Section of the Studbook (the X-Register).

DEFINITION OF FOREST BRED STATUS

A lawfully depastured pony that is known to the Council and agisters as being both sired and foaled on the open Forest, and which remained on the open Forest until 1 August in the year of birth (except in extenuating circumstances).

COUNCIL RIGHT OF REVIEW AND REVISION

The Council reserves the right to keep under continuing review all the terms and conditions set out in this document, and to make amendments from time to time as appropriate and necessary.



BREEDING PROGRAMME - CHAPTER 9

BREED DESCRIPTION

HEIGHT

The upper height limit is 148 cms. There is no lower limit. All ponies should be judged equally regardless of height.

COLOUR

The three genetic solid base equine colours, bay/brown, black and chestnut are found in the breed.

The roan gene is found in the breed. Ponies should be described as bay roan, chestnut roan, or blue roan.

The grey depigmentation gene is found in the breed. The grey gene causes the progressive loss of pigment throughout the pony's coat and should only be stated as an adult colour. The foal's genetic birth colour should be given on the registration form.

The cream dilution gene is found in the breed. One copy of the cream dilution gene ('single dilute', n/Cr) is permissible. When a single copy dilutes chestnut it produces palomino. When a single copy dilutes bay/brown it produces buckskin (often referred to as dun). When a single copy dilutes black it produces smoky black. These are permissible in the approved section of the studbook provided that both parents are fully registered in the main section of the studbook and neither parent carries two copies of the cream dilute gene. Ponies carrying a single copy of the cream dilute gene may also carry the roan gene. Stallions may carry one copy of the cream dilution gene (n/Cr). Genetic coat colour testing at the owner's expense is the final determinant.

Two copies of the cream dilution gene ('double dilute', Cr/Cr) are not permissible, producing colours generally known as cremello, perlino, smoky cream, blue-eyed-cream and others. A pony carrying two copies of the cream dilution gene (Cr/Cr) which has two registered parents will be registered into the X-Register. Genetic coat colour testing at the owner's expense is the final determinant.

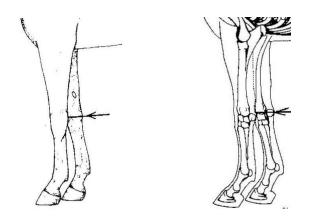
None of the other dilution genes are found. None of the broken-coated pattern genes such as piebald, skewbald, tobiano, overo, and none of the spotted/'appaloosa' pattern genes are found in the breed.

WHITE MARKINGS

White markings other than on the head and lower limbs: loss of, or absence of, pigment in hair or skin that is not known to have been associated solely with skin trauma is not acceptable. So, for the purposes of entry into the approved section of the Studbook a pony

shall not have any white markings on pink skin behind the head, above a horizontal line level with the bony protuberance of the accessory carpal bone at the back of the knee in the forelimb, and the point of the hock in the hind limb, unless proven to be due to trauma/injury.

The lines on the diagrams show the permitted level of white on the forelegs.



TYPE

New Forest ponies should be of working type with substance. They should have sloping shoulders, strong quarters, plenty of flat bone, good depth of body, straight limbs and good hard round feet. The ponies are quite capable of carrying adults, while narrow enough for small children. The smaller ponies, though not up to so much weight, often show more quality.

ACTION

This should be free, active and straight, but not exaggerated.

TEMPERAMENT

The New Forest Pony has an amenable temperament that generally makes it very suitable for multiple disciplines.

Ponies registered in the X-Register of the Studbook may not adhere to the Breed Standard. These ponies are not permitted in Registered New Forest Pony or affiliated Mountain & Moorland classes.



BREEDING PROGRAMME - CHAPTER 10

PART-BRED AND FIRST CROSS NEW FOREST PONIES

RULES FOR REGISTRATION

To breed a First Cross pony one of the parents must be a fully registered New Forest Pony and the other must be a fully registered pure-bred horse/pony from another breed. The resulting progeny that is bred this way is then eligible for the first cross register. Cross bred ponies cannot produce a first cross.

Part-Bred ponies must have at least 25% registered New Forest blood. That is one grandparent must have been a fully registered New Forest Pony. In the case of a 25% part-bred, the parent that is 50% New Forest must be fully registered as such (as a part bred). Such progeny are then eligible for the part bred register.

NB. No breeding up from either register into the main approved section of the Studbook is allowed under any circumstances.



BREEDING PROGRAMME - CHAPTER 11

PREFIXES

The Society shall compile and maintain a register of prefixes to be used in conjunction with the names of ponies included in the Studbook.

Any Member may register a prefix consisting of one distinctive word subject to the approval of the Council and the British Central Prefix Register.

