



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

Established 1901



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

Updated April 2025

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.

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.

The Society does not tolerate abuse towards staff. All calls are recorded for training and monitoring purposes.

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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 change application forms as and when it sees fit, and will refuse applications on older, obsolete versions of registration forms where forms have now been updated or amended. Applicants are advised to check the Society website or contact the office to ensure they are using the correct forms.** The registration fees are subject to annual change at the discretion of the Society. Please check current price lists for a full list of current service fees.
- ii. **All applications must be completed on WPCS 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.
- iii. 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 corrected form to the Office. An administration fee will also be applied to any registration form received in the office where that animal has **not been microchipped by a veterinary surgeon, or where the microchip number has not been recorded on the form**. 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.
- iv. 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 21 of this document for more information.
- v. 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 in the section as appropriate. See section 9 of this document for more information.

- vi. Colts must be two years old or over at the time of covering. Age is calculated from the 1st of January. All colts and stallions involved in breeding programmes must be in possession of a Welsh Pony and Cob Society licence or a recognised equivalent. The Society strongly recommends that the colt or stallion is licenced **before** he covers any mares. In the event that the colt/stallion dies; is gelded; or is sold on and he is not in possession of a Society licence or recognised equivalent, including him being DNA profiled and his parentage fully verified, then resultant offspring will not be eligible for registration.
- vii. 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.
- viii. 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 at the discretion of the Society whether a prefix already registered with the Society, or one being applied for, can be used as a second name. 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.
- ix. 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.
- x. Once the studbook for that year has closed to registrations, the name of an animal 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.

- xi. In order to record a person, or persons, as breeder of an animal, the Welsh Pony and Cob Society requires that person, or persons, to be recorded as the owner of the dam at the time of foaling or be 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/lessee 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.
- xii. If the covering stallion is owned/leased 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/lessee 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/lessee 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.**
- xiii. 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.
- xiv. 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 the transfer of ownership section on the registration form or supply a separate transfer of ownership form which can be downloaded from the website or requested from the office – this must be submitted along with the registration application form for that animal for the transfer to be carried out at the point of registration. Thereafter, the usual transfer process and fee will apply.
- xv. **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.**
- xvi. **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.**
- xvii. **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. Page 1.
 - 🐾 Payment has been made by way of cheque, or payment details provided on the application form. Alternatively, you can include a daytime telephone number and request a call to take payment. If the Society calls you to take the payment and is unable to reach you to collect this payment, then the Society will return the forms.
 - 🐾 The application is not valid if any page of the application form is missing.

- ii. Page 2.
 - 🐾 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
 - 🐾 If you wish to have the foal transferred at the point the passport is issued, then please complete a transfer of ownership form or fill in the section on the form.

- iii. Page 3 - Markings Sheet
 - 🐾 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 sex specified on the previous page
 - 🐾 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 to confirm the markings and verify that they have implanted a microchip or confirmed an existing microchip
 - 🐾 Please ensure that the markings sheet has been completed legibly and that no ink

transfer has occurred, and that the printer has not cut off any of the markings diagram. In cases such as this, the Society may have to return forms with a new markings sheet in order for this to be completed again.

3 - PURE BRED COLTS AND FILLIES

- i. To register an animal as Pure Bred, both parents must be registered as Pure Bred. 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. **This is a Welsh Government set deadline.** Applications that have been received after this time will be classed as late and will incur additional costs.
- 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. The Society 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, or if a DNA profile cannot be extracted from a supplied sample of hair and a resample is required, then the Society will not be able to register the foal out of that mare needing a DNA profile. In short: DNA test the mare before the mare foals.**
- v. Since the Society transitioned to a new type of DNA testing known as SNPs, some parentage tests may require the purchase of additional DNA kits for dual profiling.

See section 10 of this document on DNA Testing for more information.

