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**Please note that rules/guidelines published in this handbook do not over-rule any rules or guidelines already in place with show societies except at shows solely affiliated to the Welsh Pony and Cob Society. The onus is with the WPCS Panel Judge to be familiar with all rules pertaining to the classes he/she is judging.**

## **AMENDMENTS OR ADDITIONS ARE LISTED IN 'BOLD' IN THE BODY OF THE TEXT**

**Judges, exhibitors, owners and producers should regularly refer to WPCS website [www.wpcs.com](http://www.wpcs.com) for any updates or changes to rules in this document. It is available in the “DOWNLOADS” section.**

Complaints guidance: All complaints relating to potential breaches of WPCS rules must first be lodged with the Show Secretary, within the rules of the show. If, following the conclusion of those procedures, the complainant remains dissatisfied with the outcome, the complaint may be referred to the Welsh Pony & Cob Society. **All complaints should be in writing and addressed to the Company Secretary. Proof of complaint to the Show secretary must be provided when a complaint is submitted to the WPCS.**

**FORMS CAN BE DOWNLOADED FROM THE WPCS WEBSITE [WWW.WPCS.UK.COM](http://WWW.WPCS.UK.COM)**

## INTRODUCTION

Historically the WPCS's Panel of Judges was formed through invitation following recommendations made by Council. Over the years, as interest in the Welsh breeds grew so did the number of shows with the resultant need for more Judges. Over the last twenty years or so appointment to the various panels has been through an assessment procedure organised by the Society. Today these assessments are conducted bi-annually.

Each year the WPCS Council reviews the Panel of Judges and invitations are sent to every Judge inviting them to remain a panel Judge for the following year; this process is repeated annually. It is conditional for all panel Judges to **attend a Judges' Conference at least once every six years** and failure to do so results in that Judge being removed from the panel until they have attended a conference. It is also incumbent on all panel Judges to keep themselves up to date with current rules and regulations.

It is an honour to have a position on the WPCS Panel of Judges and as such Judges must take full responsibility for their actions at all times. To be appointed as a WPCS Judge it has been agreed that they are of sufficient calibre to represent the Society in terms of their ability, their behaviour, their appearance and their relationship with show organisers, stewards, exhibitors/owners and the media.

Gaining respect is very much in the hands of the individual Judge. Respect most often is gained through (a) judging with total fairness showing no bias towards animal or person, (b) being courteous at all times to show organisers, stewards, exhibitors and fellow Judges, (c) showing discretion when expressing views or discussing any aspect of judging.

### **What makes a good Judge?**

A good Judge should always be well prepared for the task ahead of them.

### **At the point of receiving an invitation the Judge should:**

Act promptly

Check they are eligible to Judge the particular classes e.g. on correct panel or need for asterisk

Check the show in question does not lie within the 40-mile radius (as the crow flies) of any other affiliated appointment

Check expenses being paid, e.g. travel (recommended rate is 35p) and/or accommodation

Once accepted, enter the details in their diary to avoid dates clashing

Should a Judge, at a later date find circumstances prevent them from honouring the appointment the Judge should let the Show Secretary know as soon as possible and if possible offer a suggestion for replacement remembering to check that the person is eligible to judge the particular classification.

### **On show day the Judge should:**

Be punctual

Carry the Show schedule and WPCS Judging and Showing Handbook

Make him/herself known to the Show Secretary at least thirty minutes prior to classes starting

On meeting the Ring Steward discuss procedure for the ring

Consult with the Steward on any special awards

On arrival at the ring assess for any Health & Safety issues and act accordingly

If in hand classes, advise the Steward where the animals should be trotted out  
Advise the Steward where animals should be lined up.  
Animals should always be lined up left to right.

**A Judge should make every effort to:**

Dress appropriately for judging – be clean, tidy and practical, Blue Denim is not acceptable  
Avoid meeting exhibitors/handlers prior to judging them  
Avoid areas of the showground where animals may be located prior to judging them  
Give clear instructions to the Steward so they in turn can inform exhibitors  
Give every exhibitor the same amount of time while judging his/her animal  
Treat every exhibitor on equal terms and avoid any social conversation  
Refrain from standing with hands in pockets

**A Judge knows that his/her integrity is beyond question so through his/her action he/she should make sure that it is seen to be the case. A Judge should have presence in the ring and be seen to have full control in readiness of any situation that may occur while judging.**

## **BREED DESCRIPTIONS**

**Showing classes for animals registered in Sections A, B, C or D of the WPCS Stud Book must be judged in accordance with the breed description contained within the Stud Book. Judges are empowered to judge according to personal preference.**

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### **THE WELSH MOUNTAIN PONY**

**Not exceeding 121.9 cm (12.0 hands)  
Section A of the Stud Book**

#### **General Character**

Hardy, spirited and pony-like

#### **Colour**

Any colour, except piebald and skewbald

#### **Head**

Small, clean-cut, well set on and tapering to the muzzle

#### **Eyes**

Bold

#### **Ears**

Well placed, small and pointed, well up on the head, proportionately close

#### **Nostrils**

Prominent and open

#### **Jaws and Throat**

Clean and finely-cut, with ample room at the angle of the jaw

**Neck**

Lengthy, well carried and moderately lean in the case of mares, but inclined to be cresty in the case of mature stallions

**Shoulders**

Long and sloping well back. Withers moderately fine, but not "knifey". The humerus upright so that the foreleg is not set in under the body.

**Forelegs**

Set square and true, and not tied in at the elbows. Long, strong forearm, well developed knee, short flat bone below knee, pasterns of proportionate slope and length, feet well-shaped and round, hoofs dense.

**Back and Loins**

Muscular, strong and well coupled

**Girth**

Deep

**Ribs**

Well sprung

**Hind Quarters**

Lengthy and fine. Not ragged or goose-rumped. Tail well set on and carried gaily.

**Hind Legs**

Hocks to be large, flat and clean with points prominent, to turn neither inwards nor outwards. The hind legs not to be too bent. The hock not to be set behind a line from the point of the quarter to the fetlock joint. Pasterns of proportionate slope and length. Feet well-shaped, hoofs dense.

**Action**

Quick, free and straight from the shoulder and hocks well flexed with straight and powerful leverage and well under the body.

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**THE WELSH PONY**

**Not exceeding 137.2 cm (13.2 hands)**

**Section B of the Stud Book**

The general description of ponies in Section "A" of the Stud Book is applicable to those in Section "B", but more particularly the Section "B" pony shall be described as a riding pony, with quality, riding action, adequate bone and substance, hardiness and constitution and with pony character.

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**THE WELSH PONY OF COB TYPE**  
**Not exceeding 137.2 cm (13.2 hands)**  
**Section C of the Stud Book**

Their true worth as a dual-purpose animal has been fully realised in recent years, and their numbers have increased accordingly. Active, surefooted and hardy, they are ideal for so many purposes both for adults and children.

Like all the Welsh Breeds they are natural jumpers and they also excel in harness — there are in fact few things that they cannot be used for.

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**THE WELSH COB**  
**The height should exceed 13.2 h.h (137 cms): no upper limit.**  
**Section D of the Stud Book**

Aptly described as "the best ride and drive animal in the World", the Welsh Cob has been evolved throughout many centuries for his courage, tractability and powers of endurance.

The general character is the embodiment of strength, hardiness and agility. The head shows great quality with Pony character: bold prominent eyes, a broad forehead and neat, well set ears. The body must be deep, on strong limbs with good "hard wearing" joints and an abundance of flat bone. Action must be straight, free and forceful, the knees should be bent and then the whole foreleg extended from the shoulders as far as possible in all paces, with the hocks well flexed, producing powerful leverage.

The Welsh Cob is a good hunter and a most competent performer in all competitive sports. In recent years they have had great success in the international driving world. Their abilities in all spheres are now fully recognised throughout the world.

**Detailed Description of Sections C and D**

*General Character*

Strong, hardy and active, with pony character and as much substance as possible

*Colour*

Any colour, except piebald and skewbald

*Head*

Full of quality and pony character. A coarse head and Roman nose are most objectionable

*Eyes*

Bold, prominent and set widely apart

*Ears*

Neat and well set

*Neck*

Lengthy and well carried. Moderately lean in the case of mares, but inclined to be cresty in the case of mature stallions

### *Shoulders*

Strong but well laid back

### *Forelegs*

Set square and not tied in at the elbows. Long, strong forearms. Knees well developed with an abundance of bone below them. Pasterns of proportionate slope and length. Feet well-shaped. Hoofs dense. When in the rough, a moderate quantity of silky feather is not objected to, but coarse, wiry hair is a definite objection.

### *Middle piece*

Back and loins, muscular, strong and well-coupled. Deep through the heart and well-ribbed up.

### *Hind Quarters*

Lengthy and strong. Ragged or drooping quarters are objectionable. Tail well-set on.

### *Hind Legs*

Second thighs, strong and muscular. Hocks, large, flat and clean, with points prominent, turning neither inward nor outwards. The hind legs must not be too bent, and the hock not set behind a line falling from the point of the quarter to the fetlock joint. Pasterns of proportionate slope and length. Feet well-shaped. Hoofs dense.

### *Action*

Free, true and forcible. The knee should be bent and the whole foreleg should be extended straight from the shoulder and as far forward as possible in the trot. Hocks flexed under the body with straight and powerful leverage.

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## 1. DEFINITIONS

**For the purpose of this handbook the following definitions apply:**

**Member** - Member of Welsh Pony and Cob Society

**Exhibitor** – An owner, producer or other person responsible for an animal at a show.

**Producer** – A person who undertakes the production or preparation for the show ring.

**Trainer** – A person who undertakes the training of a pony/cob/rider for any discipline.

**Lessee/borrower** – A person for the purpose of showing who is deemed to be the owner.

**Immediate Family** – The following are classed as immediate family for the purpose of rules relating to impartiality.

*Father, Mother, Sister, Brother, Sister in Law, Brother in Law*

*Grandparents, Grandchild, Son, Daughter, Son in Law, Daughter in Law*

*Husband / Wife / Partners*

*Parents. Partners*

*Stepparents, Step Grandparents, Stepson, Stepdaughter, Stepbrothers, Stepsisters*

*Legal Guardians/God Parents/God Children*

**Competitor** - Person who handles, rides or drives an animal in the show ring

## **Society** – Welsh Pony and Cob Society

**Passport** - A passport is a legal document which uniquely identifies a horse or pony. In terms of showing, it must travel with animals as it identifies the owner and the actual animal. It is the responsibility of the current owner to ensure the document is kept up to date in terms of ownership. It is the responsibility of exhibitors to ensure the passport accompanies the animal to the show or activity. The Welsh Pony and Cob Society is the Passport Issuing Authority (PIO) for Welsh ponies and cobs and all changes of ownership must be recorded with the Society.

**Membership Card** - Membership cards are issued annually to all paid up members of the Welsh Pony and Cob Society. If the original card has been lost/stolen/misplaced duplicate membership cards are available from the WPCS Office at a cost of £10.00 per card.

**Show Season** – 1<sup>st</sup> January to 31<sup>st</sup> December

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**For the purpose of Showing the following definitions apply:**

### **Males**

**Stallion** – an entire male, four years old and over. All stallions must be in possession of a Welsh Pony & Cob Society Licence of Correctness (or acknowledged alternative) prior to showing.

**Colt** – an entire male, not exceeding three years old

When a stallion/colt is entered for a show, you should state their **stallion licence number** on the entry form for WPCS Affiliated Shows.

Colts are eligible to be licensed from 1<sup>st</sup> January of their 2<sup>nd</sup> year.

All colts presented for stallion premiums must be licensed.

**Gelding** – a castrated male. All geldings should have their passports over-stamped “gelding” by the Welsh Pony and Cob Society.

### **Females**

**Mare** - female 4 years old and over\_

**Filly** – female not exceeding 3 years old

Brood mares must be 4 years old or over with foal at foot or have produced a foal in the current year.

**Brood mares must be accompanied in the ring by their own foal, or a veterinary certificate justifying the absence of the foal must be produced on request.**

A ‘Novice brood mare’, must not have won a brood mare class prior to 1<sup>st</sup> January of the current year of showing.

A barren mare is a mare that has not produced a foal and will not produce a foal in the current year.

Fillies with foals at foot cannot be shown.

Foal – either colt or filly born up to 31<sup>st</sup> December of year of birth.

Mares with foals **under 3 weeks of age** must not be exhibited.

Foals must not be bitted and must be shown in a halter or leather head collar/slip.

Foals must not be shod.

The age of all animals is calculated from 1<sup>st</sup> January in the year of birth.

