



CYMDEITHAS Y MERLOD A'R COBIAU CYMERIG THE WELSH PONY AND COB SOCIETY

Established 1901



THE SOCIETY RULES COVERING REGISTRATION AND PASSPORTING OF WELSH PONIES, COBS AND PART-BREDS 2024

Updated March 2024.

Before submitting an application to the Society, all applicants must read the Rules Covering Registration and Passporting. By signing any application form and/or making a submission for a service to the Society, the applicant is confirming that they have read and understood the Rules of Registration and Passporting and will abide by these rules at all times. The Society reserves the right to refuse any applications where errors are preventing the processing of this and return the application to the applicant without processing the request(s) or refuse any application where the rules in this document have not been followed correctly. The Society does not tolerate abuse towards staff. All rules set out in this document are final and it is the applicant's responsibility to have read and understood the rules fully before submitting any application, and then comply with the rules at all times when submitting the application(s) to the Society.

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Underlined – Denotes updated rules included in this document for clarity.

GREEN TEXT – Denotes new rules/regulations included in this document.

1 - RULES COVERING ALL REGISTRATIONS

- i. All applications for registration must be applied for on a fully completed current registration form, supplied by the Welsh Pony and Cob Society. It must be signed by the breeder (the breeder is the owner or lessee of the mare at the time of foaling) and the breeding details must be verified by the breeder, with the declarations signed confirming that the details are correct. Knowingly falsifying the registration information is considered fraud. Forms can be downloaded from the Society website or can be requested by contacting the WPCS Office. **Please ensure that you are using the correct and most up to date version of the forms. The Society reserves the right to refuse applications on older versions of registration forms that are now obsolete in favour of new forms that have been updated or amended. Applicants are advised to check the Society website or check with the office to ensure they are using the correct forms. All applications must be completed on the Society forms. We cannot accept applications made on forms produced by other Passport Issuing Offices.**

The Society offers all application forms bilingually and welcomes applications made in the Welsh language. Breeders wishing to complete their application in the Welsh language can contact the office for advice on the terminology for the markings and description, and translations of the acceptable colours are available in section 6 of this document.

- ii. Incomplete or incorrect applications received will be rejected and returned to the sender to enable corrections to be made. A £10 administration fee will be applied to forms containing **three or more errors**, which must be paid upon the resubmission of the form to the Office. An administration fee will also be applied to any registration form received in the office where that foal has **not been microchipped by a vet, or where the microchip number has not been recorded on the form, prior to submission of that form into the office.** If an administration fee is required for incorrect or incomplete submission, then the registration will **NOT** be processed until the administration fee has been paid.
- iii. The details of the sire and the dam must be clearly supplied on the registration form. If either the sire or dam is unknown, this should also be noted clearly on the form, and must not be left blank. The Welsh Pony and Cob Society cannot register animals with no known breeding i.e., both Sire and Dam noted as unknown. In cases where there is an animal with no known breeding, the Society can offer a basic ID-only passport via the EquiCymru passport service (www.equicymru.co.uk). See section 22 of this document for more information.

- iv. Mares must be 3 years of age or over at the time of foaling. Age is calculated from the 1st of January. It is recommended that a mare should not be covered until it is 3 years of age for welfare reasons. The progeny born from mares under 3 years of age at time of foaling will be entered into the X Section of the Main Stud Book, in either Pure or Part-Bred sections as appropriate. See section 11 of this document.
- v. All registrations requiring a passport to be printed must have the markings diagram and the written description **fully completed**. The 'description taken by' box must be signed by whoever took the description. A veterinary surgeon **MUST** microchip the animal and mark the location where the microchip was implanted with 'M' in a circle on the silhouette. The veterinary surgeon must also include the date and place of examination, and then sign, include their qualifications, and stamp the form with their practice stamp in the required places.
- vi. Prefixes registered with the Welsh Pony and Cob Society and the Central Prefix Register can only be used by the owner of that prefix; prefixes can be extended to family members with written confirmation from the owner of the prefix. As a default rule, all prefixes registered with the Society cannot be used as a second name. However, it is the discretion of the Society whether a prefix already registered with the Society can be used as a second name. In this case, see the website for a full list of prefixes that are allowed to be used as second names. Breeders may register an animal with an 'unregistered prefix' in one instance. If the breeder wishes to use the same 'unregistered prefix' again, they must apply to register it as an official prefix with the Welsh Pony and Cob Society and the Central Prefix Register. This does not guarantee that another breeder may register that prefix in the meantime, or that this choice will be available with the WPCS or CPR. If the breeder does not wish to register a prefix, then they must change the name that they use every time.
- vii. If a name has already been used for a registered animal, then it cannot be used again. The Society will ask breeders to supply a different name, which must sound suitably different to any pre-existing names already registered in combination with that breeder's prefix, or if no prefix is used, it must sound suitably different to any other name already used. The Society will not allow the addition of an 's' or hyphen to change a name from one that has already been used before, for example if 'May Day' has been used by that breeder before, this name CANNOT be changed to Mayday, May-Day or Maydays. The Welsh Pony and Cob Society reserves the right to refuse any name of an

animal that could be seen as derogatory, insulting, or offensive. Breeders are welcome to contact the Office if they would like to check if a name is unacceptable before submitting their application form or ask for name suggestions, especially in the Welsh language. The office can also advise on the correct pronunciation of Welsh names.