A prefix shall be included with the name of the pony only when the pony has been bred by the holder of the prefix.

In the event of an owner ceasing to use a prefix the Council may consider allowing the prefix to be transferred on receipt of the written permission of the owner, their family or executors.

All rules of the Central Prefix Register apply.



BREEDING PROGRAMME - CHAPTER 12

INSPECTION OF TWO AND THREE YEAR OLD COLTS, AND STALLION LICENSING: POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

General Regulations

By presenting your colt for inspection, you are expressly agreeing to all the terms and conditions set out in this document.

Please bring passports, so that identification of the pony can be checked against the passport. The passport should be correctly transferred into the current owner's name and correct address.

Neither the Society nor any of its Officers or Servants will be responsible for anything that may happen from any cause or circumstance whatsoever to any person attending, or any animal exhibited, at the inspection. It shall be a condition of entry that each Exhibitor/Owner shall hold the Society harmless and that they will indemnify the Society against any legal proceedings arising from any such cause or circumstance.

The inspection is open to public viewing, and many members of the public take photographs. Any photographs taken by the Society may be used by the Society in its publications and on the website.

The Council reserves the right to order off the venue any animal that they consider to be out of control or dangerous.

Regulations Relating to Owners, Exhibitors and Handlers

Handler's dress is casual and practical. Very sturdy footwear is recommended.

The Society recommends the wearing of a hard hat to current standards, and gloves.

Everyone in charge of stock will be subject to the orders, rules and regulations of the Society.

Any person whose conduct, in the opinion of the Committee, is detrimental to the character and interests of the Society may be subject to disciplinary proceedings.

Presentation of the Colt

Colts may be presented in halters or bridles.

Front shoes are permissible for colts aged 3 years or over, but not for 2-year-old colts.

Please ensure that your colt stands squarely and still for the conformation assessment, and is able to run up to show his movement in trot. Movement will be assessed in both walk and trot. Please ensure you pay sufficient attention to this in the colt's preparation. The colt will then be moved loose in the ring. We use the show ring within the open-air sale-yard complex. This is a secure area with high post and rail fencing and a natural surface. Please make sure that the lead rein can be unclipped quickly from the bridle. A lunge whip is available for your optional use.

The Inspection Stage

The Inspection will be by three Breed Society Inspectors, drawn from the Society's Stallion Grading Panel, and approved by the Council.

There is no charge for this inspection.

The inspectors will individually assess and score Conformation (50 marks), Type (20 marks) and Movement (Walk and Trot, 15 marks each).

Following the individual assessment the inspection panel may confer.

Conformation is broken down into 10 sections, scoring 5 points each. If two inspectors give a 2 for the same conformation category then the colt will be referred.

Conformation is split into the following sub–categories:

Head, Neck, Shoulder, Fore Limbs, Hind Limbs, Topline (which includes the overall balance and harmony of the frame), Depth, Width, Hind quarters, Bone.

Each sub-section is scored between 1 - 5 (5 being the maximum).

Type will be a single mark based upon the Society Breed Standard.

The pass mark of 70 must be awarded by at least two inspectors.

The following conformation faults, if of significant degree, or several faults exist in combination, are grounds for recommending rejection, as is general disproportion:

- Malformation of the mouth; uneven wear of the teeth
- Ewe neck, roach back, excessively long back,
- Flat feet, contracted feet, contracted heels, thin or brittle walls and soles, club feet and disproportion of feet,
- Unduly upright or excessively sloping pasterns,
- Base wide, base narrow, toe in, toe out, (fore or hind),
- Lateral deviation of the metacarpals, tied in below the knees in front or behind,
- Posterior, anterior, lateral, medial deviation of the knees,
- Anterior or posterior stance of the fore or hind limbs,
- Upright shoulder,
- Medial or lateral deviation of the hocks, excessive angulation of the hocks,
- Excessively straight hind legs,
- Curby hocks.

You will be given immediately a results slip saying whether the colt has passed or been referred, and you will be sent a summary score sheet later.

Myotonia

Compulsory DNA testing for myotonia ceased in 2017. However, any colt descended from Kantje Ronaldo will be liable to testing. If found to be a carrier will not be approved.

DNA Screening and Analysis

Hair samples will be taken, and will become the property of the Society, and may be used now and/or in the future for screening tests. The results of any such tests will remain the property of the Society.

One sample will be submitted to Weatherbys Scientific in Ireland for DNA analysis and sire checking of approved colts. The DNA profile remains the property of the Society and may be used to verify the pedigree of foals subsequently registered by the Society. No licence will be issued until the DNA profile has been received and the sire verified.

It is recommended that you do not use hair products on your colt's mane in order to avoid contamination of the hair samples.