- vi. **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 an EquiCymru ID-only passport. See section 21 of this document.
- vii. Pure Bred animals should be of solid colours only, although roan is acceptable. Pure Bred animals must not be piebald or skewbald – they should not exhibit excessive white patches to the body. If the animal exhibits excessive or solid white patch(es) to the body then at the discretion of the Society this animal may not be accepted for registration into

the main Stud Book and instead be registered into Section X of the Stud Book – see section 9 of this document.

- viii. 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

The above details relating to Pure Bred applications in section 1-3 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.

- i. 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 gelding can be registered. See section 10 on DNA testing for more information.
- 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

All rules in sections 1 and 2 also apply to registration applications for Welsh Part-Breds. To qualify as eligible for registration as a Welsh Part-Bred with the WPCS, the Society requires a minimum of 12.5% of registered and verifiable Welsh breeding within the pedigree.

- i. All Welsh Part-Bred foals must be registered on or before the 30th of November of the year of foaling. **This is a Welsh Government set deadline.** Applications that have been received after this time will be classed as late and will incur additional costs.
- ii. Applications for Welsh Part-Bred colts, fillies, and geldings received after 1st January in their yearling year will incur a late entry fee.

- iii. 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**. See section 10 on DNA testing for more information.
- iv. The Society can include on the passport of the WPBR animal 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 produced will incur a Passport Amendment fee and an amendment form will need to be submitted along with the pedigree - see section 17 of this document for more information.
- v. 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 21 of this document for more information.

6 - COLOUR

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 llaeth 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 l ddu WPBR ONLY	'Smokey'*

*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

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

Section D – Welsh Cob
Exceeding 137.2cm 13.2hh

Welsh Part-Bred. No height limit.

- i. With any mating within the Pure Bred sections the resultant offspring of that mating will be regarded as a pure bred as is 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

- ii. 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.
- iii. To register an animal as a Section B, both parents must be already registered as either Section A or Section B.
- iv. With matings 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.
- v. With matings 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.
- vi. 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.
- vii. If an animal is registered as a Section D but does not manage to reach the expected minimum 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.
- viii. To re-enter any eligible animal owing to height, a passport amendment fee and an amendment form will need to be submitted along with the existing passport. A veterinary surgeon will need to measure and confirm the height of the animal and record this on the application form. See section 17 of this document for more information.

8 – INTERNATIONAL REGISTRATIONS

Since Brexit, all U.K. Studbook Societies and Passport Issuing Offices are no longer allowed to issue passports for equines domiciled within the European Union. All Welsh and Welsh Part-Bred animals bred and living within the EU must be registered with a stud book Society authorised to operate and issue passports within the Union.

The Society does not wish for any animals bred overseas to be 'lost' from the Mother Studbook; therefore, several options are available in order to recognise these animals the Welsh Pony and Cob Society and ensure the continuation of these valuable bloodlines.

Over the following section, several different methods of recognition, registration and passporting are outlined depending on the location and registration status of the animal.

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.

Import of Welsh and Welsh Part-Bred equines into the U.K.

- i. If an animal bred outside of the U.K. and NI, (including those bred within the EU) is imported (sold or leased) to the U.K. & NI for more than 90 days then it should be registered with a U.K. Studbook within 30 days of arrival. If it is a Welsh or Welsh Part-Bred equine, then this application should be made to the WPCS.
- ii. The animal can only be registered if:
 - a. It has an existing passport issued by a recognised WPCS Overseas Daughter Society, or (within the EU) by a recognised Studbook Society that operates under the Zootechnic regulations, and where that passport/registration document complies with U.K. passport requirements and contains a fully verified pedigree.
 - b. In the case of Pure Breds all lines must be able to be traced back to correctly registered and exported Welsh Pure-bred equines registered with the WPCS.
 - c. In the case of Part-breds, all equines contributing Welsh blood to the overall percentage of Welsh blood must be able to be traced back to correctly registered and exported Welsh Pure-bred equines registered with the WPCS.
- iii. The process to register animals will follow the WPCS Overstamping procedure as set out in section 11 of this document.
- iv. The animal will be allocated a Society registration code and corresponding number based on the registration status of the parents. See table within this section for a full breakdown.