- viii. Once the studbook for that year has closed to registrations, the name cannot be changed. Only the breeder of the pony is allowed to request to change the name of their foal, providing the studbook for that year has not yet closed.
- ix. In order to record a person(s) as breeder of an animal, the Welsh Pony and Cob Society requires that person(s) to be recorded as the owner of the dam at the time of foaling or recorded as having the dam on lease/loan at the time of foaling. Ownership records must be kept up to date, otherwise the offspring cannot be registered. If more than one person is to be recorded as a joint breeder of an animal, and that additional person(s) is not currently recorded as a joint owner of the mare, then a transfer of ownership or lease to include the additional person(s) must be completed. Lease forms must be signed by the owner of the animal, with the correct period of lease specified. A lease form is available to download from the Society website. Please see the Society website or contact the office regarding current prices to update or add a lease.
- x. If the covering stallion is owned by the breeder, then the 'service certificate' part of the registration application form must be signed by the breeder, or they must supply a separate covering certificate. If the breeder of the foal is different from the owner of the stallion at the time of covering, then a signed and dated service certificate is required to confirm the covering or the 'service certificate' part of the registration application form must be signed and dated by the owner of the covering stallion. **In any case, the owner of the stallion at the time of covering must sign either the section on the form or a separate service certificate which must accompany the registration form. Do not send multiple signed covering certificates to the office ahead of registrations. Any certificate received in this manner may be rejected and the registration form returned if the details contained on the registration form cannot be matched to a service certificate that is received as a previous submission.** If the service certificate has not been submitted alongside the application form or the 'service certificate' part of the form has not been signed, then the Welsh Pony and Cob Society will not be able to register the foal and will return the form to request that the service certificate is supplied.

- xi. If the foal is sold before submitting the registration, then the breeder can request that the transfer of ownership is completed to the new owner at the point the passport is issued. To do this, the breeder will need to complete a separate transfer of ownership form which can be downloaded from the website or requested from the office and must be submitted along with the registration application form for that animal.
- xii. **DO NOT release a sold animal or its passport until you have received the payment in full from the buyer for the animal. The Society cannot get involved in third party disputes between buyers and sellers where it has no power to act.**
- xiii. **All foal passports are issued to the breeder by default, as a foal should not leave the premises of the breeder unless accompanied by its passport.**
- xiv. **The age of all equines is calculated from the 1st of January.**

🐾 2 - CHECKLIST: BEFORE SUBMITTING THE APPLICATION FORM

Please check the following before submitting your registration form:

- i. Front side
 - 🐾 The sire and dam are named on the form
 - 🐾 Conception type is included on the form (Natural Service (N.S) Artificial Insemination (A.I.), or Embryo Transfer (E. T.))
 - 🐾 Sign and print name as stallion owner/agent or have the stallion owner/agent sign the form or provide a covering certificate
 - 🐾 Include the period of covering
 - 🐾 The dam is owned/leased by the breeder
 - 🐾 The sire is licensed
 - 🐾 The sire is owned or leased by the person signing the covering certificate
 - 🐾 If this is the mares first pure bred foal, the mare will need a DNA profile
 - 🐾 You have the right to use the prefix
 - 🐾 You have named the animal
 - 🐾 The exact date of birth is noted
 - 🐾 The sex of the animal has been included
 - 🐾 If the foal is a part-bred sired by, or out of a mare not registered with the Society, and you wish for their pedigree to be included on the foal's passport, you must include a copy of their pedigree
 - 🐾 Breeders' details and declaration are completed and signed

- 🐾 Payment has been made, or payment details provided
- 🐾 If you wish to have the foal transferred at the point the passport is issued, then please complete a transfer of ownership form
- ii. Reverse side
 - 🐾 You have noted the correct section A / B / C / D / WPBR and colour
 - 🐾 You have included the sex of the animal (Male, Female or Gelding) and this matches the front of the form
 - 🐾 All sections of the description are completed clearly
 - 🐾 If the animal has no markings to note in any section, please write 'none' rather than leave it blank
 - 🐾 The 'description taken by' section is completed
 - 🐾 The microchip sticker is attached, or the number written in place of a sticker if the sticker is not available
 - 🐾 The location of the microchip has been marked with M in a circle on the diagram
 - 🐾 All markings are clearly drawn
 - 🐾 Leg markings are all filled in and correlate correctly to the written description
 - 🐾 The rear-view leg markings have been filled in correctly
 - 🐾 A veterinary surgeon has signed, dated and stamped the form.

🐾 3 - PURE BRED COLTS AND FILLIES

- i. To register an animal as Pure Bred, both parents must be registered as Pure Bred. The sire must be in possession of a Welsh Pony and Cob Society licence or a recognised equivalent. The registered names and numbers of both sire and dam must be clearly written on the registration form.
- ii. Applications for Pure Bred foals must be received by the WPCS office on or before the 30th of November in the year of foaling. Applications that have been received after this time will be classed as late and will incur additional costs. **This is a Welsh Government set deadline.**
- iii. The Welsh Pony and Cob Society requires late applications for Pure Bred colts and fillies received after 1st of January in their yearling year to have a full DNA parentage report, confirming that both the sire and dam are correct, before registering the animal. This will also incur a late entry fee. DNA testing kits can be obtained from the Welsh Pony and Cob Society office.
- iv. If the foal is the first Pure Bred registered offspring from a mare, then the Welsh Pony and Cob Society requires a DNA profile for the dam to be held on file. Without this, the application for the foal will not be completed.