Polysaccharide Storage Myopathy (PSSM)

All approved colts will have a sample of hair pulled during the vetting stage for testing for the PSSM-carrying gene. Any colt found to have one or two copies of the gene will not be approved for licensing. The Society is bearing the cost of taking the hair sample and having it tested.

The Vetting Stage

Once the colt has passed the Society inspection, he then proceeds to the vetting stage. The veterinary examination shall be such as to ensure recommendation of acceptance only for stallions free from clinical evidence of any disease or deformity as laid down by the Council and amended by them from time to time as found necessary, and of suitable conformation, and height.

The examining vet will certify that in their opinion the stallion is:

- a) free from clinical signs of contagious or infectious disease.
- b) free from clinical signs of any of the following bone spavin, cataract, defective genital organs (including rotation of the testicles), navicular, parrot mouth, ringbone, sidebone, stringhalt, luxation or subluxation of the patella, roaring, whistling, shivering, sweet itch, sarcoids, inguinal & umbilical hernia.
- c) free from clinical signs of broken wind.
- d) not lame.
- e) of satisfactory conformation and physique.
- A slight disproportion between the testicles in an immature stallion may be accepted provisionally, ie, 1 year, conditional on a later examination showing normality.
- Torsion of the testicle if found in a 2-year-old colt, no temporary licence will be issued, but the colt may return for a full vetting by a Society-approved vet as a 3-year-old at which complete normality of the testicles is expected. If torsion is found in a colt of 3 years of age or over, then the colt will fail the vetting.
- The incisors, upper and lower, should be in contact for at least half their width when the head is at its normal angle.

If your colt passes the vet, the Report Form and passport are sent to the office, and the passport will have the Veterinary Certificate number inserted.

The licence will not be granted until the veterinary inspection has been completed satisfactorily, DNA confirmation of the sire has been received, and the results of all required DNA screening tests have been received.

Microchipping

All licensed stallions are required to hold full passports so any colt coming forward on a Forest-run Derogation Certificate will have to be microchipped during vetting at the owner's expense.

Standards of Behaviour Expected During Vetting

Under no circumstances should a stallion be sedated for vetting. Colts should be handled well enough, so that they allow the veterinary examination to take place without being a danger to both their handler and the vet. During vetting the colt will have bone and height measurements taken, teeth checked for alignment, genital organs examined, and eyes closely checked for cataracts. Any colt whose behaviour is such that a complete examination cannot be carried out will be deemed to have failed the vetting and will not be licensed. The Council will back any decision by a vet to pull out of a vetting of a badly behaved colt. The vet should make appropriate notes on the Report Form.

Reminder of Society Rules about Showing and Licensing

Two- and three-year-old colts may NOT be shown without a licence. Only licensed colts of two years old or over may be used for breeding purposes, enabling registration of progeny into the main body of the studbook.

Referrals

If your colt does not pass the Society inspection, he can be referred for a second inspection in the following season's inspection, by a panel of three different inspectors. Please note the conditions in the paragraph above.

Inspection Appeals

If your colt fails two inspections, you then have the right to make a direct appeal to the Council of the Society, which will consider each case on its merits. The appeal should be lodged with the Council, in writing, within 14 days of receipt of the summary score sheet, and accompanied by a remittance of £50 which shall be returnable in the event of the appeal inspection proving successful. The appeal inspection panel will be made up of three inspectors who have not seen the colt previously.

Veterinary Appeals

Should a stallion, of any age, be deemed unacceptable by the Society as a result of a veterinary examination or appraisal, an appeal may be made to the Council who will appoint one or more Veterinary Surgeons, with or without one or more Officials, to re-examine the animal, and/or his offspring, if relevant, and report to the Council. The decision of the Council following consideration of the appeal and such report shall be final and indisputable. Any such appeal shall be lodged with the Council, in writing, within 14 days following the original veterinary inspection, and accompanied by a remittance of £50 which shall be returnable in the event of the appeal proving successful.

The Future - Your Colt's Licence

Once approved by the Society and passed by the vet, your colt will then receive his initial licence and his passport will be stamped with the licence number. This is valid until 30 April of the year in which he is five years old. Between 1 January and 30 April of his fifth year he will need a second vetting, and on passing that he will be granted his full licence. Under normal circumstances, this second vetting may be carried out by a vet nominated by you and approved by the Society and may be carried out on your own premises.

At any time a stallion is liable to re-examination, on a decision by the Society's Council, by a veterinary surgeon appointed by the Council. A stallion may also be liable to appraisal by officials of the Society at any time concerning non-veterinary aspects of acceptability.