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### 3. RULES FOR JUDGES

- 3.1 All Judges must hold **single** current membership of the Welsh Pony and Cob Society. **Joint membership is not permitted**
- 3.2 A Judge must attend a **WPCS Judges** Conference/Seminar a minimum of once within every **six** years to enable them to remain on the Judging Panel. If a Judge does not attend his/her name will be deleted from the Judging Panel until he/she attends a **WPCS Judges** Conference/Seminar **within a nine-year period**.
- 3.3 A Judge must declare him/herself to be medically/physically/mentally fit to judge otherwise he/she may present Health & Safety issues for him/herself and/or others. A Judge must desist from judging if he/she is not medically /physically/mentally fit.
- 3.4 A Judge must complete and return the '**Annual** disclosure form' **and the 'Judge's agreement form'** **within the given time frame**; failure to return will result in his/her name being deleted from the Judging Panel.
- 3.5 A Judge must be fully conversant with all WPCS judging and showing rules. If any doubts arise at a show, he/she must refer to the handbook for clarification.
- 3.6 A Judge must at all times adhere to the Codes of Conduct as published in the WPCS Judging and Showing Handbook.
- 3.7 A Judge must have easy access to a Judging and Showing Handbook at the show where he/she is judging.
- 3.8 A Judge must not judge the same section of the WPCS Stud Book, including Ridden performance classes at an affiliated show within a local area more than once during a season. A local area is defined as a 40-mile radius (as the crow flies) from the showground.
- 3.9 On completion of judging a section at WPCS In-hand medal show, a Judge must sign the result card confirming the Champion and Reserve Champion, and also sign the appropriate box confirming the number of entries forward. It is the Judge's responsibility to ensure, with their Steward and or Show Secretary that the correct animal and the correct exhibitor catalogue number correspond and appear on the card.
- 3.10 When a Judge officiates in WPCS affiliated classes at a show, he/she or his/her immediate family, must not compete or exhibit in other WPCS affiliated classes at that show.
- 3.11 A Judge must not refer to the show catalogue prior to or during judging.
- 3.12 A Judge should remain detached at all times.
- 3.13 A Judge must not accept any hospitality from an exhibitor at a show where he/she is judging.
- 3.14 A Judge must be smartly dressed at all times during the show where he/she is judging; casual clothing is deemed inappropriate. Blue Denim is not acceptable.
- 3.15 All Judges must wear a hat while judging.
- 3.16 A Judge must not smoke whilst in the ring.
- 3.17 A Judge must not use a mobile phone whilst in the ring.



- 3.18 A Judge must not wear an earpiece whilst in the ring.
- 3.19 Judges must present rosettes unless a sponsor is requested to do so. It is the Judge's prerogative to withhold rosettes if he/she feels entries are of insufficient merit.
- 3.19a A Judge cannot officiate the same section at Royal Welsh, Lampeter or Glanusk within a 3-year period.
- 3.19b It is the Judges responsibility to recommend a suitable replacement should they be unable to fulfil their judging appointment.

### **Impartiality - Judges**

- 3.20 A Judge must not judge any animal bred by him/her.
- 3.21 A Judge must not judge an animal previously owned/produced/leased by him/her.
- 3.22 A Judge must not judge an animal with which he/she has had any financial involvement; livery, and schooling are included but NOT stud fees **and associated costs**.
- 3.23 A Judge must not judge an animal which has been owned, bred, leased by his/her immediate family.
- 3.24 A Judge must not judge an animal that any member of his/her immediate family or employer has owned, bred, leased, produced or had a financial involvement with that animal.
- 3.25 A Judge must not judge a person who has ridden, driven or produced in hand for him/her in the previous and/or current showing season.
- 3.26 A Judge must take firm action against any exhibitor who withdraws their animal from the ring before the class has ended. The incident must be reported to WPCS Office.
- 3.27 A Judge must take firm action where an unruly animal in their opinion is likely to cause an accident. He/she must dismiss the animal from the class.
- 3.28 A Judge must take firm action against any exhibit whose performance is enhanced/potentially enhanced by artificial aids or outside assistance. Plastic bags, excessive and abnormal use of whips, noise producing objects are all deemed to be artificial aids. Such exhibits may be dismissed from the class, and such action will be fully supported by the Society. The incident must be reported to the WPCS office.
- 3.29 A Judge must not express his/her views on specific animals/exhibitors/Judges or their judgement via any form of social media via the Internet in accordance with WPCS Social Media policy.
- 3.30 If in the event Judges cannot agree in a championship class, the independent Judge invited can only judge the animals involved in the disagreement.
- 3.31 The Judge's decision is final and binding, providing that the rules are followed within the current handbook.

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## **4. RULES FOR EXHIBITORS, OWNERS AND PRODUCERS**

Showing is the main shop window for the Welsh breeds and as such attracts a huge amount of public interest. Therefore, exhibitors must conduct themselves at all times in an orderly, polite manner as they represent the Welsh breeds and consequently the WPCS. Everyone involved with showing are deemed to be fully conversant with the Codes of Conduct printed in this booklet. Any breaches will be severely dealt with by the Society. Bad behaviour to fellow exhibitors, owners, producers, judges, stewards or show officials brings the Society into disrepute.

- 4.1 Exhibitors competing at affiliated shows are deemed to be fully conversant with rules contained within this handbook and also the rules pertaining to the respective show.
- 4.1b Exhibitors are solely responsible for the accuracy and eligibility of their entries. Any misrepresentation of any exhibit will be dealt with under the WPCS Disciplinary procedures.

### **Impartiality – Exhibitors, Riders and Handlers**

- 4.2 Owners, exhibitors, riders and handlers must thoroughly investigate past connections of their exhibits to avoid breaches with the rules dealing with impartiality during judging.
- 4.3 An exhibitor must not enter any animal bred by the Judge, previously owned or produced or leased by the Judge or with which the Judge has had any financial connection such as livery/ handling/schooling.
- 4.4 An exhibitor or producer must not enter any animal in a class under a Judge who has produced an animal for that person in the previous and current showing season.
- 4.5 An exhibitor must not enter an animal under a Judge whose immediate family or employer owned, bred, leased or produced that animal.
- 4.6 A rider, whip or handler must not compete in a class judged by a person for whom he/she has ridden, driven or produced in hand during the previous and current showing season.
- 4.7 An animal must not be exhibited if under the ownership or production of any person for whom the Judge has obtained or provided livery in the previous and current showing season.
- 4.8 Substitutions and nomination of entries are not allowed.
- 4.9 The welfare of their pony or cob is paramount and no lame, sick or overly fat animal should be brought to the show or into a class. **(see condition scoring diagram inside back cover)**
- 4.10 Exhibitors must not approach a Judge on the day of the show.
- 4.11 A change of handler or rider is not allowed once the class has commenced, except in exceptional circumstances (injury or illness).
- 4.12 Exhibitors must comply with the Steward's or Judge's requests at all times.
- 4.13 Exhibitors should be dressed neatly and appropriately. A Judge is empowered to ask an exhibitor to leave the ring if considered inappropriately dressed. Blue denim Jeans are not acceptable.
- 4.14 Exhibitors must not wear clothing displaying any form of advertising.
- 4.15 Exhibitors must wear the correct number for the animal they are showing.
- 4.16 An exhibitor must not leave the ring prior to the completion of judging unless instructed by the Judge or Steward. A class is completed when the Judge requests the class to be dismissed.
- 4.17 Exhibitors must not use any artificial aids to aid the showing of their animals. Plastic bags, excessive and abnormal use of whips, noise producing objects are all deemed to be artificial aids. Outside assistance using similar aids is also forbidden and Judges are empowered to ask exhibitors making use of such assistance to leave the ring. Judges will receive the full support of the Society.

- 4.18 Exhibitors must have their animals under control at all times. If in a Judge's opinion an unruly animal is likely to cause an accident, the Judge has the power to ask that the animal leaves the ring.
- 4.19 A Judge's decision is final. Any objections must be lodged initially with the Show secretary according to the show's complaints procedure and WPCS rules.
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## 5. SHOW AFFILIATION

- 5.1 All shows awarding WPCS medals and rosettes must affiliate to Welsh Pony and Cob Society. The cost of affiliation is £10.50, and an affiliation form can be downloaded from the WPCS website.
- 5.2 All shows affiliating to the Welsh Pony & Cob Society must agree to abide by the Rules and Recommendations of the Society as detailed in this current Judging and Showing Handbook.
- 5.3 Affiliated Welsh Pony and Cob classes must be judged by a Judge taken from the appropriate WPCS Panel of Judges. A Judge from any section of the in-hand panel is currently eligible to judge Welsh Part Bred in-hand classes.
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## 6. RULES AND REGULATIONS RELATING TO THE AWARDING OF IN HAND MEDALS

### General

The Society's Bronze and Silver medals are awarded for In-hand classes at shows affiliated to the Welsh Pony & Cob Society which have paid the appropriate affiliation fee before the show date. The medal fee includes the cost of a display case for each medal and its engraving. Medals are not awarded on the day and are sent at a later date. However, on the day, the Champion of a medal section will receive a special rosette. Any breach in the following rules will result in medal awards being withheld.

- 6.1 Shows awarding medals must affiliate to the Welsh Pony & Cob Society and hold Public Liability and Employers Liability.
- 6.2 Where a Silver Medal is awarded, that show cannot also award a Bronze Medal.
- 6.3 Affiliated Welsh Pony and Cob classes at an affiliated show must be judged by a Judge taken from the appropriate current WPCS Panel of Judges.
- 6.4 WPCS Medals can only be awarded at shows affiliated to the Society.
- 6.5 Schedules for all affiliated shows where In-Hand or Performance Medals are presented, must be submitted 21 working days prior to the show date to the WPCS Office, for approval, prior to printing, together with the appropriate affiliation forms and fees.
- 6.6 Copies of show schedules are the responsibility of the Show secretary and must be submitted to the Society for approval prior to being sent for final printing. The Society's office staff will check and approve a draft schedule within 21 days of receipt; however, shows must allow a reasonable amount of time for approval.
- 6.7 Silver and Bronze medal shows **MUST** be pre-entered, no substitutions or nominations are allowed, medals will only be awarded to an animal listed in the results supplied to the WPCS office either by hand or recorded post.
- 6.8 Shows offering a medal classification must lodge a catalogue/official record of entries **before** the show containing the entries in each class and giving the name and number of the exhibits as registered or entered in the Welsh Pony & Cob Society's Stud Book or

Appendices. This final copy of the catalogue/official record of entries must be lodged with the Society within 14 days after the show, via recorded delivery only. Failure to adhere to these rules will result in the medals being withheld from the show but awarded to the successful exhibitor(s). The show will lose its medal status and will need to re-apply.

- 6.9 In the case of an animal not registered at the time of entry at the show at which a medal is competed for, application for registration or entry in the Appendix must be made within one month of the date of the show, otherwise the medal will not be awarded. Geldings registered as stallions and still being shown under their stallion numbers, must be correctly re-entered in the Gelding Section or the medal will be withheld.
- 6.10 No animal shall be awarded more than one Gold, Silver or Bronze medal in any one season. The Welsh Mountain Pony Stallion Premium Champion at Glanusk is exempt from this rule.

### **Results**

- 6.11 The results of the Medal Awards are compiled by Society staff at the end of each season and printed in the annual WPCS Journal. The medals are thereafter engraved by the Society and posted directly to the exhibitors. (Due to the fact that the medal can be offered to the Champion or Reserve Champion it is vitally important that the results are received within the time period as this does have a knock on effect for shows held later in the year.)
- 6.12 Copies of marked catalogues (as described 6.8) and signed medal cards must be submitted to the WPCS office either by post, or by hand. Marked catalogues/official record of entries must be lodged at the WPCS office within 14 days of the date of the show duly marked to show the placing's 1st – 4<sup>th</sup> as well as Champion and Reserve Champion.
- 6.13 If posted, all marked catalogues (as described above) and completed medal cards must be posted to the WPCS Office by Registered post or Recorded Delivery.
- 6.14 Shows must take full responsibility for the accuracy of results. It is the responsibility of individual shows to ensure that the information sent to the Society is accurate and free from errors.
- 6.15 It is the responsibility of the show to ensure that incorrectly awarded medals are returned to the Society. A replacement will only be issued once the original has been returned to the Society. A show submitting incorrect results will be liable for all the costs incurred.
- 6.16 Medals will only be awarded to animals whose owners are members of the Welsh Pony & Cob Society who have paid their subscriptions for the current year or are life members, or who have submitted their name for membership and paid one annual subscription or life membership composition.
- 6.17 Owners/Lessees who are not current members will be allowed 14 days from the date of the show to join the Society.
- 6.18 Owners/Lessees must ensure that the correct ownership of the animal is recorded within 14 days from the date of the show. Please refer to current Passport regulations.
- 6.19 Medals will only be awarded where the classes are judged by a Judge who is on the appropriate Welsh Pony & Cob Society Panel of Judges.