- v. **The Society advises that breeders apply for DNA at least 12 weeks prior to the application of the foal's registration, to minimise the possibility of unnecessary delays. The laboratory advises a time of between 6 and 12 weeks to complete DNA profiling/parentage verification and to return the result to the Society. The Society also strongly recommends that the mares are DNA tested as soon as they are known to be in foal. In the event that the mare dies during foaling, or after, and there is no DNA profile lodged with the Society where it is needed, then the Society will not be able to register the foal out of that mare needing a DNA profile. DNA test the mare before the mare foals.**
- vi. To verify that the Stud Book is as correct as possible, the Welsh Pony and Cob Society will perform random DNA parentage tests. One colt and one filly foal from the Pure Bred sections are randomly selected annually for parentage testing. DNA profiling kits are provided free of charge to those breeders whose animals are selected, and the processing and veterinary costs are paid by the Society upon receipt of a valid Veterinary practice invoice for the service covering the sampling of that individual animal only. The costs of harvesting the hair, form filling, and callout fee for this service **ONLY** will be paid.
- vii. **It is not possible to register a pure-bred animal as a Part-Bred by removing the name of the sire or dam.** If there is an issue with the sire or dam preventing the registration of the foal in the Pure Bred studbook, it may be possible to register the foal in Section X as a Pure Bred, or you are able to obtain an ID-only passport from EquiCymru (www.equicymru.co.uk), but this is not a breed society passport and no pedigree will be recorded inside this passport as per the rules governing the issuing of ID-only passports. See section 22 of this document. An animal in possession of an ID-only passport or a WPCS Section X passport is not eligible to compete in affiliated Mountain and Moorland showing competitions, is not eligible to receive Welsh Pony and Cob Society medals and cannot be sold through Official Society sales.
- viii. Pure Bred animals should be of solid colours only, although roan is acceptable. If the markings on the application form are unclear, the Society can request confirmation of the markings with photographs. These will be scanned and lodged on the animals' record in the database for future reference. The Society has a list of acceptable colours in which breeders can choose from when registering their stock. See section 6 of this document.

4 - GELDINGS

- i. The above details relating to Pure Bred applications in section 3 also applies to the registration of Pure-Bred geldings, with the exception of late entry parentage testing. The details in sections 1 to 2, and 5, also apply to Part-Bred gelding registrations. Late entry parentage testing is not required for Welsh Part-Bred animals. For Pure and Part-Bred applications for registration of a gelding, the Welsh Pony and Cob Society requires a castration certificate to be completed by a veterinary surgeon to confirm that the animal has either been castrated or that the animal has been examined and verified to be a gelding, in order for the Society to register the animal as a gelding. The certificate of castration must be submitted alongside the registration application form. The certificate of castration form can be downloaded from the Society website or requested from the office.
- ii. Pure Bred and Part-Bred geldings can be registered at any age without late entry penalties or full DNA parentage tests. However, if it is the first Pure Bred foal from a mare, then a DNA profile for the mare is still required before the foal can be registered. See section 3 iv.
- iii. If an animal that was previously registered as a colt is castrated, then there is a requirement to update the passport to denote that the animal has been castrated. The castration section of the passport must be completed by the veterinary surgeon, **and the passport must be returned to the Society to be marked as 'Gelding'**. Please see the website for current details and fees.

5 - WELSH PART BRED REGISTER

- i. All rules in sections 1 and 2 also apply to registration applications for Welsh Part-Bred foals. To qualify as eligible for registration as a Welsh Part-Bred with the WPCS, the Society requires a minimum of 12.5% of registered Welsh parentage.
- ii. All Welsh Part-Bred foals must be registered on or before the 30th of November of the year of foaling. Applications that have been received after this time will be classed as late and will incur additional costs. **This is a Welsh Government set deadline.**
- iii. Applications for Welsh Part-Bred colts, fillies, and geldings received after 1st January in their yearling year will incur a late entry fee but do not require a parentage test to be registered, unless they were conceived by Artificial

Insemination frozen semen, or Embryo Transfer.

- iv. DNA testing is not required for Welsh Part-Bred animals unless they are a foal being registered which was conceived by Artificial Insemination (A.I.) **frozen semen (unless the foal is being registered as a gelding), or if the foal was bred by Embryo Transfer (all)**, in which case they will require a full parentage test to match the foal to the parent(s) which are registered or overstamped with the Society. Welsh Part-Bred stallions that are being licenced with the Society will also require DNA profiling and, if the sire is registered or overstamped with the Society, then a sire-only DNA parentage test is also required.
- v. The Society can include on the passport of the WPBR foal any additional breeding, where it is supplied on a separate accompanying document as long as it is a copy of a verified pedigree from a recognised breed Society. This must be sent alongside the registration form to enable it to be included in the passport. Any additional pedigree which the breeder wishes to add after the passport is produce will incur a Passport Amendment fee and a new form will need to be submitted along with the pedigree, see section 18.
- vi. If either the sire or dam is unknown, this should also be noted clearly on the form, and must not be left blank. The Welsh Pony and Cob Society cannot register animals with no known breeding i.e., both Sire and Dam noted as unknown. In cases where there is an animal with no known breeding, the Society can offer a basic ID-only passport via the EquiCymru passport service (www.equicymru.co.uk). See section 22 of this document for more information.

6 - COLOUR

- i. The Society has a definitive list of colours which have been approved by the WPCS Council, from which you can select when completing your registrations. Additional colour descriptions to those on the list will be accepted upon the lodging of a DNA colour test from a recognised colour genetics testing laboratory. The colour list provided below has been completed bilingually for convenience to those members who wish to complete their registrations in the Welsh language.