Withdrawal of Breeding Licence

A Council decision to revoke a breeding licence may apply to a stallion whether dead or alive, and this applies equally to any frozen semen or embryos in storage at that date, and any foal born subsequently after that date using that frozen semen or embryos may not be registered into the main section of the studbook.

Your Obligations as a Stallion Owner

It is extremely important that the Society knows the whereabouts of all licensed stallions. We have to communicate with you on a regular basis and as we are now a rare breed we are constantly checking bloodlines in order to maintain diversity of our gene pool. We sincerely hope it never

happens but if there is an outbreak of an exotic disease in this country it will be absolutely critical that we know where all our stallions are, and that we can contact you urgently within hours.

- You must ensure that all ownership records in the passport are up-to-date in compliance with current legislation.
- Please ensure that the Society has your full contact details, and that you notify us immediately of any changes.
- You must maintain up-to-date and complete records of coverings, issue service certificates, and file an Annual Return of Coverings, which includes all mares, both New Forest and other breeds.
- You must notify the Society immediately of the castration or death of the stallion by returning the passport for endorsement. The used pages of the passport of a deceased pony can be returned on request.
- Nearly all shows, events and competitions now require stallions to display a stallion disc on the bridle. It is your responsibility to provide this and ensure it is clearly visible.

Use of the Stallion for Assisted Reproduction

Please refer to the Assisted Reproduction – Policy and Procedures document for full instructions on the procedures to be followed and the forms to be completed.

GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATION (GDPR) - PRIVACY STATEMENT

NFPBCS is a data controller registered with the Information Commissioner and endeavours at all times to process your personal data in accordance with the GDPR. All stallions are legally required to have passports and no personal information beyond that which is legally required in connection with ownership of a stallion is needed or processed for the administration of the inspection, and subsequent licensing. The inspection is a joint event with the Verderers of the New Forest, who are also data controllers and information will be shared with them, as is necessary for the administration of the event. Your name as owner will be listed in the catalogue. Results information including photographs may be published (in printed form and online) both to the press and in the Society's publications and studbook. Information may be supplied to Defra and other regulatory authorities if requested by them. Information will be passed to the Society's, or to your own, veterinary surgeons. The making of an entry is irrevocable consent for the storage and disclosure of information in this way. We will never sell your data.

The Society gratefully acknowledges the support of the Horserace Betting Levy Board through a grant payable in recognition of the Society's Minority Status on the RBST Watchlist.

Note: Originally agreed by society council in June 2015, subsequently updated in 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2020



BREEDING PROGRAMME - CHAPTER 13

ASSISTED REPRODUCTION - POLICY AND PROCEDURES

The use of artificial insemination and embryo transfer is permitted for the breeding of foals to be registered into the main section of the New Forest Pony studbook, subject to the following conditions.

EPIDIDYMAL SEMEN HARVESTING

Epididymal semen harvesting is allowed and is particularly welcomed for conservation gene banking but may also be used as a source of frozen semen for commercial breeding, subject to the conditions for artificial insemination..

In all cases the donor stallion must have been licensed for breeding on the date the procedure was carried out, and provided the Society has a record of the DNA profile of the donor stallion.

Immediately after the procedure, the equine identity document (passport) must be returned to the Society office for either amendment to gelding status or cancellation on death.

ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION

The donor stallion

The donor New Forest stallion, as with natural covering, must meet all requirements of the NFPBCS for natural service in that he must:

- Be registered with the NPFBCS and be licensed for breeding;
- Have his DNA profiled and sire verified, and the results recorded on NFPBCS records.

The semen

Collection and insemination must be carried out by an operator approved by the Society.

For semen that may be traded into the EU, then the semen collection or storage centre must be approved for intra-Union trade in this commodity in accordance with Union animal health law.

The semen used in the insemination must be certified as being the semen of the named donor stallion by a veterinary surgeon or such competent person permitted by law. The Stallion Covering Certificate and the Artificial Insemination Certificate should be completed and sent to the Society

The Mare Owner

The mare owner must also certify that the semen is from the donor stallion to the best of his/her knowledge or belief.

The Recipient Mare

For the foal to be eligible for registration in the main section of the studbook, the recipient mare must meet all NFPBCS requirements for registration, and she must be DNA-profiled. If this profile is not already on NFPBCS records, then a hair sample should be taken at the time of insemination and sent to the Society with the appropriate fee, for analysis.

The Progeny

Any resulting foal must be DNA analysed and the full parentage confirmed before it can be accepted into the studbook. The registration form must be accompanied by the Al Stallion Covering Certificate and the Artificial Insemination Certificate, if these have not been filed with the Society previously.

Limit on Number of inseminations

The maximum number of inseminations per stallion each year is limited to 30.