Registration of Welsh equines into the WPCS (U.K.) Stud Book which are domiciled outside of the U.K. and EU.

- i. For animals that are domiciled outside of the United Kingdom (including Northern Ireland (NI)) and the European Union (EU), if an animal is registered as a Pure Bred with a recognised daughter Society of the Welsh Pony and Cob Society, then that animal can be overstamped with the Welsh Pony and Cob Society as long as the breeding can be traced back fully to Pure Bred registered animals in the WPCS Stud Book who were exported overseas. In all cases, a completed overstamping form supplied by the Welsh Pony and

Cob Society is required and the normal procedures on over stamping as are set out in section 11 of this document, and also in later paragraphs of this section. See Internationally Acceptable, International Registration and The Main Studbook Register paragraphs below for more information.

- ii. The WPCS can also produce first passports for eligible equines that are bred overseas (outside of the U.K. (including Northern Ireland (NI)) and the European Union (EU)). The Society's normal procedures on registrations will apply as are set out in sections 1-5 of this document, and also in later paragraphs of this section. See Internationally Acceptable, International Registration and The Main Studbook Register paragraphs below for more information.
- iii. The animal will be allocated a Society registration code and corresponding number based on the registration status of the parents. See table within this section for a full breakdown.

List of International Registration Codes.

NONE UK (NM/NS) + NONE UK (NM/NS) = IA

NONE UK (NM/NS) + IA = IA

NONE UK (NM/NS) + IR = IA

IA + IA = IR

IA + IR = IR

IR + IR = IR

For the purposes of this table WM/WS/PS/PM registration codes apply to animals that were:

Registered in and exported from the UK, or;

Registered as WM/WS/PS/PM when born in the EU before Brexit, or;

Registered as WM/WS/PS/PM outside of the EU.

WM/WS/PS/PM + WM/WS/PS/PM = WM/WS/PS/PM

WM/WS/PS/PM + IR = IR

WM/WS/PS/PM + IA = IR

WM/WS/PS/PM + NONE UK (NM/NS) = IA

Progeny of animals registered with ORM/ORS numbers will be treated in line with this table based upon the registration status of the sire and dam of the ORM/ORS registered animal.

Registration of Welsh equines into the WPCS (U.K.) Stud Book which are domiciled inside the EU.

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 has

launched a new scheme which has the backing of the Welsh Government 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.

- i. With the advent of the new Overseas Register, the Society will continue to register these animals which are passported in EU Countries, by issuing WPCS Official Registration Documents - as we cannot now issue passports for animals that are domiciled in the EU. The process is as follows:
 - ✎ A passport is produced by the EU country containing a Zootechnic certificate. These documents are for identification, travel, traceability, health and germinal purposes.
 - ✎ The breeder/owner applies to the WPCS to have the animal entered into the Overseas Register by providing photographic copies of the required pages including a clear markings diagram from the passport, by email and pay the current fee (check with the office or see current price list).
 - ✎ The Overseas Registration Document is then issued as a printed hard copy bound into a WPCS sleeve, and the document details the WPCS Pedigree, and other information such as the original PIO, UELN, Microchip number, Welsh Breed Section, Breeder and Owner name and address as well as the markings description and diagram. This is only available to Welsh breed animals **born outside of the UK and NI but within the EU** and which comply with the WPCS rules for eligibility. Please note: This document is not a passport or identity document of the equine named within. It is an official document of recognition for the equine and its status as a pedigree Welsh equine by the Welsh Pony & Cob Society.

How will this work?

1. The breeder/owner 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/owner scans the following passport pages clearly:
 - ✎ Front details page to include the registration number in their stud book and UELN, microchip, date of issue, date of birth
 - ✎ Zootechnic certificate including pedigree page with registration numbers
 - ✎ Diagram page and markings description (the applicant will need to complete a WPCS Markings form to submit as part of this application)
 - ✎ DNA profiles for the sire and dam (if required – you will be informed by the staff member processing the application if DNA is needed)If it is **not passported by a Daughter Society of the WPCS**, the breeder/owner would also have to scan and send (If the WPCS does not already have these records - you will be informed by the staff member processing the application if these are needed):
 - ✎ 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/owner emails the scans to the WPCS and pays the fee.