Buckskin/Lliw Ilaeth a chwrw	Brown Roan/ Broc-frown	Grey Roan/ Llwyd-froc
Brown/Chestnut (Liver)/Castan-ddu	Blue Roan/ Broc-las	Chestnut (light)/ Castan (Golau)
Albino/albino	Chestnut/ Castan, Melyn	Palomino/ Palomino
Bay/ Gwinau, Coch	Chestnut Roan/ Castan-froc	Perlino/Perlino
Bay Dun/ Llwyd-ddu Gwinau	Cream/ Hufen	Red Roan/ Broc-goch
Bay Roan/ Broc-winau	Cream dun/ Hufenddu	Roan/ Broc
Black/ Du	Cream Roan/ Hufenfroc	Rose Grey/ Rhoslwyd
Black Roan/ Broc-ddu	Cremello/Cremelo	Strawberry Roan/ Brithgoch
Black/Brown / Du/Brown	Grey/ Llwyd / glas	White/ Gwyn
Piebald/ Brith WPBR ONLY	Skewbald/ Gwyn a darnau, brown neu liw arall ar wahan I ddu WPBR ONLY	'Smokey'*

- ii. *The Society will allow foals to be registered as 'Smokey' without the need for a DNA colour verification test if one of the parents is registered as double dilute (cremello/perlino). If neither sire nor dam are double dilute, then to register 'Smokey', the Society will require DNA colour verification from a recognised colour testing laboratory.

7 - MATING BETWEEN SECTIONS

- i. The Welsh Pony and Cob Society Stud Book contains five different sections, with certain restrictions governing height.

Section A - Welsh Mountain Pony
Not exceeding 121.9cm 12hh

Section B – Welsh Pony
Not exceeding 137.2cm 13.2hh

Section C – Welsh Pony of Cob Type
Not exceeding 137.2cm 13.2hh

Exceeding 137.2cm 13.2hh
Section D – Welsh Cob

Welsh Part-Bred. No height limit.

- ii. Any mating within the Pure Bred sections and the resultant offspring of that mating is regarded as a pure bred as illustrated by the following table:

Parents	Progeny
A x A	A
A x B	B
A x C	C
A x D	C
B x B	B
B x C	C
B x D	C or D
C x C	C
C x D	C or D
D x D	D

- iii. To register an animal as a Section A, both parents must be already registered as Section A, following the above stated regulations. If a Section A grows over the maximum height, then they must be transferred to Section B, with a form completed by a veterinary surgeon to confirm the correct height of the animal. It is not possible for a Section B to be re-registered as a Section A, regardless of the height of the animal.

To register an animal as a Section B, both parents must be already registered as either Section A or Section B.

With mating's between Sections A and B with Sections C and D, the offspring must be registered as a Cob type, regardless of the height of the animal.

With mating's between Section C and Section D, the expected height of the offspring as suggested by the breeder, should determine whether the foal will be Section C or D.

If a Section C Welsh Pony of Cob Type grows over the maximum height, then they must be transferred to Section D, with a form completed by a veterinary surgeon to confirm the correct height of the animal.

If an animal is registered as a Section D, but does not manage to reach the expected height, then this animal can be re-registered as a Section C, once that animal has reached the age of 7 years old to ensure that there are no late growth spurts.

8 – INTERNATIONALLY ACCEPTABLE REGISTRATIONS (Outside of the EU)

- i. The International Acceptable register was created in order to bring Pure Bred animals registered overseas back into the Welsh Pony and Cob Society Stud Book, so that they, and their progeny, can be recognised as Pure Bred Welsh. Outside of the European Union (EU), if an animal is registered as Pure Bred with a recognised daughter Society of the Welsh Pony and Cob Society, that animal can be registered and over stamped with the Welsh Pony and Cob Society as long as the breeding can be traced back fully to Pure Bred registered animals in the Stud Book who were exported overseas.
- ii. In all cases, a completed over stamping form supplied by the Welsh Pony and Cob Society is required. There is no requirement for parentage testing and animals can be registered at any age.


9 - INTERNATIONAL REGISTER (Outside of the EU)

- i. This register was created for animals whose parents are registered in the International Acceptable register and crossed with animals registered with the Welsh Pony and Cob Society main register. The International Register (IR) follows on the same rules for registration as for all other Pure and Part-Bred animals, therefore, DNA testing of a mare producing her first Pure Bred foal, and the late entry procedures, apply for Pure Bred animals. As with all registrations, a completed registration form supplied by the Welsh Pony and Cob Society is required.
- ii. The Society will enter in its Studbook, animals of the same breed, that are eligible for entry under the Society's breeding regulations, without discrimination on account of their country of origin.

10 - OVERSEAS REGISTRATIONS – from Members and breeders from outside the UK and Northern Ireland but within the EU. (OR)

- i. Following the UK's departure from the EU, post Brexit, the Welsh Pony and Cob Society is now unable to legally produce passports for Welsh Ponies and Cobs bred and domiciled in EU member state countries. However, mindful of those WPCS members and breeders, many of whom are longstanding life members of the Society from within the EU countries, who wish to continue to register their stock within the main mother Society Stud book, the Society is launching a new register as part of the Welsh Stud book which has the backing of the Welsh Government Brexit exit team and the Equine ID and Welfare departments.
The Society stud book has since the 1950's included a section for 'Overseas Registrations (OS)'. This has enabled breeders from outside the UK to register their stock from animals imported originally from the UK in that section on a level playing field with those home registered animals, thereby ensuring that those bloodlines are not lost to the gene pool. In real terms it does authenticate the animal registered.
- ii. With the advent of the new Overseas Register (OR), the Society will continue to register these animals which are passported in EU Countries, by issuing WPCS Official Registration Certificates as we cannot now issue passports for animals that are bred or reside in the EU. The process is as follows:

 A passport is produced by the EU country.