Ownership of Frozen Semen after the sale of the stallion

If a stallion is sold but the vendor retains stored semen, then that vendor is responsible for putting contracts in place which clearly set out the rights of ownership of that semen and the conditions for the use of that semen.

Death of a stallion

Frozen semen may be used after a licensed stallion has died, provided the Society has a record of the DNA profile of the deceased stallion.

Disputes

The Council will not get involved in any dispute concerning the ownership of semen, or disputes about payment for the use of semen, and reserves the right to issue an identity-only passport until all parties certify that all disputes are resolved.

Withdrawal of Breeding Licence of a Stallion and any Frozen Semen or Embryos in Storage

If a stallion, dead or alive, has his breeding licence revoked, then this applies equally to any frozen semen or embryos in storage at that date, and any foal born subsequently after that date using that frozen semen or embryos cannot be registered into the main section of the studbook.

This limitation is permitted under Article 21, paragraph 2 of (EU) 2016/1012, and, as stated in that paragraph, it is binding on filial breed societies.

Withdrawal of Recommendation for Breeding of a Mare and any Frozen Oocytes and Embryos in Storage

If a breeding mare, dead or alive, tests positive or as a carrier for a genetically inherited condition and the Council recommends that she is no longer used for breeding, then this applies equally to any frozen oocytes or embryos in storage at that date. Article 21 paragraph 2 of (EU) 2016/1012 applies.

Export of semen to the EU following the UK's withdrawal from the EU

The EU has granted the UK Third Country zootechnical status from 1 January 2021 and NFPBCS is a listed breeding body under Article 34 of (EU) 2016/1012. It is the semen buyer's responsibility to ensure that all EU movement regulations are followed.

The Society will, on request, provide a Zootechnical Certificate in accordance with EU 2017/1940 and EU 2020/602 and will forward this to the semen collection/storage centre for final completion and sending with the sample. It is the semen buyer's responsibility to ensure that all the correct documentation is completed which will enable the foal to be registered in the studbook in the country of birth.

It is the responsibility of the filial society to register such foals in accordance with Article 36 of (EU) 2016/1012.

Import of semen from the EU following the UK's withdrawal from the EU

It is the semen buyer's responsibility to ensure that:

- all Defra movement and import requirements are complied with.
- the semen sample is accompanied by a Zootechnical Certificate issued in accordance with EU 2017/1940 and EU 2020/602, and that a copy is sent to the Society.

The DNA profile (showing the genetic markers) and all relevant registration details of the donor stallion must be made available to NFPBCS.

It is the semen buyer's responsibility to ensure that all the correct documentation is completed which will enable the foal to be registered in the New Forest Pony Studbook.

Rules for Artificial Insemination for Part-Bred New Forest Registration

If the donor stallion is another breed, then the criteria of the relevant breed studbook for that stallion must be met and complied with. The DNA profile and all relevant registration details must be made available to NFPBCS.

If the recipient mare is another breed, then her DNA profile and all relevant registration details must be made available to NFPBCS.

All other procedures are the same as for pure-bred breeding by artificial insemination.

EMBRYO TRANSFER

Collection of embryos and their transfer must be carried out by an operator approved by the Society.

For embryos that may be traded into the EU, the embryo collection or production team or storage centre must be approved for intra-Union trade in this commodity in accordance with Union animal health law.

Foals that are the result of ET must be parentage verified to the sire and donor mare.

The registered owner of the donor mare will be recorded as the breeder unless the Society is notified otherwise.

A hair sample will be required from the recipient mare which will be held and only analysed in the event of the foal failing its parentage test.



BREEDING PROGRAMME - CHAPTER 14

THE ROLE OF NFPBCS AS THE STUDBOOK OF ORIGIN, ITS RELATIONSHIP TO FILIAL BREED SOCIETIES, THE PRINCIPLES TO BE FOLLOWED BY FILIAL BREED SOCIETIES

LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK

ZOOTECHNICAL REGULATION (EU) 2016/1012 - 'Animal Breeding Regulation'

DELEGATED REGULATION (EU) 2017/1940 – content and format of equine zootechnical certificates

DELEGATED REGULATION (EU) 2020/602

The above regulations lay down the framework for the breeding of pure-bred New Forest ponies, the issuing of zootechnical certificates, and for the operation of all New Forest filial breed societies, and should be fully adhered to.

EXTRACTS FROM REGULATION (EU) 2016/1012

The following extracts are highlighted as being particularly relevant, but should be read in the context of the full Regulation.

