

**RULES OF**  
**THE BRITISH CONNEMARA PONY SOCIETY LTD**

**Charity No: 262765**

**Rules originally passed at an EGM in 2007, with amendments passed at an EGM  
16 November 2012.**

**Effective 1<sup>st</sup> January 2013**

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**DESCRIPTION OF THE CONNEMARA PONY**

**PARTICULARS**

Height: 128cms to 148 cms at maturity.

Colours: Grey, black, bay, brown, dun with occasional roan, chestnut, palomino and cream.

Type: Compact, well balanced riding type with depth, substance and good heart room. Standing on short legs covering a lot of ground.

**DESCRIPTION**

Head: Well-balanced pony head of medium length with good width between large kindly eyes. Pony ears, well-defined cheekbone, jaw relatively deep but not coarse.

Front: Head well set on to neck. Crest should not be over-developed. Neck not set on too low. Well laid-back shoulder giving a good length of rein.

Body: Body should be deep, with strong back, some length permissible but should be well ribbed up and with strong loins.

Limbs: Good length and strength in forearm, well-defined knees and short cannons with flat bone measuring 18-21 cms. Elbows should be free. Pasterns of medium length, feet well shaped of medium size, hard and level.

Hind- quarters. Strong and muscular with some length, well developed second thighs (gaskin) and strong low-set hocks.

Movement: Movement free, easy and true, without undue knee action but active and covering the ground.

**CHARACTERISTICS**

Good temperament, hardiness and staying power, intelligence, soundness, surefootedness, jumping ability, suitable for child or adult.

## **THE RULES**

**I.** These Rules were adopted by the Society on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2007, with amendments passed 18<sup>th</sup> November 2012. They may from time to time be amended at an Extraordinary General Meeting or an Annual General Meeting of the Society by a Special Resolution, passed by not less than three fourths of the members present and voting on the Resolution, subject always to Article 16 of the Articles of Association of the Society which states that " no business shall be transacted at any meeting unless a quorum of not less than 12 Members is present at the commencement of business and at the voting thereon". It is the duty of the Secretary to give each Member of the Society at least 21 days notice of an Extraordinary General Meeting but the accidental omission to give notice of such a meeting to, or the non receipt of such a notice by any person entitled to receive notice thereof shall not invalidate any amendments made at such meetings to these Rules.

## **II. POWERS**

Any power or discretion given by these Rules may be exercised by the elected Council of the Society.

## **III. PROVISOS**

When in these Rules the context so admits:

(i) Words importing one gender include all other genders and words importing the singular include the plural and vice versa.

(ii) Where for the time being rights and obligations are shared by two or more persons then obligations expressed implied and made or to be made by or with that party are made by or with those persons jointly and severally.

## **IV TABLES**

The Society shall maintain and make available for inspection by the members the following Tables of matters decided by the Society  
Alterations to the Tables by the Society shall not be treated as an amendment to these Rules.

Designation of Table	Description
A	List of Fees and Awards
B	Information, registration documents and certificates to be furnished with applications for registrations and relevant procedures.
C	International Code of Suffixes
D	Procedures for Drug Sampling

## V. DEFINITIONS

In these Rules: -

" **The Society**" means the British Connemara Pony Society Limited.

" **The BCPS Stud Book**" means the Stud Book maintained by the Society in accordance with these Rules.

The "**jurisdiction**" of the Society shall be the United Kingdom (excluding Northern Ireland), the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man.

"**CPS**" means a Connemara Pony Society.

"**CPBS**" means the Connemara Pony Breeder's Society. The Connemara Pony Breeder's Society (CPBS) as the Parent organisation will define the standards specific to the Connemara breed and is recognised as the Stud Book of the origin of the breed. A "**Registration Document**" means a Temporary Foal Certificate/Identification Certificate, Passport or Certificate of Registration issued to an animal.

The "**breeder of an animal**" means the person or persons who was or were the registered owner of the dam at the time the animal was born except that when the mare is leased or lent to another person at that time and the Secretary has been so notified in writing before the birth of the foal that the other person is the breeder.