 The Zootechnic certificate is also produced by that country.

These documents are for identification, travel, traceability, health and germinal purposes.

- 🐾 The breeder or owner applies to the WPCS to have the animal entered into the Overseas Register (OR) by providing photographic copies of the required pages from the passport, by email and pays the £25.00 fee.
- 🐾 The Overseas Registration Certificate issued by the WPCS details the Pedigree, and the section of the Welsh Stud book where that animal is registered. This certificate is only available to Welsh breed animals **born outside the UK** which comply with the WPCS Breeding rules for eligibility.

How will this work in practice?

Our aim will be to make the process completely digital and paperless.

1. The breeder obtains a passport for their animal in the EU country of their choice (ideally from a WPCS daughter Society in that country)
2. The breeder scans the following passport pages clearly:
 - 🐾 Front details page to include the registration number in their stud book and UELN.
 - 🐾 Pedigree page with reg numbers
 - 🐾 Diagram page
 - 🐾 DNA reference number
 - 🐾 If it is **not passported by a Daughter Society of the WPCS**, the breeder would also have to scan and send:
 - 🐾 Confirmation of ownership/ lease of the dam
 - 🐾 Confirmation of ownership/ lease of the sire or a valid service certificate signed by the stallion owner.
 - 🐾 Confirmation of the Stallion's licence number
3. The breeder emails the scans to the WPCS and pays the Overseas registration fee online via the WPCS website.
4. The WPCS Overseas Registration application is checked by a staff member on our database. Once checked and validated and entered into the Stud book, a WPCS Overseas registration (OR) number is created for the animal.
5. This bespoke **WPCS Overseas Registration certificate** is watermarked and given a unique issue number to prevent fraudulent activity.
6. It is then emailed to the breeder – who can download it or choose to print it out. Their animal is now registered in the WPCS Overseas Register (OR). The reverse of the certificate will show the animals pedigree.

- iii. Illustrated below are the mating's and where the resultant offspring would appear in the Studbook registers:

Stock bred in the EU:

- IA x OR = OR
- IR x IR = OR
- OR x OR = OR
- OR x WM (exported from the UK) = OR
- WS x OR (exported from the UK) = OR
- WS (exported) x WM (exported) = OR

Stock bred in the UK or outside of the EU:

- IA x OR = IR
- IR x IR = IR
- OR x OR = IR
- OR x WM = IR
- WS x OR = IR

If an animal is bred by or out of an animal which already holds an (OS) registration with the WPCS then there is no suffix, it appears in the studbook as WS or WM as do all other UK bred animals without any IR or OR parentage.

- iv. (OR) animals are eligible to compete for WPCS medals and awards and be sold through Official Society sales.

🐾 11 - SECTION X

- i. Section X was created for animals of known parentage, who fall outside of the standard rules of the Welsh Pony and Cob Society for registration in the Pure and Part-Bred register in that their sire was not a licenced stallion, or in the case of Pure Bred animals, if they exhibit too much white on the body.
- ii. Animals registered in Section X are not eligible for entry in official Society sales and are not eligible for participation in Mountain and Moorland showing classes or for the award of Welsh Pony and Cob Society medals.
- iii. Animals registered in Section X that are not of solid colour, from correctly registered and licenced parents, can be bred from and their offspring entered into the main Stud Book if they are of solid colour. The offspring must be DNA parentage verified. These applications will be discussed by Council and, if accepted, the offspring will be registered in the main Stud Book. In essence, the breeder, choosing to breed from a Section X animal, does so at their own risk.

12 - OVERSTAMPING OF AN EXISTING BREED SOCIETY PASSPORT WITH A PEDIGREE PRINTED INSIDE

- i. If an animal eligible for registration with the Society already holds a passport from a different Passport Issuing Organisation (PIO) and is resident in the UK with the full breeding details printed inside, it is possible for the Welsh Pony and Cob Society to overstamp the passport with the WPCS registration number.
- ii. Please note that an 'application for overstamp form' is required in order to overstamp passports. Incomplete or incorrect applications received will be rejected and returned to the sender to enable corrections to be made. The original passport must be sent to the Society along with the application for overstamp form, so the Society registration number can be recorded in the passport.
- iii. The ownership records **MUST** be up to date with the Passport Issuing Office that produced the passport in the case of overstamping. The Society cannot overstamp the animal if the ownership is not up to date with the issuing PIO. When an animal that is overstamped with the Society is sold, a transfer of ownership must be made with the PIO that produced the passport in the first instance, but also must be made with the Welsh Pony and Cob Society, to enable the Society to update our records. The passport does not need to be sent to the Society in this case, but the fee is required and a copy of the transfer of ownership pages within the passport showing the new owners name, address, and the PIO's Society Official Stamp. This can be supplied as a scan/photo and emailed to the Welsh Pony and Cob Society.
In the case of an animal that is passported with another PIO, that has been submitted for overstamping with the Welsh Pony and Cob Society, where this animal has a parent(s) that is either registered, or overstamped with the Welsh Pony and Cob Society, we will require the ownership of that sire or dam to be up to date with the Society before processing the overstamp for the animal, as we would for a normal first-passport registration.

13 – UPGRADING ID-ONLY PASSPORTS TO FULL BREED SOCIETY PASSPORTS WITH THE WPCS.