- 6.20 Show secretaries must ensure that the yellow results card, which will be supplied on receipt of the completed medal affiliation form and appropriate fee, is available for the officiating Judge to sign confirming the Champion and Reserve Champion in each section where a medal is awarded.
- 6.21 Classification in the schedules of the shows affiliated to the Welsh Pony & Cob Society must in all cases be in keeping with the WPCS rules in relation to height limits.
- 6.22 Shows awarding medals will be assessed periodically by the Judging and Showing Standing Committee. The assessment will be based on the standard of past entries, numbers forward and geographical spread of shows staging medal classes. Failure to respond to the Society's request for information will result in the withdrawal of medal status. The Society reserves the right to withdraw the award of medals from a show.
- 6.23 A Judge is empowered to withhold awarding a medal if he/she thinks the animals in question are of insufficient merit.
- 6.24 **Results for Champion and Reserve from each show will be publicised on the WPCS website. Owners will be given one month as a time scale to raise any issues regarding the placings of the Champion or Reserve Champion of that particular show. After this time scale the results are final.**

## **SPECIFIC MEDAL DETAILS**

### **GOLD**

- 6.25 The Society's In-Hand Gold Medal is only awarded at the Royal Welsh Agricultural Society's Annual Show. The Gold Medal must only be awarded to the Champion. If an animal wins the Youngstock and Overall championship only one medal will be awarded. In the case of an animal not registered at the time of entry at the show at which a medal is competed for, application for registration must be made within one month of the date of the show, otherwise the medal will not be awarded. The owners of Geldings registered as stallions **must ensure they are correctly updated on the WPCS database as a Gelding** or the medal will be withheld.
- 6.26 A Judge of Gold Medal classification must be in possession of an asterisk for that section.
- 6.27 A Judge, or persons using the same prefix, appointed to Judge an In-hand WPCS section at the Royal Welsh Show must not judge or show in that section at affiliated shows from 1<sup>st</sup> January up until the last day of the Royal Welsh Show (in that year).
- 6.28 Once a Judge has officiated at the Royal Welsh Show for a particular section, that Judge cannot officiate in that section ever again, i.e. to judge a particular section is a once in a lifetime achievement.
- 6.29 A Judge having been nominated to Judge at the Royal Welsh Show, must abstain from judging any Welsh sections at the show for the next two years, e.g. if a Judge officiates in the Section A's in 2014 he or she would not be allowed to Judge Section B, C, or D in 2016 or 2017.

### **SILVER**

- 6.30 To be eligible for the award of the Society's Silver Medal, an affiliated show, must have classification in the schedule providing at least six classes for any one section of the Stud Book for stallions, mares, geldings and youngstock registered in the Welsh Pony & Cob Society Stud Book or Appendices relating to F.S.2 animals. Medals will only be

awarded to the Champion or Reserve Champion. Where there is full classification, the medals cannot be restricted to Youngstock Champion/Reserve Champion but must be offered to section Champion/Reserve. In the case of an animal not registered at the time of entry at the show at which a medal is competed for, application for registration must be made within one month of the date of the show, otherwise the medal will not be awarded. The owners of Geldings registered as stallions **must ensure they are correctly updated on the WPCS database as a Gelding** or the medal will be withheld.

- 6.31 A Judge of Silver Medal classification must be in possession of an \*asterisk for that section.
- 6.32 Judges must not officiate at more than three bronze, plus one \*silver (\*if eligible to judge) medal-affiliated shows in any one calendar year per section, (i.e. if a Judge is on the panel for Section A and B he/she can judge up to 3 Section A bronze medal shows and 3 Section B bronze medal shows per year plus one Silver medal show for the appropriate section/s). Judges, once they have judged the medal section at those shows, cannot judge the same section at the same Silver Medal show for at least five years and cannot judge the same section at any other Silver Medal show that season.
- 6.33 During the show season, Judges must not Judge the same section in an affiliated show within a 40-mile radius (as the crow flies) of the showground.  
**<https://www.doogal.co.uk/MeasureDistances.php>**
- 6.34 On completion of judging an in-hand medal show, all Judges must sign the yellow result card confirming the Champion and Reserve Champion. It is the Judge's responsibility to ensure, with their Steward and or Show secretary, that the correct animal and the correct exhibitor catalogue number correspond and appear on the card.

## **BRONZE**

- 6.35 To be eligible for the award of the Society's Bronze Medal, an affiliated show must have classification in their schedule providing at least four classes for any one section of the Stud Book for stallions, mares, geldings and youngstock registered in the Welsh Pony & Cob Society Stud Book or Appendices relating to F.S.2 animals. Medals will only be awarded to the Champion or Reserve Champion. Where there is full classification, the medals cannot be restricted to Youngstock Champion/Reserve Champion but must be offered to section Champion/Reserve. In the case of an animal not registered at the time of entry at the show at which a medal is competed for, application for registration must be made within one month of the date of the show, otherwise the medal will not be awarded. The owners of Geldings registered as stallions **must ensure they are correctly updated on the WPCS database as a Gelding** or the medal will be withheld.
- 6.36 On completion of judging an in-hand medal show, all Judges must sign the yellow result card confirming the Champion and Reserve Champion. It is the Judge's responsibility to ensure, with their Steward and or Show secretary, that the correct animal and the correct exhibitor catalogue number correspond and appear on the card.

## **WPCS ROSETTES**

- 6.37 All of the above rules apply. **These were formally known as Bronze Rosettes**  
**Entries can be accepted on the day.**

**New Show applications for WPCS Rosettes, must apply to the Judging and Showing Committee for approval 8 weeks prior to the show.**

6.38 There is no limit to the amount of **WPCS Rosettes** one animal can win.

### **WPCS IN-HAND GOLD MEDAL SHOW FOR 2020**

Royal Welsh

### **WPCS SILVER MEDAL SHOWS FOR 2020**

Aberystwyth, Anglesey, Blaenavon, Cothi Bridge, Denbigh & Flint, Glanusk, Lampeter Stallion, National Welsh Championship, Northern All Welsh, Northleach, Pembroke County, Pontardulais, Royal Bath and West, Royal Cheshire Agricultural Society, Royal Cornwall, Royal Highland, Royal Three Counties, Towerlands, Tredegar, Worsley Gala.

**Associations:** Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion, Clwyd, Eastern, Home Counties, Midland, North Eastern Counties, North Western, Scottish, South Eastern.

### **WPCS GOLD PERFORMANCE MEDAL**

**An Animal can only be awarded one Gold Performance medal in any one season.**

#### **Horse of the Year Show**

Ridden Section A, B, C, D & W.P.B.R

#### **Royal Welsh Agricultural Show Champion Welsh Driving exhibit Ridden Section A, B, C & D**

The winners of the ridden Section A, B, C and D classes will each receive a WPCS Gold Performance Medal. If the winning animal in the Part-bred class is a registered Welsh Part-bred it will also be awarded a medal.

## **7. OVERSEAS MEDALS**

The Society's Overseas Medals are awarded for In-hand classes at shows affiliated to the Welsh Pony & Cob Society which have paid the appropriate affiliation fee before the show date. The medal fee includes the cost of a display case for each medal.

- 7.1 An Affiliated Show, to be eligible for the award of the Society's Overseas Medal, must have classification in their schedule providing at least four classes for any one section of the Stud book for stallions, mares, geldings or youngstock registered in the appropriate Overseas Stud Book or the Welsh Pony and Cob Society Stud Book.
- 7.2 The Judge nominated must be on at least one of the WPCS judging panels.
- 7.3 Copies of show schedules must be forwarded to the WPCS Office prior to going to final print for approval.
- 7.4 Overseas Association rules will apply to all WPCS classes.
- 7.5 Additionally, show secretaries, if they wish the medal results to be included in the annual WPCS Journal, must return to the WPCS Office the result cards supplied. These to be correctly signed by the officiating Judge/s, to confirm the champion in the appropriate sections/ championships where medals are awarded.

7.6 It is not compulsory for the awards to be printed in the Journal, please indicate on the result card where appropriate, but the results card/s **MUST** be returned to the Society within 21 days of the date of the show, whether the results are to be printed in the Journal or not.

7.7 Copy for the Journal must be submitted to the WPCS by 30<sup>th</sup> September annually.

7.8 **IF THESE RULES ARE NOT ADHERED TO THE SOCIETY RESERVES THE RIGHT TO WITHDRAW THE AWARD OF MEDALS**

## 8. PERFORMANCE MEDALS

**WPCS Performance Medals may be awarded to any discipline where the Welsh breeds successfully compete.**

**Shows/events awarding WPCS Performance medals must:**

8.1 Affiliate to WPCS by completing the affiliation form accompanied with a fee of **£10.50**

8.2 Select Judges from the WPCS ridden panel for 'Welsh only' ridden classes

8.3 Obtain proof that the animals are eligible for the award e.g. name and registration number, **or the** passport. Animals must be registered in the WPCS Stud Book including Welsh Part-breds

8.4 Ensure the results sheet is sent back to WPCS Office for checking to establish eligibility. Performance Medal Cards must be signed by the Judge.

8.5 There is no limit to the number of medals one animal can win in any one season.

8.6 Performance medals will be awarded on the day of competition, upon receipt of the owner's WPCS Membership cards being produced in the ring. **(Duplicate membership cards are available from the WPCS office at a cost of £10.00 per card) Overseas members need not be a member of the WPCS.**

8.7 **In mixed company in any performance event, medals can be awarded to the highest placed Welsh but no lower than fourth place.**

8.7a **In ridden showing classes, medals can only be awarded by a breed society Ridden Panel Judge, if in mixed company only to the highest place Welsh but no lower than fourth place.**

### 8.8 Nominations for Performance Medals

Medals can also be awarded by nomination. The Society welcomes nominations for consideration for the WPCS Performance Medal on the grounds of outstanding achievement in the field of performance. Full details of the animal's achievement, detailing the venue, level/type of competition and any other supporting evidence. Factors which will be taken into account in making an award will be level of competition, competition against other breeds/types and the significance of the achievement in terms of promoting the Welsh breeds and their part-breds.

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## 9. SHOWING RULES



## GENERAL RULES FOR AFFILIATED SHOWS

These rules/guidelines are aimed to assist Show secretaries, Judges and exhibitors participating at shows affiliated to the Welsh Pony and Cob Society and must take precedence over other societies' rules when WPCS Medals are being awarded.

### 9.1 Height

All ponies, four years old and over, come under the jurisdiction of the Joint Measurement Board (JMB). The following heights apply to the four sections of the Welsh Stud Book.

Section A	Welsh Mountain Ponies	Not exceeding	121.9 cm (12.0 hands)
Section B	Welsh Ponies	Not exceeding	137.2 cm (13.2 hands)
Section C	Welsh Ponies (Cob Type)	Not exceeding	137.2 cm (13.2 hands)
Section D	Welsh Cobs	No upper height limit	

<b>WPBR</b>	<b>Welsh Part Bred Pony</b>	<b>Not exceeding</b>	<b>148cm (14.2 hands)</b>
<b>WPBR</b>	<b>Welsh Part bred Horse</b>	<b>Over</b>	<b>148cm (14.2 hands)</b>

### 9.2 Freeze Branding

The Society has no objection to ponies and cobs being branded, and this must not be seen as detrimental to animals in the show or sale ring, and is encouraged by the Society.

### 9.2a Scarring as a result of accident or surgery should not be penalised in the show ring.

### 9.3 Age of Animal

Age is calculated from 1<sup>st</sup> January in the year of birth.

### 9.4 Soundness

If an animal entered in a class is, in the opinion of the Judge unsound or obese, the Judge shall, at his/her discretion, require the exhibitor to withdraw the animal from that class or place it at the end of the line. The Judge's decision in this matter is final.

### 9.5 Show ring production

**The overall image has to be in keeping within the natural beauty of the Welsh breeds. Pulled and shortened manes and tails detract from this native look as does clipping of body hair. Exhibitors and Judges alike should be aware that production of this nature serves to do the Welsh breeds an injustice in the show ring. Any act of production which looks artificial and detracts from a 'native' look should be discouraged.**

**9.5a Tails must not be banged level.**

**9.6 Trimming for Shows**

It is acceptable for Welsh breeds to **have their hair** trimmed under the jaw line and protruding from the ears. **Please note: youngstock must not be body clipped (see diagrams inside front cover)**

**9.7 Clipping**

Animals four years old or over, which have been clipped for winter **riding and driving** activities can be shown and should not be penalised. Judges must take special note of this. Legs must not be clipped. **Please note: youngstock must not be body clipped (see diagram on page 39)**

**9.7a Artificial changes to the original markings of an animal as recorded on the Passport will not be allowed.**

**9.8 Plaiting** Manes and tails must not be plaited with the exception of an optional single plait behind the ear for Sections A, B, C and D.

Welsh Part-bred animals **can** be plaited.

**9.9 Whips and Canes**

The shaft of a whip or cane must not exceed 75cm (30 inches).

**Lashes should not be longer than 30 inches.**

**Any use of plastic at the end of the whip/cane is prohibited.**

**Conduct**

**9.10** Where an unruly animal is likely to cause an accident, the Judge is empowered to ask **the handler** and exhibit to leave the ring without any reward.

**9.11** An in-hand class is closed, and animals are not allowed to enter the ring when the last pony has completed its trot prior to being lined up.

**10. IN HAND CLASSES**

**10.1 Age of handler**

In the interest of safety all colts and stallions, two years old or over must be suitably bitted and led by a handler who has reached the age of 14 years.

**10.2 Young Handlers**

Handlers under the age of 14 must wear a British Safety Standard Hard Hat, gloves (optional) and suitable footwear. Age as of 1<sup>st</sup> January. Young handler rules apply to both young handler and open classes.

**10.3** No colts/stallions or mare with foals at foot may be shown in Young handler classes.

**10.4** Parents/guardians to be advised that the animal must be of suitable height and temperament for the handler and class.

**In-Hand Tack**

**10.5** Youngstock may be shown in a white webbing or rope show halter, leather head collar or show bridle (excluding two & three-year-old colts which must be bitted). Coloured brow bands are optional.

- 10.6 Mares or geldings, four years old or over may be shown in a white webbing or rope show halter, leather head collar/slip, show bridle or riding bridle. Coloured brow bands are optional
- 10.7 Foals should be led in a halter or leather headcollar/slip. They must never be bitted.
- 10.8 For stallions the use of stallion show tack is optional.