4. The application is checked by a staff member. Once checked and validated, a WPCS record is created for the animal and the animal will be allocated a Society registration code and corresponding number based on the registration status of the parents. See table within this section for a full breakdown.
5. This bespoke **WPCS Overseas Registration Document** is signed and validated by the Society.
6. It is then printed and bound into a sleeve. The document will then be posted out or available for collection from the Society.
7. The animal is now recorded in the WPCS Overseas Register.

The Internationally Acceptable Register (IA) (Pure Breds only)

The Internationally 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 animals by the WPCS. An animal will be given an 'IA' registration number when:

- a. Neither the sire or dam are registered with the Welsh Pony & Cob Society but are both registered with a recognised daughter Society of the WPCS based in another country, or (within the EU) by a recognised Studbook Society that operates under the Zootechnic regulations and produce fully verified pedigrees.
 - b. One of either the Sire or Dam are not registered with the Welsh Pony & Cob Society but is registered with a recognised daughter Society of the WPCS based in another country, or (within the EU) by a recognised Studbook Society that operates under the Zootechnic regulations, and produce fully verified pedigrees, and where the other parent is registered with the WPCS in either the IA, IR or WM/WS registers.
- i. There is no requirement for parentage testing and animals can be registered at any age without late entry parentage testing.

The International Register (IR)

This register was created for animals whose parents are registered in the International Acceptable, or in the International Register already, and are crossed with animals registered with the Welsh Pony and Cob Society main register. Those eligible include:

- 🐎 Animals bred and domiciled within the U.K. (including NI) where their parent(s) are already IA/IR registered
 - 🐎 Animals domiciled outside of the U.K. **and** the EU where their parent(s) are already IA/IR registered
 - 🐎 Animals imported to the U.K. (including NI) for more than 90 days and eligible for overamping by the WPCS (see earlier paragraphs).
- i. An animal will be given an 'IR' registration number when:
- a. One of the parents is registered in the IA register and the other is registered in the main WS/WM/PS/PM register
 - b. One of the parents is registered in the IR register and the other is registered in the main WS/WM/PS/PM register
 - c. Both parents are registered in the IA register
 - d. One parent is registered in the IA and on in the IR register

- e. Both parents are registered in the IR register
- ii. Acceptance for overamping an eligible animal into the International Register (IR) will be subject to the following conditions. The International Register (IR) follows on the same rules for overamping as for all other Pure and Part-Bred animals, therefore, DNA testing of a mare producing her first Pure Bred foal, stallion licencing, and correct ownership of sires and dams apply. As with all overamps, a completed overamping form is required, and the equine must be passported or registered with a recognised WPCS Overseas Daughter Society, or (if bred within the EU and eligible for overamping in the U.K.) passported by a recognised Studbook Society that operates under the Zootechnic regulations and contains a fully verified pedigree.
- iii. Acceptance for issuing a first passport (For U.K. (including NI) and outside of EU **ONLY**) to an eligible animal will be subject to the following conditions. The International Register (IR) follows on the same rules for registration as for all other Pure and Part-Bred animals, therefore, stallion licencing, and correct ownership of sires and dams, along with DNA testing of a mare producing her first Pure Bred foal, and Pure Bred late entry procedures apply. As with all registrations, a completed registration form supplied by the Welsh Pony and Cob Society is required. Also see sections 1-5 of this document.