- i. If an application is made to the Society to register an animal which is currently in possession of a non-breed Society passport (ID-only passport) along with a correctly completed registration application form, then the Society will require the animal's parentage to be fully verified before it can be accepted for registration. This includes geldings and Part-Bred's. All applications must be completed on the Society forms. We cannot accept applications made on forms produced by other Passport Issuing Offices.
- ii. A correctly completed registration form must be completed as per an application for a first-time passport (see guidance in sections 1 – 5 in this document). Incomplete or incorrect applications received will be rejected and returned to the sender to enable corrections to be made.
- iii. On verification of the parentage of the animal, and upon receipt of the correctly completed registration application form and fee, the Society will then request that the non-breed Society ID-only passport be rescinded (cancelled) by the issuing PIO. Please note that the UELN must remain the same, and the Society will ask the PIO to return any vaccination records to be included in the new passport. There may be a charge from the original PIO for this service.

14 - ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION (A.I.)

- i. An application for registration for stock got by Artificial Insemination will be accepted by the Society subject to the following conditions. Normal rules of registration apply, but in addition, foals born from Artificial Insemination must be parentage tested to the sire and dam, in the case of both pure and Part-Bred foals.
- ii. Mares and stallions to be used in Artificial Insemination **MUST** be DNA profiled before undertaking the collection and insemination process. In the case of stallions, they must be DNA profiled and licenced in accordance with the Society rules, and in the case of mares they must be DNA profiled in order that parentage testing of their foals can be effected, if required. The Society advises that breeders apply for DNA at least 12 weeks prior to the application of the foal's registration, to minimise the possibility of unnecessary delays. The laboratory advises a time of between 6 and 12 weeks to complete DNA profiling/parentage verification and to return the result to the Society. In the


event that the mare dies during foaling, or after, and there is no DNA profile lodged with the Society where it is needed, then the Society will not be able to register the foal out of that mare needing a DNA profile.

- iii. **Parentage testing. Foals conceived through the use of Frozen Semen require a full parentage test to be effected to the sire and dam, unless the foal is gelded at the point of registration. This includes pure and Part-Bred Welsh foals.**
- iv. **Stallion owners must obtain a lifetime A.I. permit for the stallion which is used in artificial insemination schemes. The permit must be obtained from the Society, per stallion. Retrospective permits must be applied for stallions already used in A.I. schemes per stallion, where the date of semen collection can be proved as having taken place before 01/01/2024.**
- v. Stallion owners must maintain a special Report of Service which will be returned to the Society at the end of the covering season. **Stallion owners must periodically submit reports of service to the Society outlining how many straws of semen have been sold, and the names of the mare owners and full registered names of the mares that were intended for insemination.**
- vi. **If frozen semen is sold in bulk by the owner of the stallion, then the seller and buyer must notify the Society in writing stating the nature of the sale, the number of straws transferred, and the buyer of the frozen semen must then produce periodic reports of service which are submitted to the Society as per rule v. above.**
- vii. The collection of the semen shall be carried out by a Veterinary Surgeon or an approved person, who will complete part one of the Society A. I. form. Insemination shall be carried out by a Veterinary Surgeon or an approved person who will complete part two of the Society A. I. form.
- viii. Applications for Pure and Part-Bred colts, fillies and geldings must be received by the WPCS office on or before the 30th of November in the year of foaling. Applications that have been received after this time will be classed as late and will incur additional costs. **This is a Welsh Government set deadline.**
- ix. The foal must be identified by a veterinary surgeon on the Society's registration form. In addition, a stallion covering certificate will be required, and the Society A.I. form as detailed in parts vii. and viii. above. The A.I. form can be downloaded from the Society website or requested from the office. Before the registration of the foal, the Society will require a full parentage test

to be completed for pure and Part-Bred foals conceived by frozen semen A.I. unless the foal is gelded. The mare (if not already DNA typed) and foal must be DNA typed for this. The registration will only be accepted if no exclusion occurs when parentage comparison is effected with the sire and dam.

15 - EMBRYO TRANSFER

 *Donor Mare: The mare that provides the egg/embryo – this is the GENETIC DAM of the foal.*

 *Host/recipient mare: The mare that the embryo is implanted into, carries the transferred embryo to foaling, and nurses the foal until weaning. This is NOT the genetic dam.*

- i. The covering preceding Embryo Transfer should be dealt with by the procedures required for their natural mating or Artificial Insemination, as appropriate. Both stages of the embryo transfer – the extraction from the donor mare and the introduction to the host mare must be carried out by a Veterinary Surgeon, and with appropriately designed certification. Appropriate records should be kept in the same way for Embryo Transfer foalings as for A.I.
- ii. **In order to register foals bred via the process of Embryo Transfer (E. T.), the breeder must first obtain a permit for the donor mare from the Society. This must be requested from the office per mare, per year. The permit will name the donor mare and the host mare and must also specify the stallion which will be used to sire the foal. It must be renewed annually for every year the mare is intended to be used in an E. T. scheme.**
- iii. **Mares and stallions to be used in Embryo Transfer schemes MUST be DNA profiled before undertaking the Embryo Transfer process. In the case of stallions, they must be DNA profiled and licenced in accordance with the Society rules, and in the case of mares they must be DNA profiled in order that parentage testing of their foals can be effected.** The Society advises that breeders apply for DNA at least 12 weeks prior to the application of the foal's registration, to minimise the possibility of unnecessary delays. The laboratory advises a time of between 6 and 12 weeks to complete DNA profiling/parentage verification and to return the result to the Society. In the event that the mare dies during foaling, or after, and there is no DNA profile lodged with the Society where it is needed, then the Society will not be able to register the foal out of that mare needing a DNA profile.
- iv. **The Embryo Transfer form should be downloaded from the Society website or requested from the office. The name of both the donor mare (genetic**

dam) and host mare must be included, as well as the genetic sire of the foal, and whether the conception was by Artificial Insemination or natural covering. The Veterinary Surgeon or approved person overseeing the extraction of the embryo and implantation into the host mare must complete this form, which must be submitted with the registration form for the foal. If the covering preceding the Embryo Transfer was via A. I., then the relevant rules for A.I. should also be followed, including the use of the Society A. I. form which must also accompany the foal registration.