### **Foals**

- 10.9 Foals accompanying their dam must be at least three weeks of age.
- 10.10 Foals must not be shod.
- 10.11 **Yearlings may be shod with light shoes only.**

## **11. RIDDEN CLASSES**

- 11.1 Judges must not ride the exhibits \* **Apart from the RWAS show which has special dispensation for a ride judge to officiate and ride the exhibits**
- 11.2 Judges must be selected from the WPCS Ridden Panel.
- 11.3 All animals competing in ridden classes must be four years old and over
- 11.4 Mares with a suckling foal are not eligible to compete in ridden classes

### **Ridden Classification:**

#### **11.5 Pure Bred & Part- bred Lead Rein**

Open to registered Welsh Sections, mares or geldings not exceeding 121.9cm (12hh). Riders must have attained their 3rd birthday but must not have attained their 9th birthday before 1st January in the current year. Ponies to be shown in a snaffle bridle - The reins must go directly from the bit to the child's hands with no extra aid or attachment to or on the saddle. The reins must be of normal length and not knotted or stitched together at a shorter length. Handles on saddles are permitted but the reins must not be attached to the handle of the saddle. The lead rein must be attached to the noseband only.

#### **11.6 Pure Bred & Part-bred First Ridden**

Open to registered Welsh Sections, mares or geldings, not exceeding 128cm (12.2 hh). Riders must not have attained their 12<sup>th</sup> birthday before 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year. Ponies are to be shown in a suitable snaffle bridle. The reins must be of normal length and not knotted or stitched together at a shorter length. Ponies must not be cantered except in their individual show.

### **Open and Novice Ridden Classes**

- 11.7 Ridden classes are open to stallions, mares and geldings.
- 11.8 All sections shown under saddle must be judged at the walk, trot and canter. Riders should be expected to gallop during their individual show the exception being if the Judge deems the extended pace to be too dangerous.
- 11.9 Classes will be judged on conformation, breed type, way of going and manners.
- 11.10 No animal may be shown on a lead-rein except in a specific lead rein class.
- 11.11 Once judging has commenced, if a pony leaves the ring, it will be eliminated from the class.

## **Novice Status**

11.12 **A ridden animal shall be deemed to be a Novice if, by 1st January of the current year, it has not won an Open class within the discipline in which it is currently competing.**

11.13 All Novice ridden animals must be shown in a suitable snaffle bridle.

## **11.14 Age of Rider**

There is no age restriction for riders in ridden classes with the exception of stallions in that riders must have attained their 12<sup>th</sup> birthday before the 1<sup>st</sup> of January of the current year when riding a Section A, B, C, Welsh Part-bred under 137.2 cm (13.2hh) and their 14<sup>th</sup> birthday before the 1<sup>st</sup> of January of the current year for Section D, Welsh Part-bred over 137.2 cm (13.2hh). Riders of Welsh Part-bred animals may be governed by specific age groups within their classification.

## **11.15 Riders**

Where a rider has been unseated or fallen from his/her animal, the rider cannot re-mount in the ring. The animal must be led out of the ring and cannot re-join the class. No change of rider will be allowed during a class. Where an exhibitor qualifies two animals for a championship, they must elect a substitute rider who conforms to the regulations of the class.

## **11.16 Hat**

Correctly secured British **Safety** Standard skull caps/riding hats up to current British **Safety** Standard must be worn at all times when mounted. A competitor whose hat comes off, or chin strap comes undone whilst competing must, on penalty of elimination replace it or fasten it before continuing. The rider may dismount without penalty to recover the hat or have it passed up from the ground or may stop without penalty to fasten the chin strap.

## **11.17 Spurs**

Spurs must not be worn in any WPCS affiliated ridden showing class.

## **11.18 Jewellery**

Jewellery must not be worn

## **11.19 Ridden Dress**

The overall impression should be smart, appropriate, safe and comfortable.

- a. **Jodhpurs:** Cream or fawn breeches or jodhpurs; style of boots optional
- b. **Jacket:** Tweed riding jacket, with or without a plain coloured waistcoat
- c. **Shirt:** Light shirt with collar and tie
- d. **Gloves:** Should be worn

## **11.20 Ridden Tack**

Any suitable saddle or bridle should be worn. Animals competing under novice status must be shown in a suitable snaffle bridle. Bitless bridles are not permissible in any class. Welsh Part bred animals may be shown in bridles with coloured browband.

## **11.21 Additional Tack**

No extra tack to be worn in flat classes. Martingales and brushing boots are permissible in Working Hunter Pony classes but must be removed before the conformation section. Style of boots is optional.

**11.22 Conduct**

Where an unruly animal is likely to cause an accident, the Judge has the power to ask that the animal leaves the ring.

11.23 Riders must not remove their animals from the ring during judging, without the Judge's permission; the class ends when the Judge requests the class to be dismissed.

11.24 The class is closed when the class goes into trot and no further ponies must be allowed into the ring.

**11.25 Grooms**

When in the ring to help strip an animal, a groom must at all times look neat and smartly dressed and wear a hat.

**11.26 Working Hunter Classes**

Working Hunter classes, open to stallions, mares and geldings, 4 years and over. No change of rider or saddlery is allowed between phases or during a phase. Protective boots may be used for the jumping phases only. Bandages and protective pads on an animal's feet are not allowed.

Three classes are recommended:

	Exceeding	Not Exceeding	
12.	Height Section 1	-	121.9 cm (12 hh)
	Height Section 2	121.9 cm (12 hh)	137.2 cm (13.2 hh)
12.1	Height Section 3	137.2 cm (13.2 hh)	

**FENC  
ES**  
Fences must be of a hunting type built with

If Welsh Part-breds are competing they should be shown in respective height sections.

rustic materials and be as substantial as possible.

12.2 The maximum spread must be at the base of the fence.

12.3 Round poles must have round cups and gates must have flat cups.

12.4 The jumping phase must be taken first, and any animal eliminated will not be required again.

12.5 The course must consist of a minimum of seven fences, one of which must be a spread, with no more than two double elements. A change of direction must be included.

12.6 It is recommended that competitors be allowed to walk the course on foot before their class.

**12.7 Height of Fences**

**Open**

	Height Min	Max	Spread Max
Height Section 1	53 cm (1'9")	61 cm (2'0")	53 cm (1'9")
Height Section 2	69 cm (2'3")	84 cm (2'9")	69 cm (2'3")

<b>Height Section 3</b>	84 cm (2'9")	99 cm (3'0")	76 cm (2'6")
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### Novice

	<b>Height Min</b>	<b>Max</b>	<b>Spread Max</b>
<b>Height Section 1</b>	47 cm (1'6")	53 cm (1'9")	47 cm (1'6")
<b>Height Section 2</b>	61 cm (2'0")	69 cm (2'3")	61 cm (2'0")
<b>Height Section 3</b>	76 cm (2'6")	84 cm (2'9")	76 cm (2'6")

### Penalties

Jump knock down	10 faults
First refusal	15 faults
Second refusal	20 faults
Third refusal	Elimination
Fall of horse/rider	Disqualification

### Marking

Jumping	50
Style while jumping	20
Conformation, freedom of action & Breed type	20
Manners	10
If equal marks, Performance marks take precedence, then style, if still equal, the Judge's preference	

## **13. DRIVING CLASSES**

- 13.1 In driven competition the driver, groom(s) and passenger(s) must have attained their 14<sup>th</sup> birthday by the first January of the current year. In the event that the driver is under the age of 18, he/she must be accompanied in the vehicle by a person aged 18 years or over. Proof of age will be required in the event of a query.
- 13.2 In all driven classes, animals must be four years old or over.
- 13.3 'Private Drive' classes will follow the rules of the British Driving Society.
- 13.4 **Conduct**  
Grooms and handlers, when entering the ring, must at all times look neat and smartly dressed. They must all wear a hat.

## **14. RULES AND REGULATIONS - relating to other showing societies**

<b>Please note that rules/guidelines published in this handbook do not over-rule any rules or guidelines already in place with show societies, except at shows solely affiliated to the Welsh Pony and Cob Society</b>
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### **Horse of the Year Show Qualifiers**

### Eligibility of WPCS Panel Judges

Only WPCS Judges with an \*R on the WPCS Ridden panel are eligible to Judge the Ride or Conformation phase of all Ridden qualifying classes for HOYS.

Qualifying classes include: M&M Lead Rein/ First Ridden  
M&M Junior Ridden  
M&M Open Ridden  
M&M Working Hunter Pony  
Ridden Welsh Part Bred Pony

Please be fully aware of HOYS Rules.

<https://hoys.co.uk/>

### **NPS Qualifiers - Advice to WPCS Judges**

When Judges are judging Ridden Mountain & Moorland and Welsh classes incorporating NPS Qualifiers, the Judge must:

- Sign qualifying cards in the ring.
- When awarding Silver Medal Rosettes (NPS), check the exhibitor's NPS Membership Card to confirm membership. This must be produced in the ring. If the Champion does not have the card in the ring it can be offered to Reserve Champion but no further down the line. At Breed Shows ponies can win Silver Medal Rosettes even if their owners are not members of the NPS but they must become NPS Qualifying members to enter the final.
- Be fully aware of NPS rules.

### **Contact details for other Societies and Showing Organisations**

**National Pony Society**, Arthur Rank Centre, Stoneleigh Park, Warwickshire CV8 2LG  
Tel: 01420 88333 | [www.nationalponysociety.com](http://www.nationalponysociety.com)

**British Show Pony Society**, 124 Green End Road, Sawtry, Huntingdon, Cambs PE28 5XS

Tel: 01487 831 376 Fax: 01487 832779 Email: [info@bsps.com](mailto:info@bsps.com)  
[www.britishshowponysociety.co.uk](http://www.britishshowponysociety.co.uk)

**Ponies UK**, Debbie Miller, Withybridge Farm, Withy Road, West Huntspill, Highbridge, Somerset, TA9 3NN

Tel: 0737755539 Email: [info@poniesuk.org](mailto:info@poniesuk.org) [www.poniesuk.org](http://www.poniesuk.org)

**British Driving Society**, Hoste House, Whiting Street, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, IP33 1NR

Tel: 01284 630591 Email: [email@britishdrivingsociety.co.uk](mailto:email@britishdrivingsociety.co.uk)  
<http://www.britishdrivingsociety.co.uk/>

**HOYS**, Grandstand Media Ltd, Stoneleigh Park, Kenilworth, Warwickshire, CV8 2LZ  
Tel: 02476 858 205 | Email: [press@hoys.co.uk](mailto:press@hoys.co.uk) | [www.hoys.co.uk](http://www.hoys.co.uk)

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## 15. AWARDS

### **WELSH PONY & COB GELDING INCENTIVE SCHEMES**

### **Millcroft Stud Gelding Rosettes**

- 15.1 The award is to encourage the showing of junior geldings' in-hand, therefore expanding the market for the colt foal and enabling the creation of a network of potential performance prospects to represent the best Native breed in the World at the highest level.
- 15.2 The Gelding Champion and Reserve Champion Rosettes are generously sponsored by the Millcroft Stud and are obtained free of charge from the Society's head office.
- 15.3 To be awarded to the Overall Gelding Champion and Reserve from a specific Gelding Championship after all the In-Hand classes are complete.
- 15.4 To be competed for by the highest placed geldings from each appropriate class within Sections A, B, C, & D.
- 15.5 Welsh Part-Breds are not eligible to compete for the rosettes.

### **National High Point Junior Gelding of the Year Scheme**

- 15.6 Open to all geldings (excluding part bred) 3 years old and under being shown In-Hand.
- 15.7 Owners of junior geldings do not need to be members of the WPCS in order to compete and should apply for a free competition card from the Society's head office.
- 15.8 The competition runs from 1<sup>st</sup> January to 1<sup>st</sup> November annually, with the results card being returned to the Society's office no later than 15<sup>th</sup> November.
- 15.9 Results must be signed by the Judge of each class or the show secretary in order to verify the results.
- 15.10 Results from fifteen shows are allowed, with a maximum of three classes per show which must be either pure-bred Welsh In-Hand classes or mixed Mountain & Moorland In-Hand classes.
- 15.11 Points are allocated as follows:

#### **At shows not affiliated to the WPCS or NPS –**

1 <sup>st</sup> – 8 points	2 <sup>nd</sup> – 6 points	3 <sup>rd</sup> – 4 points
4 <sup>th</sup> – 3 points	5 <sup>th</sup> – 2 points	6 <sup>th</sup> – 1 point

#### **At shows affiliated to the WPCS or NPS –**

1 <sup>st</sup> – 15 points	2 <sup>nd</sup> – 12 points	3 <sup>rd</sup> – 10 points
4 <sup>th</sup> – 8 points	5 <sup>th</sup> – 6 points	6 <sup>th</sup> – 4 points

#### **Extra points can be added for the following –**

Winning a Special Highest placed Gelding in the class rosette - add 5 points

Receiving a Millcroft Gelding Champion rosette - add 10 points

Receiving a Millcroft Gelding Reserve Champion rosette - add 6 points

Champion Overall Gelding of the Year – add 20 points (not eligible for double points)

Reserve Champion Overall Gelding of the Year – add 10 points (not eligible for double points)



The Royal Welsh Show, The Scottish Horse Show and the National Welsh & Welsh Part-Bred Championships will command double points throughout.