"**Council**" "**Member**" and "**Secretary**", unless the context otherwise requires means respectively the Council, a Member and the Secretary of the Society.

"**ICCPS**" means International Committee of Connemara Pony Societies"

"**DNA Profile**" means a DNA profile obtained from either a hair sample, (which must include the hair root) or a blood sample.

## VI. FEES AND AWARDS

Such fees may be charged and such awards made to members as the Society from time to time decide. The Society shall maintain a list of fees and awards in Table A.

## VII. THE BCPS STUD BOOK

All entries in the Stud Book and Registers maintained by the Society and made prior to the commencement of these rules, in accordance with the rules in force at the time the entry was made, remain valid.

## VIII REGISTRATION RULES FOR ALL SECTIONS

The Society will continue to maintain the BCPS Stud Book which will consist of records of ponies from approved Societies and will cater for Foals, Stallions, Mares and Geldings meeting entry requirements as set out in these Rules.

## **A GENERAL**

- i) The registration of an animal includes registration of the name of the owner for the time being and the Society may refuse to recognise any living animal as registered if the name of its current owner is not included in the entry in the Register.
- ii) If, when an application is made to register an animal, there is any doubt as to the true parentage of that animal, it is at the discretion of the Society to insist on the DNA profiling of all relevant animals, by a laboratory approved by the Society, to establish the true parentage or identity Unless such DNA profiling is carried out registration may be refused.
- iii) The Society reserves the right to require a DNA profile of any animal at any time.
- iv) When the breeder of an animal is under the age of 18 years the Application Form must be counter signed by an adult to verify that the information given on that form is correct.
- v) An application to register an animal may be refused:
  - a) If the Society is not satisfied with the accuracy or sufficiency of the information supplied or
  - b) If the member applying is in arrears with the payment of his subscription or other fees due to the Society or if any other applicant (not being a member) fails to pay a fee or fees due the Society or at the time of his application owes any other money to the Society.
- vi) The Registration of an animal may be deleted where ancestry information is subsequently proven to be incorrect.

The Stud Book will consist of the following sections:

### **B Class 1 ADULT STALLIONS AND MARES AND GELDINGS**

The minimum age for registration in this Section of the Stud Book is two years old for fillies and geldings and three years old for colts .All animals must have a document of identification certifying their entry as a foal in the BCPS Stud Book or Stud Book of an approved Society. For entry into this Section of the Stud Book:-

- (i) The animal must be inspected and passed by Inspectors approved for the purpose by the Society. The inspection team must have a satisfactory knowledge of the breeding objectives of the CPBS in relation to conformation and type. Geldings do not have to be presented for inspection by the Society's inspectors.
- (ii) The animal must pass a veterinary inspection as laid down by the Society in Table B.

- (iii) The sire of the animal must be registered as a Stallion in the Stud Book of the Society or an approved Connemara Pony Society, and must have been presented for inspection at an Inspection conducted by such a Society. Stallions registered after 1st March 2007 must be registered in Class 1 or Class 2 of the Stud Book of that Society.
- (iv) The sire of the animal must have passed a veterinary inspection as laid down in Table B
- (v) The dam of the animal must be registered in the Adult Section of the Stud Book of the Society or an approved Connemara Pony Society, and must have been presented for inspection at an Inspection conducted by such a Society. Mares registered in the Adult Section of the Stud Book of the Society before 1<sup>st</sup> March 1992 are not required to have been presented for inspection. Mares registered after 1st March 2007 must be registered in Class 1 or Class 2 of the Stud Book of that Society
- (vi) If the dam of the animal was registered after 1<sup>st</sup> March 2007, it must have passed a veterinary inspection as listed in Table B.
- (vii) The animal must measure 128 cms to 148cms
- (viii) In the case of a gelding, the Society must have received a Certificate of Castration.
- (ix) If an animal, male or female, fails the inspection by the Society inspectors, the Society will on appeal and in accordance with the requirements laid down in Table B, arrange a further inspection.
- (ix) If an animal male or female fails to obtain the veterinary certificate, an owner is entitled to request a referee's veterinary inspection to be arranged by the Society as set out in Table B.