- v. Before registration of the foal, it must be identified by a veterinary surgeon on the Society's registration form. The Society will require a full parentage test to be completed for pure and Part-Bred foals conceived by E. T. The foal must be DNA typed for this. The genetic sire and dam must also be DNA typed for this, in advance. The registration will only be accepted if no exclusion occurs when parentage comparison is effected with the sire and dam. Both the E. T. form, service certificate (and the A. I. form if applicable) must accompany this registration application. A copy of the E. T. permit for the mare must also accompany this application.
- vi. The Society does not allow the sale of the frozen embryos. Mare owners partaking in Embryo Transfer schemes **MUST NOT** sell the frozen embryos from their mares. Additionally, the Society does not permit any host mares carrying transferred embryos, or the donor mare herself to be sold during the pregnancy. If such occurs, then the resultant foal shall be ineligible for registration in the studbook.
- vii. The Society imposes a strict limit on the number of Embryo Transfers and live foals per mare, per year. No more than one Embryo Transfer, and one live foal are allowed per mare, per year. If more than two foals are bred from the mare in a year, then **ALL** of the resultant foals shall all be ineligible for registration in the studbook.

16 – GENETIC CLONING

- i. Genetic cloning is not allowed or authorised by the Society. Under no circumstances will the Society allow registration or recognition of an animal produced by genetic cloning.

17 – MICROCHIPPING

- i. Since the 12th of February 2021 it has been a legal requirement for all equines to be microchipped in Wales. Similar laws are also in place in Northern Ireland, and in England and Scotland it has been mandatory since the 1st of October 2020. Any equine that has not previously been microchipped must have a microchip implanted by a veterinary surgeon. Equines born and registered before July 2009 were not required to be microchipped at birth but **MUST** now be microchipped by law. Please notify the Society, who will then update it's records on receipt of the correctly completed Microchip Update form which can be downloaded from the website or requested from the office. If an animal born and registered before July 2009 has previously been microchipped, and the barcode sticker attached to the passport and stamped and signed by a veterinary surgeon, then the Society must be notified of this by way of scanning the page(s) in the passport, emailing or posting them to the Society and paying the update fee if this has not already been done. If the owner is unsure if this has previously been done, they can get in touch with the office who can confirm if the microchip number has been recorded by the Society. Please see the website for current prices.

- ii. If a microchip previously implanted ceases to function, then the Society requires a veterinary surgeon to insert a new microchip, after thoroughly scanning the horse to ensure the microchip has not moved position within the body. If the passport cannot be amended (e.g. for passports issued since 2015 where sections are laminated), the Society will require the veterinary surgeon to complete a Passport Amendment form, including the location and barcode sticker of the newly implanted microchip. The existing passport must be sent to the Society along with the correctly completed application form and fee. For those passports that cannot be amended (passports issued since 2015 where sections are laminated), then the Society will issue a Duplicate passport (if the insertion point of the defunct microchip is not clear on the existing passport), or a New Reissue (retaining previous food chain status) if it is clear. Also see section 18 of this document.

18 - RE-ISSUING AND RE-PRINTING PASSPORTS

- i. The Society can, upon request re-issue (re-print) passports if the need arises. This can include where a passport becomes damaged or defaced, if a passport runs out of transfer of ownership, vaccination or other required pages, the animal is re-microchipped, or if another amendment is required to the passport, such as a change of section owing to height, or if the colour or markings of the animal changes. **In all cases, the Society requires the correctly completed, current Passport Amendment application form to be submitted. The markings form, description, and microchip number must be verified on the form by a veterinary surgeon who should complete the form in the required places. All applications must be completed on the Society forms. We cannot accept applications made on forms produced by other Passport Issuing Offices.** Incomplete or incorrect applications received will be rejected and returned to the sender to enable corrections to be made. Please see the Society website or get in touch with the office for more details and current prices for this service.
- ii. The Society will in all cases produce a new passport and carry over any required pages into the Non-Statutory section of the new passport in order that those records are not lost (e.g. vaccination pages). Regrettably, the Society cannot include previous ownership records due to GDPR. The food chain status on a re-issued passport will match that of the original, so if the animal has already been irreversibly signed out of the food chain, then this will be continued over onto the reprinted passport.

19 - DUPLICATE PASSPORTS.

- i. By law, any passport that is produced which is issued more than twelve months after the date of birth of the foal **MUST** be marked as 'duplicate' and the animal irreversibly signed out of the food chain.
- ii. The Society can also issue a duplicate passport for a registered animal if the original passport has been lost. It is a government-set requirement that the animal's markings **MUST** be verified by a veterinary surgeon for all applications for a duplicate passport. **To issue a duplicate passport, the Society requires the correctly completed, current Duplicate Passport application form to be submitted. The markings form, description, and microchip number must be verified on the form by a veterinary surgeon who should complete the form in the required places. All applications must be completed on the Society forms. We cannot accept applications made on**

forms produced by other Passport Issuing Offices. Incomplete or incorrect applications received will be rejected and returned to the sender to enable corrections to be made. Please see the Society website or get in touch with the office for more details and current prices for this service.