## **16 VETERANS**

### **WPCS MINMON IN-HAND VETERAN SCHEME sponsored by Ann Holland**

The WPCS Veteran Scheme is aimed at in-hand veterans over 19 years of age and does not include ridden classes as not to encourage animals being over worked.

- 16.1 Award special Veteran Scheme rosettes to the highest placed Veteran pony, cob or horse at affiliated shows in all 5 sections.
- 16.2 The scheme includes stallions, barren mares and geldings in In-hand classes.
- 16.3 Minmon Veteran Scheme rosettes will be available free of charge to shows requesting them.
- 16.4 Veterans to be classed as 19 years or over for the purpose of this scheme.
- 16.4.1 A championship class for the highest placed veterans in WPCS Sections to compete for the Minmon Veteran Championship, Champion and Reserve Rosettes will be awarded.
- 16.5 Veteran cards are supplied from the WPCS office.
- 16.6 The Scheme to run from 1<sup>st</sup> January to 30<sup>th</sup> September annually.
- 16.7 Unaffiliated shows are also invited to be part of the schemes.
- 16.8 The Awards are presented at the AGM.

*At shows not affiliated to the W.P.C.S. –*

1st – 8 points 2nd - 6 points 3rd – 4 points 4th – 3 points 5th – 2 points 6th – 1 point  
Veteran Champion: 6 points. Veteran Reserve Champion: 4 points  
Overall Section Champion: 8 points. Overall Section Reserve Champion: 6 points

*At affiliated W.P.C.S. Shows –*

1st – 15 points 2nd - 12 points 3rd – 10 points 4th – 8 points 5th – 6 points 6th – 4 points  
Veteran Champion: 12 points Veteran Reserve Champion: 10 points  
Overall Section Champion: 15 points Overall Section Reserve Champion: 12 points.

Extra points can be added to the above points for:

- Winning a Minmon Veteran Champion rosette add 10 points
- Winning a Minmon Veteran Reserve Champion rosette add 6 points
- The Royal Welsh Show and the National Welsh & Welsh Part-Bred Championships will command double points throughout.

**Purple 'Minmon' Arm Bands are available to purchase from the WPCS Office.**

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## **SIRE-RATINGS AND RESULTS**

### **17. IN-HAND SIRE-RATINGS**

17.1 Shows included in the Scheme are pre-approved by the Society's Council.

The list of included shows for 2020 is as follows:

Aberystwyth	
Anglesey	Pontardulais
Blaenavon	Royal Bath & West
Brecon	Royal Cheshire Agricultural Society
Bridgend County	Royal Cornwall
Cothi Bridge	Royal Highland
Denbigh & Flint	Royal Welsh**
Glanusk	Scottish All Welsh
Lampeter Stallion	South of England
National Welsh Championships	Suffolk
Northleach	Three Counties
Northern All Welsh	Towerlands
Notts County	Usk
Pembroke	Worsley Gala

17.1a \*\*At the Royal Welsh Show points from any animal that has been sired by a stallion owned/bred by the Judge of that section will not be included in the final score of the competition.

17.2 Welsh Pony & Cob Society Area Associations are eligible to nominate one of their Association Shows to be included in the Scheme. Nominations must be sent to the WPCS Office on the appropriate forms supplied by the Society (as above).

17.3 As the results are printed in the Society's Annual Journal, shows eligible for the Scheme must be held prior to the end of September to allow sufficient time for the results to be compiled.

## **SIRE RATINGS RESULTS**

17.4 Results must be submitted to the Society's Office in the form of a marked catalogue, showing the placing 1<sup>st</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> in each relevant class. Results sent in any other format will be returned to the show in order that they may submit them in the correct format.

17.5 The Society does not query any of the results submitted. If, for example, the catalogues are only marked from 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup>, only these will be recorded.

17.6 Points are allocated as follows:

1<sup>st</sup> place – 6 points, 2<sup>nd</sup> place – 4 points, 3<sup>rd</sup> place – 2 points, 4<sup>th</sup> place – 1 point

17.7 The maximum number of points any individual progeny of an animal could contribute would be limited to that animal's five best results.

- 17.8 In the event of a tie, the highest number of progeny recorded for the sire would decide the winner.
- 17.9 In the event of a further tie, the number of 1<sup>st</sup> placings attained by the progeny would then be taken into consideration.
- 17.10 The results will be printed in the Society's Annual Journal, listing the name and number of the sire, number of progeny involved in attaining the points and the total number of points.
- 17.11 Where foal classes are included at a show, registration forms for foals must be received by the WPCS Office 28 days from the date of the show. Registrations for foals not registered in time will not have their results recorded.

## 18. PERFORMANCE SIRE-RATINGS

- 18.1 Shows included in the Scheme are pre-approved by the Society's Council. The list of included shows for 2020 is as follows:

**Under Saddle:** Aberystwyth, Anglesey, Brecon, Cothi Bridge, Denbigh & Flint, Derbyshire Festival, Glanusk, Great Yorkshire, Horse of the Year Show, Kent, Lampeter Stallion, Lincolnshire, Monmouth, National Welsh Championships, Newark & Notts, Northern All Welsh, Northleach, NPS Summer Champs, Pembroke, Pontardulais, Royal Bath & West, Royal Cheshire Agricultural Society, Royal Cornwall, Royal Highland, Royal Norfolk, Royal Welsh, Scottish Horse Show, Scottish All Welsh, South of England, Suffolk, Three Counties, Vale of Glamorgan, Worsley Gala, WPCS Performance Show.

**Lead Rein/First Ridden:** Aberystwyth, Anglesey, Brecon, Cothi Bridge, Denbigh & Flint, Derbyshire Festival, Horse of the Year Show, Kent, Great Yorkshire, Lampeter Stallion, Lincolnshire, Midland Counties, Monmouth, National Welsh Championships, Newark & Notts, Northleach, Northern All Welsh, NPS Area 11 Summer, NPS Area 4 Summer, Pembroke, Royal Bath & West, Royal Cheshire Agricultural Society, Royal Cornwall, Royal Highland, Royal Norfolk, Royal Welsh, Scottish All Welsh, Scottish Horse Show, South of England, Suffolk (First Ridden only), Three Counties, Vale of Glamorgan, Worsley Gala, WPCS Performance Show.

**Working Hunter Pony:** Aberystwyth, Anglesey, Brecon, Cothi Bridge, Denbigh & Flint, Derbyshire Festival, Great Yorkshire, Kent, Lincolnshire, Monmouth, National Welsh Championships, Newark & Notts, Northleach, NPS Area 11 Summer, NPS Summer Championship, Pembroke, Royal Bath & West, Royal Cheshire Agricultural Society, Royal Cornwall, Royal Highland, Royal Welsh, South of England, Suffolk, Three Counties, Vale of Glamorgan, WPCS Performance Show,

**Driving:** Aberystwyth, Bakewell, Brecon, British Driving Society (Windsor), Edenbridge & Oxted, Great Yorkshire, Lampeter Stallion, Lincolnshire, Newark & Notts, Northleach, Pembroke, Pontardulais, Royal Cheshire Agricultural Society, Royal Cornwall, Royal Highland, Royal Norfolk, Royal Welsh, South of England, Three Counties, WPCS Performance Show.

- 18.2 Welsh Pony & Cob Society Area Associations are eligible to nominate one of their Association Shows to be included in the Scheme. Nominations must be sent to the WPCS Office on the appropriate forms supplied by the Society.

### Results

- 18.3 Results must be submitted to the WPCS Office in the form of a marked catalogue, showing the placing 1<sup>st</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> in each relevant class. Results sent in any other format will be returned to the show in order that they may submit them in the correct format.
  - 18.4 The Society does not query any of the results submitted. If, for example, the catalogues are only marked from 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup>, only these will be recorded.
  - 18.5 Points are allocated as follows:  
1<sup>st</sup> place – 6 points, 2<sup>nd</sup> place – 4 points, 3<sup>rd</sup> place – 2 points, 4<sup>th</sup> place – 1 point
  - 18.6 In the event of a tie in any one discipline, the highest number of progeny recorded for the sire would decide the winner.
  - 18.7 In the event of a further tie, the number of 1<sup>st</sup> placings attained by the progeny would then be taken into consideration.
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## **19. PROHIBITED SUBSTANCES POLICY & PROCEDURES**

- 19.1 No animal, Pony or Cob shall be treated (whether under veterinary supervision or not) with any substance which may affect its performance in any way or with any, body or condition enhancing substance.
- 19.2 All substances prohibited by the Jockey Club will be included (and any others which may be notified by the Society from time to time) and any substances used as agents to mask the use of performance and behaviour altering substances and any metabolites of such substances and any artificial growth or condition enhancing substances.
- 19.3 It shall be a breach of these rules for any animal present at any show, event or competition with Society affiliation or where Society medals are awarded or at any official sale run under Society rules to contain any prohibited substances within its body or on its exterior.
- 19.4 The making of an entry to any such show, event or competition or sale shall be deemed to accept the requirement to present an animal for testing for prohibited substances as may be required by the Society.
- 19.5 Refusal to allow testing of any animal shall be a breach of these rules and shall be punished as if any subsequent test had proved positive.
- 19.6 Any prohibited substances in the tissue, hair, skin, body fluids, excreta or body of an animal at any level or quantity shall be a breach of these rules.
- 19.7 The Society shall direct at which shows or events or competitions or sales animals shall be tested. Choice may be computer generated at random. Tests may be required at random or for specific classes or whether performance, behaviour or condition of an animal is noted to be unusual or different.
- 19.8 Testing shall constitute the examination of the animal by a qualified person and include taking of samples, of tissue, hair, skin, and body fluids or etcetera as directed by the person examining for subsequent analysis.
- 19.9 The samples shall be divided into two parts and the owner or person having care of the animal shall be offered one sample for independent testing at their own expense.
- 19.10 The Society shall direct as to which laboratories are approved for samples to be tested.
- 19.11 If a prohibited substance is confirmed by the laboratory in a sample then:

The animal will be disqualified from any prize championship or qualification and shall forfeit all placings, awards, or prize money in any classes from the day before it was tested and the outcome of a subsequent Disciplinary Hearing.

The animal is suspended from being shown or taking part in any show, event or sale pending the outcome of the subsequent Disciplinary Hearing.

The owner and/or producer having care of the animal shall be suspended from all rights and privileges of membership of the Society pending the outcome of the subsequent Disciplinary Hearing.

The period of suspension shall commence on the day after posting by the Society to the owner of the notification of a positive test result.

The matter shall be reported forthwith to the Society for referral to disciplinary procedure.

19.12 It is the responsibility of the owner of an animal or the owner's agents or producer or the person having care of an animal for fourteen days before and during a show or event to ensure that nothing is administered fed or applied to an animal that contains any prohibited substance.

19.13 Lack of knowledge will not be an excuse nor a defence.

#### 19.14 **IMPORTANT NOTES**

Some feeds and proprietary preparations and homeopathic and herbal remedies may contain prohibited substances.

Absorption can be by ingestion, injection or application through the skin.

Before presenting an animal at a show, event, competition or sale it is advisable:

To obtain advice from a veterinary surgeon as to the length of time during which any prohibited substance may be present in an animal's body.

To obtain advice and confirmation from feed merchants or manufacturers as to the freedom of feed stuffs from prohibited substances.

#### 19.15 **Sampling Procedures**

- a) Testing should take place as soon as possible after the participation of the pony in its class provided that it does not interfere with its programme in which case the test should take place as soon as possible after the pony has completed its programme.
- b) It is the responsibility of the person in charge of the pony whether it be the owner or producer or other person to supervise the pony from the time of notification of selections for a test until completion of the test.
- c) The owner, producer or other person responsible for the pony or his representative shall be entitled to witness the testing from outside the loose box, horse box or testing area without disturbing the pony but if not present the test will proceed in any event.
- d) All samples taken must be kept in a secure place and dispatched to the laboratory selected by the Society as soon as reasonably possible after collection.

- e) The sample must be divided into two parts hereinafter referred to as Sample A and Sample B and the initial analysis of Sample A must be completed within twenty-one days of receipt of the sample by the laboratory. If the initial analysis produces a suspicious positive result, then the Society may grant such extension as the laboratory requires to complete the analysis.
  - f) If the result of analysis of Sample A is negative, then the laboratory may forthwith destroy Sample B.
  - g) If the result of analysis of Sample A is positive then the owner or producer may require confirmatory analysis of Sample B, by any laboratory approved by The Horseracing Forensic Laboratory provided that a written request for such confirmatory analysis is received by the Society within fourteen days of dispatch by the Society of notification of a positive analysis of Sample A.
  - h) The owner or producer may request that finding be made in respect of particular matters during the analysis of Sample B on the basis that they will be responsible for all additional costs incurred whatever the result of the analysis of Sample B.
  - i) Upon receipt of a valid request for confirmatory analysis of Sample B. the Society shall inform the laboratory immediately and the laboratory shall carry out the analysis of Sample B.
  - j) If the result of analysis of Sample B is positive, then the person requesting the analysis shall reimburse the Society the cost of analysis of Sample A and Sample B forthwith on demand.
  - k) If the results of analysis of Sample A is positive and no valid request for confirmatory analysis of Sample B is received, the owner shall reimburse the Society the cost of analysis of Sample A forthwith upon demand.
  - l) The samples shall be taken by a qualified veterinary surgeon or a suitably qualified scientific technician.
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## **20. GENERAL CODE OF CONDUCT**

All members must meet the following requirements in regard to their conduct and behaviour.