The Main Studbook Register (WM/WS/PM/PS)

Equines bred outside of the U.K. (including Northern Ireland) can also be entered into one of the main studbook registers subject to certain criteria being met. Those eligible include:

- 🐾 Animals domiciled outside of the U.K. **and** the EU where their parent(s) are already WM/WS/PM/PS registered
- 🐾 Animals imported to the U.K. (including NI) for more than 90 days and eligible for overamping by the WPCS (see earlier paragraphs).
- i. An animal will be given WM/WS/WG/PM/PS/PG registration number when:
 - a. In the case of pure bred, it has been bred from two parents that are already entered into the Studbook with WM/WS numbers including those –
 - 🐾 Registered as WM/WS when bred in, and exported from the UK
 - 🐾 Registered as WM/WS before Brexit (EU)
 - 🐾 Registered as WM/WS outside of the EU
 - b. In the case of Welsh Part-Breds, so long as they meet the minimum 12.5% Welsh percentage threshold, they will be given a PM/PS/PG number, unless one of the parents is registered with the Society in the IA or IR registers in which case an IRP number will be given.
- ii. Acceptance for overamping an eligible animal into WM/WS/PM/PS register will be subject to the following conditions. These registrations follow on the same rules for overamping as for all other Pure and Part-Bred animals, therefore, DNA testing of a mare producing her first Pure Bred foal, stallion licencing, and correct ownership of sires and dams apply. As with all overamps, a completed overamping form is required, and the equine must be passported or registered with a recognised WPCS Overseas Daughter Society, or (if bred within the EU and eligible for overamping in the U.K.) passported by a recognised Studbook Society that operates under the Zootechnic regulations, and contains a fully verified pedigree.

- iii. Acceptance for issuing a first passport (outside of EU **ONLY**) to an eligible animal will be subject to the following conditions. These registrations follow on the same rules for registration as for all other Pure and Part-Bred animals, therefore, stallion licencing, and correct ownership of sires and dams, along with DNA testing of a mare producing her first Pure Bred foal, and Pure Bred late entry procedures apply. As with all registrations, a completed registration form supplied by the Welsh Pony and Cob Society is required. Also see sections 1-5 of this document.

9 - SECTION X

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 and/or was too young when covering, the dam was too young when foaling, or in the case of Pure Bred animals, if the dam was not DNA tested or the animal exhibits too much white on the body.

An animal in possession of 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, and **ponies are not generally considered suitable for breeding purposes.**

The Society **would not** recommend breeding from any animal that is registered in Section X. If a breeder chooses to do so, then in essence the breeder is deciding to breed from a Section X animal at their own risk and this resultant offspring is not guaranteed entry into the stud book.

- i. 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 the offspring 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.
- ii. Offspring bred from parents entered into Section X for reasons other than colour, such as on account of being unlicenced or not in possession of correct DNA, or where the sire/dams were under aged at the time of covering/foaling, will always remain in Section X. The Society **would not** recommend breeding from any such animal.

10 - DNA TESTING

Updates for 2024/2025

Microsatellite is the present system of testing DNA and will become obsolete in the future so we, like other breed societies, are transitioning to the use of Single Nucleotide Polymorphism (SNPs) for testing DNA.

DNA testing and parentage verification has been a part of the annual breeding cycle for many years. With the developments of technology, the Society is currently undergoing a transition over to SNPs (Single Nucleotide Polymorphism) testing in line with other Societies. The main factor for this consideration was the availability and life span of the present system of Microsatellite testing which will in time become discontinued by the service providers. Alongside this there are many benefits of transitioning to SNPs, which can enhance the level of

accuracy of DNA profiling and can also provide additional insights into the animal's genetics in time as the database builds.