Recital (8)

Over the last 20 years, the Commission has had to respond to a significant number of complaints, raised by breeders and operators carrying out breeding programmes, in relation to the national transposition and interpretation of Union legal acts on the breeding of animals in different Member States. To ensure the uniform application of Union rules on breeding animals and to avoid obstacles to trade in breeding animals and their germinal products resulting from divergences in the national transposition of those Directives, the zootechnical and genealogical conditions for trade in breeding animals and their germinal products and their entry into the Union should be laid down in a Regulation.

Recital (14)

The aim of the rules on purebred breeding animals laid down in this Regulation should be to grant access to trade based on agreed principles applicable to the recognition of breed societies managing breeds and the approval of their respective breeding programmes. This Regulation should also lay down rules governing the entry of purebred breeding animals in the main section of the breeding books and, where they exist, in the different merit classes of the main section. It should also lay down rules for performance testing and genetic evaluation and rules for the acceptance of breeding animals for breeding as well as the content of the zootechnical certificates.

Recital (33)

From various complaints the Commission has had to deal with in previous years, it appears that this Regulation should provide for clear rules governing the relationship between the breed society that establishes a filial breeding book for a particular breed of purebred breeding animals of the equine species and the breed society that claims to have established the breeding book of the origin of that breed.

Annex I, Part 3

- 3. The following specific requirements shall apply to purebred breeding animals of the equine species, in addition to those set out in Parts 1 and 2:
- 3(a) Where a breed society declares to the competent authority that the breeding book it has established is the breeding book of the origin of the breed covered by its breeding programme, that breed society shall:
- (i) have in its possession a historical record of the establishment of that breeding book and have made the principles of that breeding programme publicly available;
- (ii) demonstrate that there is, at the time of the application referred to in Article 4(1), no other known breed society or breeding body which is recognised in the same or another Member State or in a third country, which has established a breeding book for the same breed and which is carrying out a breeding programme on that breed based on the principles referred to in point (i);
- (iii) cooperate closely with the breed societies referred to in point (b), and in particular inform, in a transparent and timely manner, those breed societies of any changes to the principles referred to in point (i);
- (iv) have, where necessary, established non-discriminatory rules as regards its activities with respect to breeding books established for the same breed by breeding bodies that are not included in the list provided for in Article 34.
- 3(b) Where a breed society declares to the competent authority that the breeding book it has established is a filial breeding book of the breed covered by its breeding programme, that breed society shall:
- (i) incorporate into its own breeding programme the principles established by the breed society referred to in point (a) that maintains the breeding book of the origin of the same breed:
- (ii) make the information regarding the use of the principles referred to in point (i) and their source publicly available:
- (iii) have mechanisms in place to ensure the necessary adjustments of the rules set out in its breeding programme, referred to in Article 8(3), and, where applicable, Article 12, to the changes made to those principles by the breed society referred to in point (a) of this paragraph that maintains the breeding book of the origin of the breed.
- 4 (c) By way of derogation from point 3(b) of this Part, a breed society maintaining a filial breeding book may establish additional classes according to merits, provided that the purebred breeding animals of the equine species which are entered in the classes in the main section of the breeding book of the origin of the breed or of other filial breeding books of the breed may be entered in the corresponding classes of the main section of that filial breeding book.

Annex II, Part 1, Chapter I

3. In addition to the rules set out in point 1(c) of this Chapter, a breed society that enters in its breeding book a purebred breeding animal of the equine species which has already been entered in a breeding book established by another breed society carrying out a breeding programme approved in accordance with Article 8(3), and, where applicable, Article 12 shall enter that purebred breeding animal under the identification number ascribed to it under Regulation (EU) 2016/429 which shall ensure the uniqueness and continuity of the identification of that animal and, except where a derogation has been agreed by the two breed societies concerned, under the same name, with an indication, in accordance with international agreements for the breed concerned, of the code of the country of birth.

NEW FOREST PONY BREEDING BOOK OF ORIGIN

The UK's New Forest Pony Breeding and Cattle Society (NFPBCS) has declared to its competent authority, the UK Government's Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), that its New Forest Pony Studbook is the breeding book of origin for the New Forest Pony breed. The EU Commission has approved NFPBCS as a third country breeding body under Article 34 of (EU) 2016/1012.

IN RELATION TO FILIAL SOCIETIES, NFPBCS AS THE STUDBOOK OF ORIGIN WILL:

Cooperate closely with filial breed societies and in particular inform those filial breed societies, in a transparent and timely manner, of any changes to its breeding programme. It will do this through:

- Posting all relevant material and updates on its open website.
- Emailing all changes to the breeding programme to filial societies.
- Sending a copy of the Annual Report to each filial society.
- Giving relevant officers of filial societies access to Grassroots Online, the digital version of the New Forest Pony Studbook.
- Ensure that regular International Meetings are held, currently on a biennial basis.