Members must:

- a) Respect the rights, dignity and worth of others.
- b) Be fair, considerate and honest in all dealings with others.
- c) Be professional in and accept responsibility for your actions.
- d) Be aware of and maintain the rules and regulations of the Society and operate within those rules.
- e) Preserve and protect the standing and reputation of the Society.
- f) Never use your position or role for personal gain, to avoid your responsibility or to unjustly prevent an individual from exercising their rights.
- g) Be aware of your legal responsibility and the legal rights of others.

- h) Do not use your involvement with the Society to promote your own beliefs, behaviour and practices where these are inconsistent with those of the Society's rules.
  - i) Be a positive role model and demonstrate a high degree of individual responsibility especially when dealing with persons less than 18 years of age as your words and actions are examples.
  - j) Ensure interaction with persons under the age of 18 years is appropriate and that unaccompanied and unobserved activities are avoided wherever practical.
  - k) Refrain from any form of harassment or intimidation of others.
  - l) Refrain from using any behaviour that may bring the Society into disrepute.
  - m) Provide a safe environment for the conduct of the activity.
  - n) Show concern and exercise due caution towards others who may be sick, injured or disabled in a way in which is not immediately visible.
  - o) At all times abide by the Defra Code of Practice for the Welfare of Horses - [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/69389/pb13334-cop-horse-091204.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/69389/pb13334-cop-horse-091204.pdf) - and the Land Transport of Horses.
  - p) Understand the repercussions if you breach one of the Codes of Conduct of The Welsh Pony and Cob Society.
  - q) Members who are also Trustees must promise to abide by the fundamental values that underpin all the activity of this organisation.
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## **21. SOCIAL MEDIA AND INTERNET POLICY**

No Member of The Welsh Pony and Cob Society shall conduct him or herself in a manner or be guilty of behaviour which is derogatory to the character or prejudicial to the interests of The Welsh Pony and Cob Society and in particular (but without prejudice to the generality to the foregoing) no Member shall behave in an abusive or unpleasant manner to any person at any show or at any other location where Welsh Pony and Cob Society business is being transacted or via social media or the internet or via any publication in whatever format or via any other written or electronic format.

### **21.1. Introduction**

The Welsh Pony and Cob Society acknowledges the importance of the internet and social media sites such as Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, home web-pages, chat rooms, messaging services and all other forms of electronic communication and the role that "social media" plays in the day to day lives of members. This policy note is to remind members that the Rules of The Welsh Pony and Cob Society apply to members when using social media and the internet. Failure to adhere to this policy note could lead to disciplinary action being taken against a member.

### **21.2. Using Social Media**

**21.2.1** You should be aware that The Welsh Pony and Cob Society may from time to time carry out internet searches to identify postings which include references to The Welsh Pony and Cob Society and its members.

**21.2.2** Images produced by The Welsh Pony and Cob Society are the subject of copyright and should not be copied or used in social media save as provided in The Welsh Pony and Cob Society website user terms and conditions.

**21.2.3** You should ensure that any material that you transmit or post to social media is clearly stated to be your personal view and is not held out to be, or could be mistaken as, the view of The Welsh Pony and Cob Society.

**21.2.4** You must not post or transmit any material which could damage the name or reputation of The Welsh Pony and Cob Society, its members or former members, or which is derogatory to the character of or prejudicial to the interests of The Welsh Pony and Cob Society.

**21.2.5** You must not post or transmit any material relating to The Welsh Pony and Cob Society, members or former members or their horses or ponies, or their business or private lives or which could otherwise be associated with or which may reasonably be attributed as coming from The Welsh Pony and Cob Society:

**a)** that is threatening, defamatory, obscene, indecent, seditious, offensive, pornographic, abusive, liable to incite racial hatred, discriminatory, menacing, scandalous, inflammatory, blasphemous, in breach of confidence, in breach of privacy or which may cause annoyance, distress or inconvenience; or

**b)** Which constitutes or encourages conduct that would be in breach of the WPCS rules, or constitutes a criminal offence, or which could give rise to civil liability, or otherwise be contrary to the laws of, or infringe the rights of any third party in, the UK or any other country in the world.

**21.2.6** Any breach of this policy may constitute a breach of The Welsh Pony and Cob Society rules and could also lead to civil and/or criminal proceedings being brought against you.

### **21.3. Disclosure under law or regulation**

You should be aware that The Welsh Pony and Cob Society will fully co-operate with any law enforcement authorities or court order requesting or directing The Welsh Pony and Cob Society to disclose the identity or locate anyone posting any material in breach of this policy. If we are requested by the police or any other regulatory or government authority investigating suspected illegal activities to provide your personal information, The Welsh Pony and Cob Society is entitled to do so.

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## **22. CODE OF CONDUCT FOR COMPETITORS AND EXHIBITORS**

In addition to The Welsh Pony and Cob Society General Code of Conduct, the following requirements must be met by competitors and exhibitors during any show/activity held or sanctioned by the Society.

Members should:

- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of fellow competitors, Judges, stewards, officials, volunteers and spectators.
- Acts of aggression will not be tolerated.
- Respect the talent, potential and development of fellow competitors.



- Conduct yourself in a professional manner relating to language, temper and punctuality, be courteous and kind and set a good example in dress and behaviour. Blue denim is not acceptable.
- Maintain high personal behaviour standards at all times.
- Abide by the rules and respect the decision of the official, making all appeals through the formal process and respecting the final decision.
- Bullying is an issue in many sports today. The Welsh Pony and Cob Society wants members, organisers and officials to know that bullying is not acceptable at any Society event.
- The Welsh Pony and Cob Society recognise that bullying is unacceptable and has a clear policy in dealing with bullying under the Society's rules.
- Bullying is an inappropriate behaviour using force or power. Bullying undermines another person's self-esteem and confidence.
- Reports of bullying will be handled promptly and confidentially.
- We need the knowledge and experience of our volunteers. We cannot afford to lose good people through bad behaviour.
- Every official, competitor and volunteer have the right to be treated with dignity and respect and the Society has the responsibility to ensure that this occurs at all shows/activities.
- The WPCS can only discipline the appropriate person if the intimidation is reported under the correct Society Procedures.
- Any person who feels they have been intimidated should put it in writing to the WPCS Company Secretary.
- In Criminal Law any threatening behaviour, intimidation or bullying is assault.

## **23. FEEDBACK AND COMMENTS POLICY**

This sets out the procedure for dealing with feedback and comments made in relation to the Welsh Pony and Cob Society and its services. For complaints against members of the Society, or about the identity or pedigree of an animal, please refer to the relevant appendixes of this policy.

### **Staff and Services**

The Society and its staff endeavour to work to the highest standards in every regard. However, it recognises that there will be times when its customers will wish to comment upon its staff and services. The Society welcomes feedback as part of a culture of seeking continuous improvement to its services, practises, policies and procedures. Should you or someone you represent, have a complaint or comment please verbally address it in the first instance to the member of staff with whom you are dealing. Should you feel that your complaint or comment has not been satisfied the following procedure should be followed.

#### **Stage 1**

Contact the manager of the service with which you wish to raise the complaint in writing either by letter or by e-mail. All correspondence should be marked "Private and Confidential". The manager will acknowledge your complaint within five working days and will respond to you within an additional ten working days. Where the complaint is about a manager then stage 2 should be followed.

## **Stage 2**

Should your complaint not be satisfied by the manager please write to the Company Secretary by letter or by e-mail. All correspondence should be marked "Private and Confidential". The Company Secretary will acknowledge your complaint within five working days and will respond to you within an additional ten working days. Where the complaint is about the Company Secretary please write to the Chair of Council care of Bronaeron, Felinfach, Lampeter, Ceredigion, SA48 8AG and marked "Private and confidential".

In respect of both stages the Society will always aim to respond in writing and in full to your feedback within one month of receiving the initial contact in writing. However, if the issue is complicated, or if relevant staff are absent, any delay will be explained, and you will be kept informed of progress.

## **Review of Your Complaint**

If you are not satisfied following receipt of the Society's Stage 2 response you can request a review of your complaint. The review will be conducted under the direction of the Chair of Council. Please write to the Chair of Council care of Bronaeron, Felinfach, Lampeter, Ceredigion SA48 8AG. All correspondence must be marked "Private and Confidential".

The Chair will nominate three trustees to form a panel to review the complaint and the Society's response. If necessary, further information will be sought from the complainant and this should be provided within ten working days of a request. The panel will review the complaint with the information as provided and will respond to the complainant within one month of the review being requested. If the issue is complicated, any delay will be explained, and you will be kept informed of progress.

Should the Society fail to address your complaint or concern, as a last resort, you are able to write directly to the Charity Commission. Please follow the links on the Charity Commission website at [www.charitycommission.gov.uk](http://www.charitycommission.gov.uk).

Should you suspect illegal activity, for example terrorism or abuse, please contact the police on 101.

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## **Appendix A**

### **1. COMPLAINTS MADE AGAINST MEMBERS**

#### **Making a complaint**

- 1.1 If a person wishes to raise a complaint against a Society member, they should do so by contacting the Company Secretary, at Bronaeron, Felinfach, Lampeter, Ceredigion, SA48 8AG or by email on [meirion.davies@wpcs.uk.com](mailto:meirion.davies@wpcs.uk.com).**
- 1.2 A complaint should be in writing, marked "private & confidential" and signed by the complainant.**
- 1.3 If the complaint is sent by post, then it should be sent by recorded delivery.**
- 1.4 A delivery receipt for emailed complaints or any hand deliveries should be obtained.**
- 1.5 If the complaint is about the Company Secretary, then the complaint should be addressed to the Chair of Council and marked "strictly private & confidential".**

**1.6 Save where a complaint has been made by a trustee, honorary officer or Judge in relation to an issue arising from his or her duties, a complaint must be accompanied by the complaint fee of £400. The complaint will not be considered to have been made until the appropriate fee has been received. Failure to pay the fee may mean that the complaint will not be investigated under this Complaints Procedure, save for at the entire discretion of the Council. If the complainant wishes for further witness evidence to be sought in relation to the matter(s) raised, the names of the individuals whom the complainant wishes to provide such evidence should be referenced in the body of the complaint. If deemed appropriate and necessary, the individuals will be contacted and asked if they are willing to provide witness testimony. Witness testimony may be sought either in writing, via telephone interview or during a face-to-face meeting. The extent of and manner in which witness evidence is sought will be at the entire discretion of the Council.**

**1.7 The complaint, any additional supporting evidence and the appropriate fee should be received within 14 days of the complainant becoming aware of the subject of the complaint. Complaints received outside this timescale will only be investigated at the discretion of the Council.**

#### **Responding to a complaint: informal**

**1.8 Within 5 working days of the receipt of a complaint, the Society will send a letter acknowledging the same and, if necessary, asking for further details relating to the matters brought to light.**

**1.9 Where it is considered that the complaint may be resolved by way of an informal discussion, the relevant parties will be informed of the complaint and invited to resolve their complaint in an informal setting. This may include a meeting or other facilitated discussion. In cases where informal resolution has not previously been successful, the complaint will automatically be dealt with under the formal process set out below.**

**1.10 If the Society believes that the matter would be best addressed by mediation (a more structured approach to an informal meeting) it will invite the complainant and the person(s) complained of to participate in a mediation process. If an informal meeting has not achieved resolution the parties may still be invited to attend a mediation session in cases where the Council determines, at its discretion, that mediation may still prove to be successful. If mediation is unsuccessful this will not be offered for a second time in respect of the same complaint.**

**1.11 If mediation is determined to be an appropriate course of action:**

- All concerned parties will be invited to attend the mediation. We will provide you with a date, time and location leaving reasonable time to allow you to prepare for the meeting. We aim to hold all mediation meetings within 30 days of the date of the original complaint.**
- Each party will be asked to sit in separate meeting rooms and wait until the mediator is ready to speak with them. Typically, the complainant will be spoken to first and the person(s) complained about spoken to thereafter.**

- The mediator will attempt to facilitate a resolution. This may involve the mediator speaking with each of the parties on further occasions following the initial discussion.
- Where deemed appropriate all parties will ultimately be asked to meet in the same room to discuss possible resolution.
- A summary of the discussion, agreements/outcome reached, and any agreed actions will be summarised and provided to all parties, in writing, within 5 working days of the meeting.