- i. The DNA process for mares producing their first pure bred foal will not change for the breeder/owner - except for the kit being sent directly to the nominated veterinary surgeon's office. Please ensure you are providing this when ordering the DNA kits. The only change is that the mare will now be given a SNP DNA profile.
- ii. The stallion licensing process has been reviewed as part of this transition, and you will now be required to apply for a licence kit nominating your chosen veterinary surgeon. The kit will then be supplied directly to the veterinary surgeon's office. The licensing process will now involve two hair samples being required and further details will be provided when a kit is purchased. **Colt foals born after the 1st of January 2025 will require a full parentage test prior to being accepted as a licenced stallion** (alongside the licensing paperwork completed by the veterinary surgeon). **There will be no exceptions made for colts born after this date.** When purchasing or breeding a colt with the intention of licensing him in the future as a stallion, it is your responsibility to make sure both the sire and dam are DNA tested to suitable ends that the parentage test can be enacted by the Society laboratory. Where DNA profiles exist already for both sire and dam, then the DNA parentage verification will automatically be completed as part of the process.
- iii. Welsh Part-Bred stallions that are being licenced with the Society will also require DNA profiling and parentage testing.
- iv. **In the case of optional parentage testing, compulsory parentage testing where an animal is classes as a late registration, or an animal requiring parentage testing as it was produced by Artificial Insemination (frozen semen) or Embryo transfer, at this present time you can either obtain a SNPs profile for all required equines (when ownership allows), or if the sire and dam already hold a Microsatellite profile you may choose to dual profile the equine you are parentage testing - this will mean applicants MUST purchase TWO parentage hair sample kits.** This is in order that both a Microsatellite profile be obtained to confirm parentage and a SNPs profile to be obtained for comparison against any future progeny. In the case of stallion licences, it will be optional (at this present time) to either obtain a SNPs profile for the sire (when ownership allows) or to dual profile to Microsatellite and SNPs, allowing for a microsatellite profile to confirm the parentage to the sire/dam that already hold an MS profile, and then a SNPs profile for comparison against any future progeny. It is up to the owner to consider and discuss this on a case-by-case basis.
- v. Where dual profiling is required, then multiple kits will need to be purchased. One kit at the current price (see pricelist for current fees) will equate to one DNA profile.

What do I do if my mare or stallion has a Microsatellite DNA profile: do I need to retest to SNPs?

If you have a Welsh equine who has been DNA tested using the Microsatellite technology and is actively involved in the breeding program, **the Society strongly recommends that you consider also obtaining a SNPs profile for this animal.** Stallions actively breeding who also have a SNPs profile will reduce the turnaround times for offspring to receive their licences and

mare who has a SNPs profile and becomes a parent of an animal requiring a full parentage test (late entries, A. I. or E. T. foals) will then already hold a profile and not delay the process of registration. **It is of course in the breeder/owner's choice if they wish to obtain a SNPs profile, but if an animal dies and the ability to use Microsatellite testing has reached its end of life, then this may result in an animal being unable to be registered in the main studbook.**

Will a mare producing her first Pure Bred foal have a SNPs profile?

Mares who are producing their first registered pure bred foal will require DNA profiling as part of the registration process of the pure-bred foal. From the end of May 2024 all DNA testing of mares producing their first Pure Bred foals have automatically received a SNPs profile rather than a Microsatellite profile from the Society laboratory.

Late Registrations?

The Society would discourage members from leaving registrations until they are classed as late registrations as these will incur a full parentage DNA. In these instances, the late equine being registered would either be required to have a dual profile while available (at an additional cost to the breeder/owner) or the parents would need to hold a SNPs profile or have SNPs profiles completed prior to the late registration's parentage test being completed.

DNA General Requirements

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.

- i. **The Society would advocate that mares are DNA tested as soon as they are known to be in foal as part of the DNA testing of mares producing their first pure bred 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, or if a DNA profile cannot be extracted from a previously supplied sample of hair and a resample is required which cannot be obtained, then the Society will not be able to register the foal out of that mare needing a DNA profile. **The same applies to stallion licensing. In short: DNA test the mare before the mare foals, and licence & DNA the colt/stallion before he covers mares.**
- ii. It is recommended that breeders/owners apply for a parentage test and/or stallion licence and associated DNA as soon as possible to allow ample time for the completion of the profiling and parentage testing by the laboratory. The Society is not responsible for any delays in issuing passports for foals out of mares awaiting DNA profiling, for animals awaiting parentage verification, and colts/stallions awaiting parentage testing when being licensed.
- iii. When requesting a DNA kit or stallion licence you will need to provide details of the veterinary surgeon carrying out the test and the relevant paperwork and sample bag will be posted directly to the veterinary surgeon's office. No kits will be issued to breeders or owners. Vets will be required to take a hair sample and sign the relevant documents supplied and the sample will need to include sufficient hair follicles. Your vet should check the quality of the sample before submitting it. A good clean sample is one of approximately 50 clean, intact hairs which have been pulled from the root and not cut. These hairs must include the follicle/hair bulb. Please refrain from using soap or products on the hair prior to the vet pulling the hair as this can lead to a repeat sample

request being required which will lead to additional costs for the breeder/owner.