 At international meetings, giving each filial society the latest issue of the printed studbook.

The Society has, where necessary, established non-discriminatory rules as regards its activities with respect to breeding books established for the same breed by breeding bodies that are not included in the list provided for in Article 34.

The Society will enter into the New Forest Pony Studbook, ponies of the same breed that are eligible for entry under the Society's Requirements for Entry into the Approved Section of the New Forest Pony Studbook, without discrimination on account of their country of origin.

NEW FOREST PONY FILIAL BREED SOCIETIES AND FILIAL BREEDING BOOKS

At some stage (and this may have been in the past) each European New Forest breed society should have declared to its competent authority that its breeding book is a filial breeding book of the UK's NFPBCS New Forest Pony Studbook.

THE PRINCIPLES TO BE FOLLOWED BY FILIAL NEW FOREST PONY BREED SOCIETIES

Filial New Forest Pony breed societies shall:

- (i) incorporate into its own breeding programme the principles established by the New Forest Pony Breeding and Cattle Society which maintains the breeding book of origin for the New Forest Pony breed;
- (ii) make the information regarding the use of the principles referred to in point (i) and their source publicly available;
- (iii) have mechanisms in place to ensure the necessary adjustments of the rules set out in its breeding programme, to the changes made to those principles by the NFPBCS that maintains the breeding book of the origin of the breed.

Filial breed societies should inform NFPBCS, in a timely and transparent manner, of any changes to its breeding programme.

ENTRY INTO EU FILIAL STUDBOOKS OF BREEDING NEW FOREST PONIES AND OFFSPRING PRODUCED FROM GERMINAL PRODUCTS THAT HAVE ENTERED THE EU FROM THE UK

NFPBCS has been listed as a breeding body by the EU Commission under Article 34 of (EU) 2016/1012. Accordingly, EU filial societies must enter into their filial studbooks, breeding New Forest ponies and offspring produced from germinal products that have entered the EU from the UK as set out in Article 36 of (EU) 2016/1012.

RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF BREED SOCIETIES

In accordance with Article 14.1 of Regulation (EU) 2016/1012, as regards their breeding programmes, breed societies shall have the right to define and carry out such breeding programmes autonomously, provided that they comply with the Regulation and any conditions of their approval. Filial societies may need to consult with their national/federal bodies.



PROGRAMME - CHAPTER 15

MYTONIA BREEDING POLICY

At the International Meeting held in Ermelo, The Netherlands, 29-30 September 2017, it was agreed that from 1 January 2018:

Compulsory testing of all stallions for the myotonia carrying gene is no longer required;

Stallions and mares that are to be used for breeding that have a parent that carries the myotonia gene should be tested.

All breeding stock descended from Kantje's Ronaldo that has not been tested previously, should be tested.

Where testing is required in the above circumstances, then the revised 2022 Myotonia Breeding Policy (printed below) applies.

In addition:

Point 6 of the 2013 Myotonia Breeding Policy made it clear that the breeding licence was revoked for any stallion who is found to be a carrier of the myotonia gene. This must apply equally to all deceased stallions and, in accordance with the policy on Assisted Reproduction and Article 21 of the Animal Breeding Regulation (EU) 2016/1012, to any frozen semen of that stallion in storage. From 1 January 2021, no frozen semen can be used where it comes from a stallion, dead or alive, who has had his breeding licence revoked for being a carrier of the myotonia gene, to breed foals who will be registered into the main section of the studbook.

2022 Myotonia Breeding Policy

Aim of the Policy

The society Council believes that steps should be taken to, at best, eradicate the carrier gene from the studbook, or at least, to isolate it and make it clear where carriers exist to enable responsible breeding to take place.

The original Myotonia breeding policy in place from 2013 was reviewed by the Society in consultation with its veterinary surgeons and with the European filial societies in 2022.

In the light of more scientific and genetic information and knowledge of how Myotonia is inherited, and the steps that have been taken to control the gene over the preceding period since the original policy was implemented, the NFPBCS have updated its Myotonia policy which will take effect from 01 January 2023:

The main elements of change are in points 2,4,5 & 8.