**1.12 If the matter is resolved by mediation the complaint fee will be refunded their full complaint fee.**

**Responding to a complaint: formal**

**1.13 In the event that informal action or mediation is not appropriate or has been attempted and not resulted in resolution, we will write to you setting out the name of the person(s) assigned to investigate the complaint (the Investigating Officer(s)). The Investigating Officer will be an independent person who will not have previously been involved in the matter being heard. He or She may or may not be a member of the Society. If the complaint relates to a member of the Society other than a Trustee or former Trustee, the Investigating Officers will be a panel of three, consisting of three trustees or three independent persons, who may not be members of the Society, or a combination thereof with not more than three in total.**

**1.14 If, having been advised of the name of the intended Investigating Officer, any party realises that they have a personal association or other relationship with the Investigating Officer that would preclude the Investigating Officer from maintaining an objective, unbiased view, this should be alerted to the Council immediately.**

**1.15 At no point following confirmation of the name of the Investigating Officer or Investigating Company should any parties involved in the investigation attempt to contact the Investigating Officer or Investigating Company with a view to discussing the investigation or any other associated or related matters. If the Council become aware of such action, the complaint fee will be withheld, and the complaints procedure suspended.**

**1.16 The designated individual/panel will:**

- i) Treat every complaint as confidential**
- ii) Not discuss any matters with anyone outside of the committee other than to request expert advice**
- iii) Declare immediately if they have a conflict of interest**
- iv) Treat each reported incident fairly and equitably.**

**1.17 If we require further information from the complainant in order to process the complaint and this can be provided in writing or in the form of other documentary evidence, this will be requested when we write to confirm the details of the Investigating Officer(s). Any further details/information requested by the Society should be provided by the complainant within 10 working days of the date of the written request (unless otherwise agreed) otherwise the complaint may not be processed any further. If the complaint is not processed the fee shall be returned within 30 days of the decision not to proceed.**

- 1.18 The investigation of the complaint will be carried out by the Investigating Officer(s) within a reasonable timescale barring issues outside their control.**
- 1.19 The Investigating Officer(s) will undertake all reasonable investigation.**
- 1.20 If necessary, the complainant may be invited to a meeting to discuss the complaint and/or the response to the complaint further. In the event that this is not possible or practical the complainant may be asked to expand upon the complaint in writing or by telephone. The format, date, time, location and attendees of any meeting/telephone call will be notified to the complainant in advance.**
- 1.21 If deemed necessary, the investigation may also include obtaining a response to the complaint from any member who is the subject of the complaint. This will usually involve sharing the full details of the complaint with that member, which in normal circumstances will include the identity of the complainant.**
- 1.22 If necessary, further witnesses included the subject(s) of the complaint will be invited into an investigatory meeting to discuss the matter raised. Witnesses will be given reasonable notice in advance of the format, date, time, location and attendees of any meeting/telephone call.**
- 1.23 Once the investigation has been concluded, a determination will be made by the Investigating Officer who will notify the complainant and the person complained of or against in writing of the decision together with the reasons for this decision and any recommended actions. This document will also be sent to the Society who will retain a copy on file. The Investigating Officer will either:**
- Dismiss the complaint in whole or in part; or**
  - Uphold the complaint in whole or in part which may include a determination that all or part of the matter be dealt with under the Society's disciplinary procedure (which can be found at Appendix 3).**
- 1.24 In the event that the complaint is upheld in full by the Society, then the complainant will be repaid the complaint fee. Should the complaint not be upheld or partially upheld, then this sum will be retained by the Society.**

## **Appendix B**

### **COMPLAINTS ABOUT THE IDENTITY OR PEDIGREE OF AN ANIMAL**

- 2.1 Any complaint regarding the identity or pedigree of an animal must be submitted in writing to the registered office of the Society and the steps set out in paragraphs 1.1 to 1.6 above should be followed.**
- 2.2 Within 5 working days of the receipt of a complaint, the Society will send a letter acknowledging the same and, if necessary, asking for further details. The Society will inform you of the name of the person(s) assigned to investigate the complaint (the Investigating Officer(s)).**
- 2.3 In investigating a complaint which relates to the identity or pedigree of an animal, the Investigating Officer(s) carrying out the investigation will obtain expert evidence in the form of DNA profiling from an independent expert nominated by the Society. In order to obtain this evidence, the complainant will be required to**

pay to the Society the costs of obtaining the evidence to include the cost of the DNA profiling. The complainant will usually be asked to pay such sums to the Society, prior to the DNA profiling being instigated.

- 2.4 Once the investigation has been concluded, and DNA evidence obtained, a determination will be made by the Investigating Officer(s) who will notify the complainant and the Society in writing of the decision together with the reasons for this decision and any action that it is recommended is taken. The Investigating Officer(s) will either:
  - (a) Dismiss the complaint in whole or in part; or
  - (b) Uphold the complaint in whole or in part which may include a determination that all or part of the matter be dealt with under the Society's Disciplinary Procedures set out in Part 3 below.
- 2.5 In the event of a DNA profiling states that the parentage previously stipulated by the breeder is not correct the breeder may nominate one or other sires for profiling and that DNA evidence will be submitted to the Investigating Officer(s) for consideration before making their decision pursuant to paragraph 2.4 . Any fees required for the additional DNA profiling will be the sole liability of the breeder.
- 2.6 Should the additional DNA profiling sought state that the parentage previously stipulated by the breeder is not correct, this will be deemed conclusive proof with no right of appeal.
- 2.7 In the event that the complaint is upheld in full by the Society, then the complainant will be repaid the complaint fee. Should the complaint not be upheld or partially, then this sum will be retained by the Society
- 2.8 If a complaint is not upheld, in relation to the identity or pedigree of an animal there is no right of appeal.

## **Appendix C**

### **DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE**

#### **Disciplinary Proceedings**

- 3.1 If, following the conclusion of an investigation, an Investigating Officer(s) determines that:
  - (a) There is a case to answer; and
  - (b) Further consideration by a disciplinary panel could result in disciplinary action being taken against a member,

The Investigating Officer will recommend that the matter be dealt with formally under the Disciplinary Procedure, as set out below.

- 3.2 Within 14 days of the recommendation by the Investigating Officer, the Chair and Vice Chair of Council (acting together) will appoint a disciplinary panel.
- 3.3 The disciplinary panel will be comprised of three people who may or may not be members of the Society (the Disciplinary Panel) but who will not have previously been involved in the matter being heard and who are therefore

able to act in a fair and impartial manner, basing their decisions on only the evidence before them.

- 3.4** Within 7 days of being appointed, the Disciplinary Panel will inform the member of the allegations against them, the basis for those allegations, that there will be a disciplinary hearing convened and what the possible range of consequences will be if it decides after the hearing that the allegations are true. Where appropriate, the following will be included:
- (a)** The composition of the panel
  - (b)** A summary of relevant information gathered by the Investigating Officer(s) during the investigation.
  - (c)** A copy of any relevant documents which will be used at the disciplinary hearing; and
  - (d)** A copy of any relevant witness statements, in which case the member will be given as much information as possible while maintaining confidentiality.
- 3.5** Within 14 days of receipt of the above information in writing, the member must inform the Disciplinary Panel whether they admit the allegations or not and indicate whether they wish to attend the hearing.
- 3.6** If the allegations are admitted, the Disciplinary Panel may resolve the matter by considering the written facts as provided by the complainant(s) and/or other witnesses, without calling oral evidence.
- 3.7** The Disciplinary Panel will consider any written submissions made by the member with regards to the matter in question as well as any details or mitigating circumstances surrounding the alleged conduct or misconduct.
- 3.8** The Panel may also rely on the written report of the Investigating Officer(s).
- 3.9** If the allegations are denied, or if no response is received, the disciplinary procedure shall continue in line with the process set out below.
- 3.10** Within 21 days, from the day the member received notification of the complaint, the Disciplinary Panel will give the member written notice of the date, time and place of the disciplinary hearing. The hearing will be held as soon as reasonably practicable, but the member will be given a reasonable amount of time to prepare their case based on the information given to them by the Disciplinary Panel.

**Disciplinary hearing**

- 3.11** The disciplinary hearing will be held in private, in front of the Disciplinary Panel. The member may bring another member or person to the Disciplinary hearing. At the disciplinary hearing, the Disciplinary Panel will take the member through the allegations and the evidence that has been gathered. The member will be able to respond and present any evidence.
- 3.12** The member may ask relevant witnesses to appear at the hearing, provided they have given the Disciplinary Panel sufficient advance notice to arrange their attendance. The member will be given the opportunity to respond to any information given by a witness.
- 3.13** Written statements may be introduced only if previously produced to and/or with the consent of the Disciplinary Panel.

The Disciplinary Panel may make a finding, following the disciplinary Hearing, to:

- (a) Uphold, in whole or in part; or
  - (b) Reject, in whole or in part the allegations made against the member
- 3.14** The decision by the Disciplinary Panel and its reasons, along with any disciplinary penalty (if appropriate), will be communicated to the member within 14 days of the date of the disciplinary hearing.
- 3.15** The Chair of the Panel may vary this procedure in his or her absolute discretion if, after discussion with the other parties, he or she is of the opinion that such change would assist the disciplinary procedure in a fair and impartial way.

### **Disciplinary Penalties**

- 3.16** If the Disciplinary Panel makes a decision to uphold the allegations made against the member, in whole or in part, it shall impose one or more of the following sanctions as deemed appropriate given the circumstances, nature and severity of the case:
- (a) Take no action (only if there are significant mitigating circumstances);
  - (b) Give the member a reprimand or caution in respect of the conduct in question.
  - (c) Impose a fine up to a maximum of £5000
  - (d) Terminate the member's membership with the Society and/or remove the member from their official position on either a temporary or permanent basis
  - (e) Require the member to undertake training with the aim of providing further education in respect of the conduct in question



- (f) If appropriate suspend the member from any of the following:  
membership, selling at WPCS official sales.

**3.17 In addition, in the case of a Judge:**

- (a) He or she be removed from the panel or panels.
- (b) The asterisk rating against his/her name is removed.

**In addition, in the case of an exhibitor:**

- (a) He or she be prevented from exhibiting in any capacity  
at any WPCS

**Affiliated show or event.**

**In addition, in the case of a member, he or she be prevented from selling at  
WPCS official sales.**

- 3.18 Any suspension shall normally run with immediate effect from the date of the Disciplinary Hearing. The Disciplinary Panel may take into account any period of suspension served prior to the hearing date.**
- 3.19 In the event that a member fails or refuses to comply in whole or in part with the sanctions imposed, the disciplinary Panel may reconvene at its own discretion and impose additional sanctions as it deems appropriate in the circumstances.**
- 3.20 If in relation to an offence dealt with by a court of law relating to an animal welfare offence, if a member is found guilty the Society will take reciprocal action to that imposed by the Court i.e. if the Court issues a warning or reprimand the Society will similarly warn or reprimand the member.**
- 3.21 In the case of a Court banning a member from keeping/owning animals for a period of time the Society will revoke the membership of the member found guilty and ban them from membership for the full period of the ban imposed by the court.**
- 3.22 There is no appeal against an identity or pedigree complaint proven by the process outlined above.**
- 3.23 There is also no appeal against membership revoked as a result of a welfare issue determined by a Court of Law.**

## **Appeal**

- 3.24 If a member feels that disciplinary action taken against them is wrong or unjust then they should appeal in writing, stating the full grounds of appeal, to the Secretary within 14 days of the date on which they were informed of the decision of the Disciplinary Panel. The member will also be required to deposit with the Society the sum of £200. If the appeal committee ultimately revokes the original decision, then the sum deposited will be reimbursed to the member.**

- 3.25** Upon receipt of an appeal and appropriate fee, the Chair and Vice Chair of Council of the Welsh Pony & Cob Society acting together will appoint an Appeal Committee comprising three members who may or may not be members of the Society and one of whom shall be a solicitor.
- 3.26** Appeals may be dealt with by written representations or at an appeal hearing in person. If by way of a hearing in person, the Appeal Committee will give the member written notice of the date, time and place of any appeal hearing. This will normally be within 14 days of the written notice. If determination of the appeal will be based on written representations only, the member will be informed of this in writing and of the timescale for any further written representations to be submitted.
- 3.27** The Appeal Committee will consider all the evidence and make its decision which may be to:
- (g) Confirm the original decision.
  - (h) Revoke the original decision; or
  - (i) Substitute a different penalty. (Which will not be a more serious penalty than the one imposed by the Disciplinary Panel.)
- 3.28** The Appeal Committee will inform the member in writing of the final decision as soon as possible, usually within 14 days of the date of the appeal hearing. There will be no further right of appeal. *(Adopted by the Council of the Welsh Pony & Cob Society on November 2016).*

#### **Records of Disciplinary Hearings and Appeals**

- 3.29** The decisions of the Disciplinary Panel shall be recorded and retained in confidential records for a period of time specified by the Panel, but no more than six years from the date of its creation. Supporting documentation may also be retained.

#### **Co-operation of Members and Other Parties**

- 3.30** The procedures described in this policy assume that any complainant, member or other person directly impacted by this policy will cooperate in the interest of resolving the issue in question. In the absence of such cooperation, or if any complaint is withdrawn at any stage, we reserve the right to proceed with a Disciplinary Hearing or Appeal Hearing based on such information and evidence as we are able to obtain.
- 3.31** In addition, where it is found that a complainant has impeded an investigation in any way the WPCS reserve the right to find that the investigation is invalid and recommend that the process be terminated and the complaint fee withheld by the society.

## **24. PROCESS TO RAISE CONCERNS / COMPLAINTS ABOUT THE WELFARE OF ANIMALS**

The Society considers the welfare of all Welsh Ponies and Cobs to be of paramount importance and works hard to educate and support owners and breeders of Welsh Ponies and Cobs in this respect. Whilst the Society's role is educational and advisory, the Society's Honorary Welfare Coordinator and Honorary Veterinary Surgeon work closely with the relevant authorities in connection with welfare complaints received.

If a member/person has concerns regarding the welfare of Welsh ponies they should contact the Company Secretary, at Bronaeron, Felinfach, Lampeter, Ceredigion, SA48 8AG or by email on [Secretary@wpcs.uk.com](mailto:Secretary@wpcs.uk.com) If sent by post, then it should be sent by recorded delivery. A delivery receipt for emailed communications or any hand deliveries should be obtained.