### **C Class 2 STALLIONS, MARES AND GELDINGS**

The minimum age for registration in this Section of the Stud Book is two years old for fillies and geldings and three years old for colts. All animals must have a document of identification certifying their entry as a foal in the BCPS Stud Book or Stud Book of an approved Society.

This section contains:

Blue Eyed Cream ponies.

Ponies that measure less than 128cm and over 148 cm.

Ponies which, when presented for inspection by Society Inspectors, do not pass such an inspection. For entry into this Section of the Stud Book:-

- (i) The animal must pass a veterinary inspection as laid down by the Society in Table B.
- (ii) The sire of the animal must be registered as a Stallion in the Stud Book of the Society or an approved Connemara Pony Society, and must have been presented for inspection at an Inspection conducted by such a Society. Stallions registered after 1st March 2007 must be registered in Class 1 or Class 2 of the Stud Book of that society.
- (iii) The sire of the animal must have passed a veterinary inspection as laid down in Table B.

- (iv) The dam of the animal must be registered in the Adult Section of the Stud Book of the Society or an approved Connemara Pony Society, and must have been presented for inspection at an Inspection conducted by such a Society. Mares registered in the Adult Section of the Stud Book of the Society before 1<sup>st</sup> March 1992 are not required to have been presented for inspection. Mares registered after 1<sup>st</sup> March 2007 must be registered in Class 1 or Class 2 of the Stud Book of that society.
- (v) If the dam of the animal was registered after 1<sup>st</sup> March 2007, it must have passed a veterinary inspection as listed in Table B.
- (vi) In the case of a gelding, the Society must have received a Certificate of Castration.
- (vii) If an animal, male or female, fails to obtain the veterinary certificate, an owner is entitled to request a referee's veterinary inspection to be arranged by the Society as set out in Table B.

### **D Class 3**

#### **(i) FOALS .**

All foals when registered are entered in Class 3. In order to move to a higher class ponies must be presented for Inspection, at a minimum of two years of age for fillies and geldings and three years old for colts, subject to both parents having been presented for Inspection and both parents having passed a Veterinary Inspection. Ponies that are not presented for inspection will remain in Class 3 as will their progeny. Lifetime Documents are issued to foals and animals remain in this section until all the procedures relating to their inspection and registrations as adult ponies are completed as set out in these Rules. These documents are capable of complying with the requirements of the appropriate section VIIB), C) & D).

To be eligible for registration in the Class 3

- a) The sire and dam of the animal must be registered in the Stud Book or Registers of an approved Society.
- b) An application for registration must be made by the breeder and submitted to the Society no later than six months after the date of birth of the foal on an Application Form issued by the Society. The breeder will be deemed responsible for checking that all the details on the form are correct before submission to the Society.
- c) Sketch markings for identification must be completed by a veterinary surgeon on the Society's form. The identification must be done before weaning and within six months of the date of birth of the foal. All foals born after 1/1/05 must be parentage tested by DNA profiling.
- d) Late application for registration may be allowable. Acceptance of the application will be at the absolute discretion of the Society.

## ii) ADULT PONIES

The progeny of those animals that remain in Class 3 are not eligible for registration in Classes 1 and 2.

Those animals that remain in Class 3 are:-

- a) Animals, both male and female that fail the Society's Veterinary Inspection
- b) All Animals that are not presented for inspection by the Society or an approved Society.
- c) Ponies who do not meet the minimum marking standard at inspection remain in Class 3.