Policy

- 1. If a stallion or any frozen semen is found to be a carrier of the Myotonia gene subsequent to the implementation of the original Myotonia Policy in 2013, its licence for future breeding will be revoked with immediate effect.
- 2. All colts tracing back to Kantje's Ronaldo lineage must be tested clear before any licence, and entry into the main section of the stud book is allowed (unless its Sire & Dam have already been tested clear).
 - The result is to be entered in the passport and any other breeding documents or Zootechnical Certificates, published by the Society in its annual report, noted in the annual studbook records and an accessible record maintained on-line.
- 3. If any carriers are found in other registered stock, the result is to be entered in the passport and any other breeding documents or Zootechnical Certificates, published by the Society in its annual report, noted in the annual studbook records and an accessible record maintained on-line.
- 4. All breeding mares that have lineage tracing back to Kantje's Ronaldo must be tested, unless both their sire and dam have a clear test result on file. The results of any carriers must be published in accordance with point 2&3 above.
- 5. The progeny of any carriers shall not be registered in the main section of the stud book unless they themselves are tested clear but will remain in the X register.
- All mare owners are advised to check that the stallion or frozen semen with lineage tracing back to Kantje's Ronaldo that they intend to use has been tested clear before sending a mare to stud.
- 7. All imported ponies with lineage tracing back to Kanjte's Ronaldo to be used for breeding in the UK will have to be tested clear of the Myotonia gene before being accepted into the main section of the UK studbook (unless its sire and dam have already been tested clear).
- 8. The Society strongly recommends that mares that are carriers of the Myotonia gene should not be crossed with a stallion/semen that is also a carrier of the Myotonia gene.
- 9. Daughter studbooks are asked keep NFPBCS regularly informed of the steps being taken to deal with the issue in their own countries. The expectation is that they will adhere to this policy as a minimum, but may take action over and above this, depending on the number of carriers within the breeding herd.

Approved by Council to take effect from 1St January 2023.



BREEDING PROGRAMME - CHAPTER 16

PSSM1 BREEDING POLICY

PSSM1 - What is it?

Polysaccharide Storage Myopathy Type 1 (PSSM1) is a dominant autosomal hereditary condition that can cause a genetic form of tying-up, with muscle damage and inability to move. In some horses, symptoms may begin by 2-3 years of age, while others remain subclinical. In many cases horse that have tested positive have had no history of 'tying-up' or other symptoms associated with PSSM.

How PSSM1 is inherited

The genetic test verifies the presence of the dominant PSSM mutation. Because it is dominant, a horse having only one copy (heterozygous) is affected, and has a 50% chance of passing the PSSM allele to its offspring. This 'dominant' effect has major implications for breeders – there are no 'carriers' – a horse has got the condition, or it has not got it.

This makes it different to Myotonia, which is a recessive mutation, and has 'carriers' who are not themselves affected.

Policy

- 1. All UK New Forest stallions licensed for use in 2018 were tested at the Society's expense and tested clear n/n, so are free of the PSSM1-carrying gene, they cannot pass it on, and are safe to use for breeding.
- 2. All colts approved for licensing are to be tested during the inspection/vetting process and will not be licensed until there is a clear n/n result. Any positive result will be published.
- 3. All hair sampling of colts will be carried out by a veterinary surgeon or approved Society official, and the DNA tests will be undertaken at a laboratory approved by the Council.
- 4. Stallion owners are obliged to agree to the results being entered in the passport and published by the Society.
- 5. Failure to have a stallion tested will result in his breeding licence being revoked and his progeny not being accepted into the approved section of the stud book.
- 6. If a stallion tests n/P1 or P1/P1, his breeding licence will be revoked. The passport will be marked and the result published.
- 7. If a deceased stallion tests n/P1 or P1/P1, then his breeding licence is revoked and this will apply equally to any frozen semen or embryos in storage at the time.

- 8. All imported stallions to be used for breeding must be tested clear before being accepted into the UK studbook, or the importing country's filial studbook.
- 9. All stallions used for intra-state breeding, whether by natural service or assisted reproduction, and whether dead or alive, must be PSSM1-clear. The society which will register the foal will need to satisfy itself that the stallion has tested clear.
- 10. It will be a requirement that all potential breeding stock being imported from another filial country are tested clear before progeny are accepted into the approved section of the studbook.
- 11. Although mindful of the decision taken at the 2019 International Meeting, the zootech regulations state the requirement for filial studbooks to follow the rules of the studbook of origin and therefore filial studbooks are required to test all stallions.

Owners of female breeding stock from the affected lines

Breeders will need to review the pedigrees of all mares and identify those that may be affected. Each breeder will have their own breeding plan with their own aims, goals and objectives, so each breeder will have to take their own individual decisions as to how to deal with possibly affected mares. The only way forward is through responsible testing and each breeder will have to decide on which of their mares to test, and when, according to when they are likely to breed next, and in accordance with your plans for that mare.

With a genetic test available, breeders can avoid breeding affected foals. Voluntary disclosure of a pony's tested status, whether they are used for breeding, or being offered for sale, should become the norm, rather than the exception. All stallions used in the future will be PSSM-free. Through responsible testing and careful breeding, breeders can eliminate the possibility of any affected foal ever being born.