### **What will happen next?**

1.1 The Society will send a letter within 5 working days acknowledging the communication and asking for further details where necessary. If a response requested from the complainant is not received within 10 working days, then the complaint may not be processed any further.

1.2 Upon receipt and confirmation of further details, the issue will be referred on a confidential basis by the Company Secretary to the Society's Honorary Welfare Coordinator who will work in conjunction with the Society's Honorary Veterinary Officer appointed by the Council of the Society.

1.3 The Society will always strive to ensure that your details remain strictly confidential. Your personal details will be kept confidential in accordance with Criminal Justice and Data Protection regulations. The National Welfare Coordinator will always seek to manage the disclosure of information during an investigation to prevent the identity of the complainant. The National Welfare Coordinator may need to share some or all of the information when making referrals to other Welfare or regulatory bodies. Although these bodies hold similar confidentiality procedures the National Welfare Coordinator will always seek the complainant's permission before revealing his/her identity.

1.4 The Society's Welfare Coordinator will undertake such investigations as he/she considers necessary. This may include passing any such complaint on to any other welfare organisation including (but not limited to) the local authority, the RSPCA, the police or any other regulatory body, for their own investigation within the Law. Where the Society's Welfare Coordinator has reviewed the substance of the complaint and does not consider that a referral to a welfare or regulatory organisation is necessary, the Society's Welfare Coordinator will inform the complainant of this fact and that no further action will be taken in respect of the complaint.

1.5 Where a referral is made under 1.4 above, then the Society's Welfare Coordinator will adjourn their investigation pending receipt of any report from the welfare or regulatory body notified in accordance with paragraph 1.4 above.

1.6 Upon receipt of any report from a welfare organisation, regulatory body or court, the Society's Welfare Coordinator shall refer such a report to the Council for consideration. Should the report contain an official confirmation of a criminal conviction of cruelty or neglect towards an animal, this matter will be referred to the Council and will then be dealt with as described in the Disciplinary Procedure.

1.7 In the event that the Society's Welfare Coordinator is advised by the welfare or regulatory organisation that no action will be taken, then the Society's Welfare

Coordinator will inform the complainant of this fact and that no further action will be taken in respect of the complaint.

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## **25. ANTI-BULLYING AND HARASSMENT POLICY (MEMBERS)**

It is the policy of The Welsh Pony and Cob Society to uphold the right of all employees and members to be treated with respect and dignity.

All members should develop an awareness of the impact of their conduct on others and show courtesy to other members and employees of the Society, referring to people only by their chosen name. Language should be used with care and sensitivity, and members should consider the possible impact of their behaviour on others around them.

Behaviour, which amounts to bullying, harassment or victimisation, will not be tolerated.

Disciplinary action including warnings and suspension of membership for serious offences will be taken against any member who violates this policy in accordance with the procedures laid out in the Disciplinary Procedure.

It is also important to understand that proven cases of bullying harassment or victimisation could involve personal liability for members involved.

Bullying is generally behaviour that amounts to a misuse of power, but that does not necessarily involve being in a position of authority and can include both personal strength and the power to coerce through fear or intimidation. It usually, although not necessarily always, involves persistent, offensive, abusive, intimidating, malicious or insulting behaviour or misuse of sanctions.

Examples of bullying behaviour could include:

- Persistent and unnecessary criticism
- Physical or psychological threats
- Shouting in public or private
- Deliberate isolation by ignoring or excluding someone
- Withholding information or removing responsibility without justification
- Spreading malicious rumours
- Making inappropriate personal comments
- Setting impossible objectives with the deliberate intention of undermining someone
- “Cyber bullying”; the use of electronic information to deliberately threaten or intimidate an individual or group of individuals via postings on the internet or on social media

This list is not all-inclusive.

Harassment is any unwanted physical, verbal or non-verbal conduct that has the purpose or effect of violating a person's dignity or creating an intimidating, hostile, degrading, humiliating or offensive environment for them. A single incident can amount to harassment.

It also includes treating someone less favourably because they have submitted or refused to submit to such behaviour in the past.

Unlawful harassment may involve conduct of a sexual nature (sexual harassment), or it may be related to age, disability, gender reassignment, marital or civil partner status, pregnancy or maternity, race, colour, nationality, ethnic or national origin, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation. Harassment is unacceptable even if it does not fall within any of these categories.

Harassment may include, for example:

- Unwanted physical conduct or "horseplay", including touching, pinching, pushing and grabbing.
- Unwelcome sexual advances or suggestive behaviour (which the harasser may perceive as harmless);
- Offensive e-mails, text messages or social media content.
- Mocking, mimicking or belittling a person's disability.

A person may be harassed even if they were not the intended "target". For example, a person may be harassed by racist jokes about a different ethnic group if the jokes create an offensive environment.

Victimisation is where an individual is singled out for using any complaints procedure or exercising their legal rights.

Bullying, harassment and victimisation do not necessarily take place face to face but may be by written communication, telephone, email or website postings.

Any member subject to or aware of bullying, harassment or victimisation should report the matter to Council.

In order to ensure the policy is adhered to, the Society agrees to:

- Treat any complaint promptly, sensitively and thoroughly having regard to the rights of both the complainant and the alleged transgressor.
- Take steps to ensure that anyone who, in good faith, makes a complaint of bullying, harassment or victimisation, or participates in any investigation into such a complaint, does not suffer any form of retaliation or victimisation as a result.
- Keep discussions as confidential as possible.
- Monitor the implementation of the policy and review it periodically both in terms of its operation and the relationship with the Discipline Policy in cases of bullying, harassment and victimisation and false and malicious complaint.

All members should be aware of their own conduct, avoid colluding in inappropriate behaviour, and co-operate fully in any complaint procedures.

Council has a responsibility to raise awareness of the issues, respond positively to any complaints, and challenge and stop unacceptable behaviour in the workplace or amongst the membership. However, false or malicious complaints of bullying, harassment or victimisation may lead to disciplinary action against the complainant.

In order to evaluate the effectiveness of the policy, the Society wishes to monitor the level and kinds of discrimination that occur. To achieve this, a monitoring form will be completed after any complaint which will be returned to the Company Secretary for statistical analysis. The monitoring form will not contain the name of the complainant or the person complained against.

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## **26. EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES POLICY**

This policy aims to provide the means by which the Society can ensure that each individual is treated equally and fairly. The separate procedures which form part of this policy will ensure that all persons involved with the Society are treated with respect, courtesy, integrity and equality of opportunity in all aspects of their contact with The Welsh Pony and Cob Society.

### **Statement of Commitment**

The Welsh Pony and Cob Society acknowledges and respects cultural and religious diversity, and affirms that it will not tolerate any unlawful act of discrimination, any form of harassment (see separate policy on bullying and harassment), or any unjustifiable act of discrimination on any grounds including colour, race, nationality, ethnic origin, marital or parental status, sex, sexual orientation, disability, religious beliefs, social class, age and language.

The policy further commits the Society to fulfil its legal duty by challenging all forms of direct and indirect discrimination.

The Society will ensure that there is a sound system of monitoring and progress review to ensure all issues are addressed and a culture of equal opportunities is embedded in all aspects of the work of the Society.

This policy covers all people who have contact with the Society, Council, Staff and Members and those who benefit from the services we provide.

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## **27 BECOMING A JUDGE**

### **27.1 If you are interested in becoming a WPCS Panel Judge, please read the guidelines for eligibility below.**

If you are a new applicant, you must:

- Have been a Member for a minimum of 10 consecutive years
- Be 25 years of age or older.
- Have either bred/owned/produced a minimum of 5 animals within the section you are applying for.
- Have judged a minimum of 3 shows in your own right and probationed at 2 shows with completed report forms returned to the WPCS office.

If all the above criteria are met, you will be invited to attend an assessment.  
Assessments are held bi-annually.

## **27.2 If you need to probation in order to apply for the WPCS Judges Panel as a new applicant, here are the Probationary Judging rules.**

Rule 1 - Prior to applying for the Judges assessment, Probationers must probation with an Assessor at least two Bronze Medal shows. They will need to have also Judged Welsh breeds at three non-medal shows.

Rule 2 - An Assessor must have held an asterisk\* for at least 5 years in the section where he/she is an assessor.

Rule 3 - Probationers can ONLY probation at BRONZE medal shows.

Rule 4 - You cannot probation with the same Assessor more than once.

Rule 5 - You cannot probation with an immediate family member, as per definition listed on page 6.

Rule 6 - Probationers from Overseas, must apply in writing to the Company Secretary of the WPCS UK office for authorization seven days prior to the date of the show, and can only probation at a Bronze Medal show

Rule 7 - An assessor may only take one probationer per section per show.

Rule 8 - Assessors cannot assess a candidate at the Judges Assessment if that candidate has previously completed a probationary judging appointment with that assessor.

Rule 9 - You can only probation with a Judge on the current Assessors list.  
**(+ Next to relevant section on Judges List)**

## **27.3 If you are already a WPCS Panel Judge and wish to apply for another 'Section' the following criteria applies:**

- You do not need to have either bred/owned or produced animals for the section you wish to apply for, providing you are applying as follows:
  - If you are already on the Section A panel and wish to apply to be a Section B Judge.
  - If you are already on the Section C Panel and wish to apply to be a Section D Judge.

The same applies for Section B Panel to join the Section A Panel, and for the Section D Panel to join the C panel.

- Judges who are already on a Panel need not probation.

- Furthermore, if a Judge is already on the A panel and wishes to apply for assessment for the D panel, they need to have either bred or owned 5 Animals from the Section for which they are applying i.e. 5 Section D's

If all the above criteria are met, you will be invited to attend an assessment.  
Assessments are held bi-annually.

#### **27.4 Asterisk Rules \***

In order to be considered for an in-hand asterisk \* you must complete an application form and list details of shows at which you have officiated since your appointment to the Panel of Judges. To be considered for an asterisk you must:

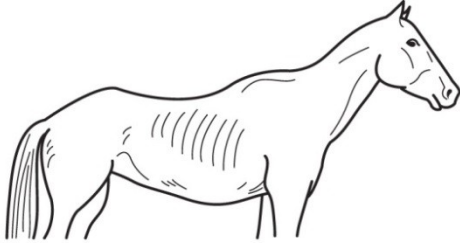
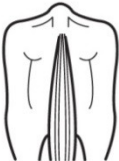
- Have been a panel Judge for a minimum of 5 consecutive years on the 'Section' you are applying for.
- Have officiated in at least 5 WPCS Bronze Medal shows on the 'Section' you are applying for.

To be considered for a ridden asterisk \* you will need:

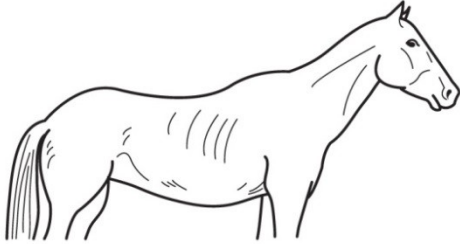
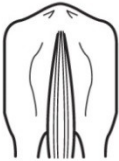
- To have been on the 'Ridden panel for a minimum of 5 consecutive years.
  - To have judged a minimum of 10 ridden shows, 5 of which must be affiliated to the WPCS.
-



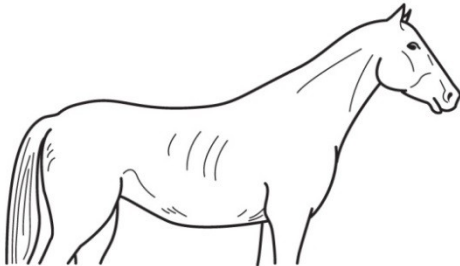
# Body Condition Scoring Diagram



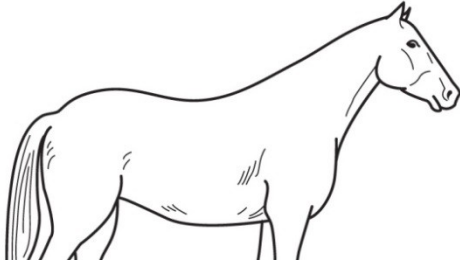
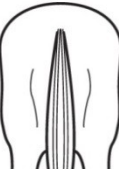
**0 - VERY POOR**



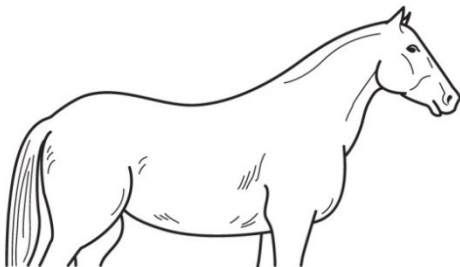
**1 - POOR**



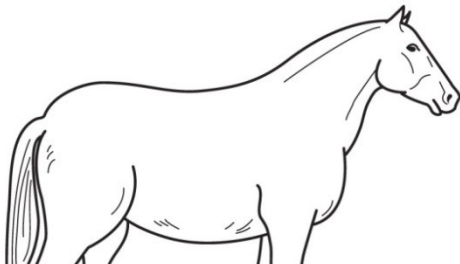
**2 - MODERATE**



**3 - GOOD**



**4 - FAT**



**5 - VERY FAT**

## Body Clipping on Youngstock

In relation to rule 9.6 & 9.7 Youngstock must not be body clipped.