20 - TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP

- i. **It is the responsibility of the purchaser to submit the passport for transfer of ownership within 30 days of their purchase of the animal.**
- ii. To complete a transfer of ownership with the Society, the Society require either of the following:
 - a. If it is a passport issued from 2020 onwards there is a pink transfer form in the back of the passport that needs to be completed fully by both the seller and the buyer. The Society needs both the passport and the pink transfer form to be sent to the office to complete the transfer.
 - b. For all other styles of passport, the Society require the transfer box to be completed fully within the passport with the new owners details (name and address), the date of transfer and the sellers' signature.
 - c. A Transfer of Ownership form can be downloaded from the Society website or requested from the office. This must be completed by the seller and buyer fully and can be submitted along with the passport if the pink transfer form is missing, or can be completed if the section in the passport is not completed fully.
 - d. If the previous owner has not signed the passport and the buyer does not have any written confirmation, such as a signed receipt of sale for the purchase, or way of contacting the seller by any other means to have the **Transfer of Ownership Form** signed, then a statutory declaration letter can be completed. **DO NOT send the passport back to the seller for them to sign.** Guidance can be downloaded from the Society website or requested from the office. The statutory declaration letter states that the buyer is now the legal owner of the horse, and the Society ask that you please fill in the details to the best of your knowledge. Please **DO NOT** download and sign the Statutory Declaration Guidance notes, the applicant must copy the example and write/type it out to the best of their knowledge, and then sign, date and print name at the bottom. Please note, by completing a Statutory Declaration Letter, you are completing a statutory declaration and stating you are the legal owner of the animal - this is a legal document.

- iii. For overseas transfers, it is possible to obtain an official Society Embossed Transfer of Ownership sticker, which is to be placed in the passport on the relevant page. This will be sent to the new owner on payment of the correct transfer of ownership fee, and submission of scans/photographs of the transfer of ownership section of the passport detailing the last recorded owner details, the signature of seller and the date of transfer. Where this information is not available, a Transfer of Ownership Form, receipt of sale or statutory declaration letter can be submitted. The sticker will be embossed with the Society logo and will include the name, address, and account number of the owner along with the name, UELN and microchip number of the pony and the Society's EXPORT stamp and date of transfer. This method is a safer means of completing transfer of ownership for animals with Society passports that are resident overseas and outside of the U.K. only, in light of difficulties with posting equine passports overseas, particularly since Brexit.
- iv. Please see the Society website or get in touch with the office for current prices for this service. A form can also be downloaded from the website.

21 - POSTING PASSPORTS AND DOCUMENTS

- i. The Society strongly recommends all customers purchase an additional postage service or provide a self-addressed, pre-paid postage return envelope with all applications for passports, transfer of ownerships, and over stamping; wherever passport(s) need to be posted. The Society can offer several services of additional postage (Signed For, Tracked or Special Delivery service) on request and when in receipt of the appropriate payment for these services. Please see the website or contact the office for current prices.
- ii. **The Society cannot take responsibility for any lost passport that has been despatched from the Office once it is in the hands of the mail service.**
- iii. The Society also strongly recommends that customers send all documents and passports to the Society office by Tracked, Signed For, or Special Delivery services. Please ensure that you are sending the item(s) to the correct address. The Society moved premises in 2011 and as such, some passports produced before this date have an old address on the document. Please check the 'Get In Touch' page on the website for the correct address or get in touch with the office to confirm the address. The Society cannot take responsibility for passports or documents sent incorrectly to the old address. If a passport is posted to the incorrect address and lost, then a duplicate passport must be

applied for by the customer at their cost.

22 - EQUICYMRU PASSPORT SERVICE

- i. EquiCymru provides passports for ID-only equines who are not pedigree animals, who are bred or reside in the UK. The passport issuing office reports to the Welsh Government and is run under the auspices of the Welsh Pony and Cob Society. All equines must be passported by law and must be done so by 6 months of age or the 30th of November in the year of birth, whichever is the earliest. If you have an older equine who is not currently passported, then it is never too late to comply. Please contact EquiCymru and we will help you with the passporting process.
- ii. Passports are issued in accordance with the Welsh Government and DEFRA rulings. EquiCymru Passports are an ID-only document. Details included within the passport are as follows:
 - Registered Owner's Details
 - The Equine's Information
 - Markings and Silhouette
 - Microchip number and its position in the body.The front of the passport application form may be completed by the owner, **but the back must be completed by a qualified veterinary surgeon.** Incomplete or incorrect applications received will be rejected and returned to the sender to enable corrections to be made.
- iii. **Foal Applications.** A passport application for a foal must be submitted by six months of age, or the 30th of November within its year of birth, whichever is earliest. Foals travelling without their dam or foster mother, being sold at a sale or being sent to slaughter require a passport before they can travel. Foals sold at foot with their dam at a sale must also be passported.
- iv. **Adult Applications.** Any equine with a passport application submitted more than 12 months from birth will by default be marked as a 'Replacement'. The equine will also be irreversibly signed out of the food chain due to the lack of medical records available.
- v. For a list of all services, forms and to make payment for these services, please visit the EquiCymru website at <https://www.equicymru.co.uk>.

ENDS