- iv. **The Society will not be liable for any retest requests or costs due to poor or insufficient samples taken by a vet, or contaminated hair. Any hair samples that the laboratory is unable to obtain a suitable DNA profile from will be subject to resampling. The applicant will be responsible for purchasing a new DNA profiling kit(s) at the current price from the Society as part of the resampling, and these will be dispatched to the nominated veterinary surgeon who must complete the hair sampling and submit the new sample to the Society.**
- v. 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 each pure bred section is randomly selected annually for parentage testing. DNA profiling kits are provided free of charge, 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 name of the veterinary practice invoicing for the random sampling request must match the name of the nominated practice given by the owner when contacted by the office informing them of the random sampling request. The costs of harvesting the hair, form filling, and callout fee for this service **ONLY** will be paid.

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

If an animal eligible for registration with the Society already holds a passport from a different Stud Book Organisation **with the full verified breeding details printed inside**, and is resident in the UK (including NI) or outside of the EU, it is possible for the Welsh Pony and Cob Society to overstamp the passport with a Society registration number subject to certain conditions being met.

- i. 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.
- ii. The ownership records **MUST** be up to date with the Passport Issuing Office that produced the passport in the case of over stamping. The Society cannot overstamp the animal if the ownership is not up to date with the issuing PIO. When an animal that is over stamped 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.

- iii. Where the sires and dams of animals being overstamped with the WPCS are registered or overstamped already with the WPCS, these sires/dams' ownership records must be up to date with the WPCS. The WPCS will require the ownership of that sire or dam to be up to date with the Society before processing the overstamp for the animal by or out of these sires/dams, as we would for a normal first-passport registration.

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

The Society often receives requests from owners of animals who believe their animal could be a Welsh Pony, Cob or Part-Bred Welsh, but which is currently in possession of a non-breed Society passport (ID-only passport). Currently, it is not possible for the Society to blindly DNA test animals to see if they are Welsh Ponies, Cobs or Part-Breds. Because the Welsh Pony and Cob Society is a Studbook Society, we can only issue passports for animals **with known and verifiable named parentage**. Therefore, if neither the sire/dam are known, then the Society will be unable to offer DNA parentage testing, and unable to offer registration into the Studbook. Additionally, the following stages must be met in order for the process to be completed.

- i. 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. All applications must be completed on the Society forms. We cannot accept applications made on forms produced by other Passport Issuing Offices.
- ii. The Welsh Pony & Cob Society registered sire/dam, or in the case of pure breeds, both sire and dam, must be DNA profiled with the Society in order for the process to be continued.
- iii. The final stage in the process, once all of the necessary payment, forms, covering certification, signatures, and application paperwork is in order, will be the verification of the parentage of the animal. **Both pure and part-breeds, including geldings, need to be DNA parentage tested. It is recommended that all other stages of the application process be met BEFORE the owner embarks on the DNA parentage testing.** DNA parentage kits must be purchased via the Society. Please see section 10 on DNA Testing for more information.
- iv. Once the above requirements have all been fulfilled including the parentage verification, 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 which the applicant will be asked to cover.

13 - ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION (A.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 (see sections 1-5). Additional rules regarding DNA and parentage testing also apply in some instances. Please refer to the DNA Testing Section 10 for more information.

- i. 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. See section 10 on DNA Testing for more information.
- ii. 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.
- iii. 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. There is currently no fee for this. Please request the permit application form from the Society office.
- iv. 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.
- v. 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 the above.
- vi. 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.
- vii. 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 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 produced 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.

14 - 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.