## IX MOVEMENT OF PONIES BETWEEN SOCIETIES

- (i) A pony from an Approved Connemara studbook shall be entered in the class of the stud book whose criteria it meets.
- (ii) In cases where a pony at the inspection has not been passed for entry into the studbook, the pony may not be presented at an inspection outside the jurisdiction of the original inspecting CPS for a minimum of ONE year. i.e. until the commencement of the next breeding season
- (iii) LEASING OF PONIES Prior to the movement of a pony to another Society, the pony's documentation must be presented to the Secretary who will transfer the documents to the CPS in the Country of destination for recording purposes. On termination of the lease, the same procedure must be followed in reverse. When an animal is lent or leased to another person for breeding or any other purposes within the jurisdiction of the Society, the Secretary must be so notified in writing.

## X ERRORS

When there is any doubt about the parentage of an animal as stated in the registration document issued by this or another Society, the Society may insist that the animal be DNA profiled at the owner's expense to confirm its parentage. Rule XVI applies if an error is discovered.

## XI NAMING OF PONIES

In general the name assigned to a pony by the Society within the jurisdiction of which it was originally registered ("the original Registration Authority") may not be changed subsequently except in the following circumstances.

- i) Where the name assigned has a derogatory meaning in another language, and/or where the name or prefix assigned conflicts with an existing name. In both cases the new name must be assigned by the original Registration Authority.
- ii) The name "Connemara" may not be used. Common Irish place names should not be used without checking with the ICCPS.
- iii) A member shall be entitled to register with the Society a distinctive prefix for life, which cannot be used by another person except a person taking over a herd from its previous owner who has given his permission for the prefix to be transferred. The prefix is for the exclusive use of the breeder and must be added to the name of all animals, which he breeds.



- iv) Every prefix must be registered with the Parent Society. All applications to register a prefix must be made on the appropriate form, which is obtainable from the Secretary, and which must be accompanied by the appropriate fee as laid down in Table A.
- v) A prefix registered by a breeder of one society must not be used by a breeder of another society except when such duplication occurs prior to affiliation.
- vi) Where a prefix is duplicated prior to affiliation then the International Suffix Code of the country of origin of its breeder must be added. Following affiliation the Society shall assign a prefix subject to the approval of the ICCPS.

## **XII REGISTRATION DOCUMENTS TO BE SURRENDERED IN CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES.**

A member holding a Registration Document of an animal in the Stud Book or Register shall send it to the Secretary within one month following the occurrence of any of the following:-

- (i) a change of ownership of the animal
- (ii) export of the animal
- (iii) death of the animal
- (iv) castration of the animal in possession of an adult passport.
- (v) cancellation or alteration of an entry in the Stud Book relating to that animal
- (vi) at the request of the Society

## **XIII TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP**

Any member or non-member who transfers the ownership of an animal registered in the Stud Book must give notice thereof to the Secretary. Within one month of the transfer, he must send to the Secretary the owner's name and address, the Registration Document and the appropriate fee as laid down in Table A. The relevant document will be amended and endorsed by the Secretary. The progeny of such an animal will not be registered unless the animal is registered in the name of the new owner.

## **XIV. DUPLICATE REGISTRATION DOCUMENT**

A Duplicate Registration Document may only be issued in exceptional circumstances at the discretion of the Council and on such terms and after such enquiries, inspections, and declarations as the Council decide. This rule only applies to a Registration Document issued by the Society.

## **XV. MEMBERS TO ASSIST THE SOCIETY**

Every member of the Society having knowledge relating to any animal with which the Society is concerned, its ancestors and its progeny shall give to the Society all possible assistance, in his power, required for the purpose of establishing the true facts about the animal's ancestry and/or progeny.

## **XVI. CANCELLATION OR ALTERATION OF ENTRIES IN THE BCPS STUD BOOK**

If the Society finds that false information was given to the Society in connection with an application for the registration of any animal in the BCPS Stud Book or the Stud Book of another society or an error is discovered in connection with an existing registration, the Society may cancel or alter the entries therein relating to that animal or progeny. Where such a pony has been imported this may only be done after consultation with the Society of the pony's country of origin. If the person who is alleged to have supplied false information to the Society is a member of the Society at the time when the cancellation or alteration is contemplated, he and any other person, who to the knowledge of the Society might be prejudiced by the alteration or cancellation, shall first be given an opportunity of being heard.