An application for registration for stock produced by Embryo Transfer will be accepted by the Society subject to the following conditions. Normal rules of registration apply (see sections 1-5). Additional rules regarding DNA and parentage testing also apply. Please refer to the DNA Testing Section 10 for more information.

- 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. See section 10 on DNA Testing for more information.
- iv. The Embryo Transfer form should be requested from the Society 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 **Embryo Transfer Registration Form**. This should be requested from the office. The Society will require a full parentage test to be completed for pure and Part-Bred foals conceived by E. T.. The genetic sire and dam must 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 the resultant foals shall **all** be ineligible for registration in the studbook.

15 – GENETIC CLONING

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.

16 – MICROCHIPPING

It is now a legal requirement across the U.K. for all equines to be microchipped, regardless of when they were born and/or registered. Any equine that has not previously been microchipped must have a microchip implanted by a veterinary surgeon, and the Society must be notified.

- i. 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 for services.
- 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 17 of this document.

17 - RE-ISSUING AND RE-PRINTING PASSPORTS

The Society can, upon request re-issue (re-print) passports if the need arises. This can include where a passport becomes damaged or defaced but remains intact and legible, 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.

- i. **In all cases, the Society requires the correctly completed, current Passport Amendment application form to be submitted. The markings, 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.

18 - DUPLICATE PASSPORTS.

The Society can, upon request, issue duplicate passports for animals that are registered with the Society when the previous passport has been lost, or damaged beyond the point of clear identification, so long as the Society can match the supplied animal's details to an existing registration record either by the microchip number or by the colour and markings of the animal. If this cannot be accurately verified, then the Society reserves the right to refuse the application and instead instruct the owner to apply for an ID-Only 'Replacement Passport'. See EquiCymru Section 25 for more information.

- i. 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, 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. A duplicate passport will also be issued in the case of animals that have been re-microchipped, where the passport cannot be amended and where the insertion point of the previous defunct microchip was not clear.

- iii. Once a duplicate passport has been issued, any previous passport(s) for that animal become invalid, and if subsequently found, must be returned to the Society for invalidation.
- iv. 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.

19 - TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP

It is the responsibility of the **purchaser** to submit the passport to the Society for transfer of ownership **within 30 days of their purchase of the animal**.

- i. To complete a transfer of ownership with the Society, we require you to complete a transfer of ownership form and/or the appropriate section inside the passport:
 - a. If it is a passport issued from 2020 onwards there is a 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 transfer form to be sent to the office to complete the transfer. For this style of passport, the new owner does not need to fill in the boxes inside the passport – the Society will do this as part of the transfer of ownership taking your details from the transfer form.
 - b. For all other styles of passport, the Society require the transfer box to be completed fully within the passport with the new owner details (name and address), the date of transfer, and the sellers' signature. The application can be accompanied by the transfer of ownership form should you wish - if the seller has signed the passport, you do not need them to sign the transfer form, but you can complete the other sections fully including the payment details, in order that payment accompanies the passport application.
 - c. If the previous owner has not signed the passport or transfer form 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 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.
- ii. 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 stamp and date of transfer.

The Society also works with WPCS Overseas Daughter Societies to offer this service and can complete the transfer of ownership for WPCS passported equines by working with the Daughter Society when the owner is registering the equine with that Overseas Society. Please contact the Society for more information or ask your local WPCS Overseas Daughter Society about this.

This method has been developed as a safer means of completing a transfer of ownership for animals with Welsh Pony & Cob Society passports that are resident overseas and outside of the U.K. (including NI) only, in light of difficulties arising with posting equine passports overseas, particularly to Europe since Brexit.

- iii. Please see the Society website or get in touch with the office for current prices for transfer services. The transfer of ownership form can be downloaded from the website.

20 - POSTING PASSPORTS AND DOCUMENTS

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.

- 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.
- ii. 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 confirm the address with the office. 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.

21 - EQUICYMRU PASSPORT SERVICE

An animal in possession of an ID-only 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 WPCS Society sales.

- 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:
 - o Registered Owner's Details
 - o The Equine's Information
 - o Markings and Silhouette
 - o 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