## **XVII SHOWING**

i)(a) No Connemara exceeding 148 cms may be shown or take part in any competition restricted to Connemara or Registered Mountain & Moorland Ponies within the jurisdiction of the BCPS

(b) Where it is reported to the Society that this may have occurred then the Society may require the animal to be measured or re-measured in accordance with the Rules of the Joint Measurement Scheme. The penalty for the contravention of the Rule i)(a) above may be cancellation of the registration of the animal concerned.

ii) No Foal may be shown under the age of five weeks

iii) No entire male may be shown or take part in any competition restricted to Connemara or registered Mountain & Moorland ponies after the 1st January in the year in which he attains the age of three years unless he is registered as a Stallion in Classes 1 or 2 of the BCPS Stud Book or the Stud Book of an approved Society.

iv) No female or gelding may be shown or take part in any competition restricted to Connemara or registered Mountain & Moorland ponies after the 1st January in the year in which it attains the age of four years unless it has been registered as an adult pony in Classes 1 and 2 of the BCPS Stud Book or the Stud Book of an Approved Society.

v) No Connemara pony may be shown after the age of 6 months unless it is registered in an approved Connemara Stud Book.

## **XVIII DRUG SAMPLING**

In common with other similar bodies, the B.C.P.S. takes a very serious view of doping or misuse of drugs whether intentional or unintentional, having particular regard to the safety of children. Members should be aware that proprietary feeds and preparations may contain Prohibited Substances as do many foods such as chocolate. Prohibited substances can be absorbed through the skin and they are also contained in some homeopathic and herbal remedies. It is the responsibility of the Member having custody of a pony, particularly in the run up to a show to ensure that nothing is fed, administered or applied to a pony that contains a Prohibited Substance. Ignorance is

not an adequate defence. The Society reserves the right to sample for Prohibited Substances and to take appropriate action as set out in Table D.

## **XIX BREACHES OF RULES**

If any member of the Society commits any breach of these Rules, or is guilty of conduct tending to bring the Society or its Stud Book into disrepute, the Council of the Society may, after giving him the opportunity of being heard, suspend his right to show any animal or class of animal in classes restricted to registered Mountain and Moorland ponies for such a period as the Society may think fit, and/or it may terminate his membership and/or it may impose a monetary penalty.

## **XX ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION**

- i) Artificial Insemination (AI) will be permitted in the Connemara Breed.
- ii) To be eligible for registration in Class 3 - Foal Section of the Stud Book, the progeny of a mating by Artificial Insemination must fulfill the same registration qualifications as a foal conceived by natural service and must have been born within the jurisdiction of the Society
- iii) The collection of semen and the insemination of mares must be carried out by an official (or officials) approved by the Society.
- iv) The collection of semen from stallions should be carried out in accordance with the Animal Health and Veterinary Regulations that apply in the country of the Society and the movement of semen between countries must be in accordance with the regulations that apply in that country.
- v) The Rules governing the Movement of Ponies namely IX(i) apply to Artificial Insemination and the Movement of Semen.

## **XXI EMBRYO TRANSFER.**

- (i) Embryo Transfer will be permitted in the Connemara Pony Breed.
- (ii) To be eligible for registration in Class 3 - Foal Section of the Stud Book, the progeny of an embryonic transfer must fulfill the same registration qualifications as all other foals and must have been born within the jurisdiction of the Society.
- (iii) A mare owner wishing to participate in an Embryo Transfer programme must receive a permit from the Society specifying the name and Stud Book number of the mare.
- (iv) The embryonic transfer must be carried out by a Recognised Authority/Official and must comply with the rules in Table B. This Authority/Official must send a written certificate confirming the details and Veterinary markings of the donor and recipient mares and the dates of the transfers
- (v) The transfer of the embryo from one mare to another must be in accordance with the Animal Health Regulations that apply in the Country and the movement of embryos between countries must be in accordance with regulations which apply in those Countries.
- (vi) A Certificate of embryonic transfer must accompany the Foal birth notification for the progeny of the embryo transfer.