



MEMBERS' HANDBOOK



Welcome

WELCOME to the Welsh Pony & Cob Society of Australia 'Members' Handbook'. Welsh ponies, cobs and Part Welsh are renowned for their temperament, beauty and for excelling in all types of disciplines from children's first ponies through to top level competition including jumping, eventing, show riding and dressage. Harness is another discipline where Welsh ponies, cobs and Part Welsh excel, from pleasure and show classes to the exciting and challenging combined driving events.

Whether you are showing, breeding or just having fun with your pony, this handbook has lots of useful information whether you are new to the breed or have an ongoing passion, I hope you find this handbook helpful.

The handbook will be regularly updated so if you think of any information you think would be useful to be included, please email the National Office – admin@wpcs.com.au

Kind regards

Michele Baker

Chairperson

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Members are vital to the Society

THE PRIMARY AIMS of the Welsh Pony & Cob Society of Australia Inc are to encourage the breeding, improvement and welfare of Welsh Ponies and Cobs in Australia, maintaining their type and temperament, promoting the breed and educating members of the Society and the general public. Recording the pedigrees of Welsh Ponies & Cobs in Australia in the stud book plays a vital role.

The members of the Society have always driven its development. The Committee of Management is composed of 12 people who have been elected by the general membership. Sub-committees organise shows and other events. Without the volunteer efforts of the members, the Society simply could not function.

The Society has a Patron, a President and a President Elect, a Committee of Management, Regional Promotional Groups and Working Groups who all contribute their time as volunteers for the Society.

The Society employs an Office Manager, Registrar and Office Administration Staff who work from the National Office location.

The Society operates as a not-for-profit enterprise and complies with Commonwealth and relevant State legislation.

Beginnings of the Society

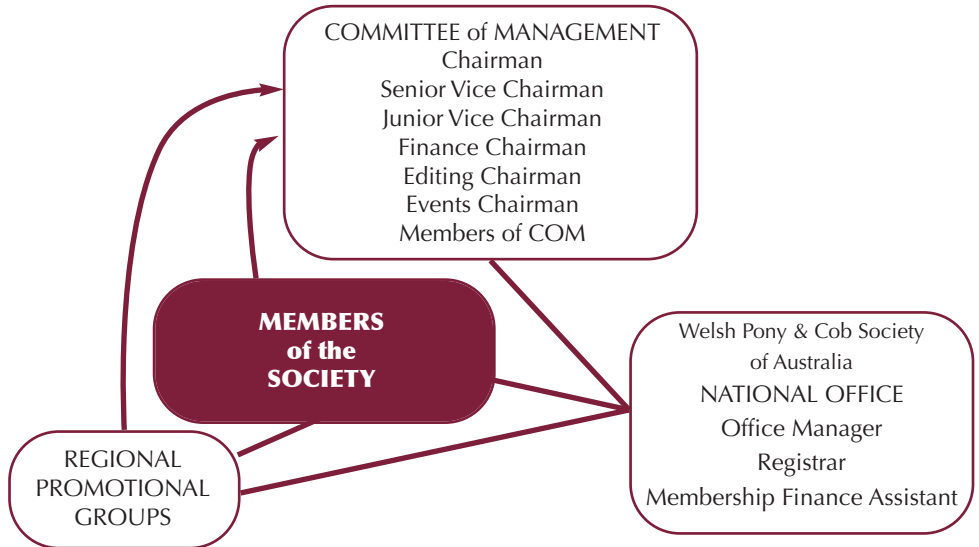
IN SEPTEMBER 1969, during the course of the Royal Melbourne Show, a small group of Welsh pony breeders and owners met in a feed locker to discuss the future of the Welsh breeds in Australia and the possibility of forming a Welsh Pony and Cob Society of Australia so that animals could be recorded in full compliance with the rules of the governing body, the Welsh Pony & Cob Society UK.

From that humble beginning rapid progress was made and the first Annual General Meeting as a constituted Society was held at the Royal Melbourne Showgrounds twelve months later, with the Society recognised by the Welsh Pony & Cob Society UK, and with the Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria as secretariat.

After some years at the Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria the Welsh Pony & Cob Society of Australia purchased its own premises in Essendon, Victoria, and established its own office and employed staff. The need for more space necessitated a further move to larger premises, the National Office was relocated to Main Street, Pakenham, Victoria where it remained until April 2009 when it again moved to a much larger premises at Suite 20 / 14 - 17 Hogan Court Pakenham 3810.



Structure of the Society



Society Patron Mrs Suellen Deane
Society President Mr Dudley Newham
Society President Elect Ms Janet Murphy

COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT
Chairman Michele Baker
Senior Vice Chairman &
Finance Chairman Kym Shingleton
Junior Vice Chairman Wendy Trimble
Editing Chairman Helen Dohan
Events Chairman Samantha Smith
Peter Hodgson Gary Le Brocq Fiona Forge
Kathryn Mitchell Margaret Sperrin Ashley Porter Jenni Cesnik

OFFICE STAFF
Office Manager Gabrielle Mayberry
Registrar Lynda Busuttil
Membership and Finance Contact the Office



Contacting the National Office

Welsh Pony & Cob Society of Australia Inc.

National Office: 14-17 Hogan Court, Pakenham, VIC 3810

Postal Address: P O Box 762, Pakenham, VIC 3810

Phone: 03 5941 3288

Web: www.wpcs.com.au

Office Manager: Gabrielle Mayberry admin@wpcs.com.au

Registrar Lynda Busuttil registrar@wpcs.com.au

Memberships: membership@wpcs.com.au

The National Office hours are 9am - 3.30pm Monday to Friday

Members are requested to email the relevant staff member with queries.



Regional Promotional Groups

- The role of the Regional Promotional Groups (RPGs) is to promote the Welsh Breeds within their regions by holding shows and seminars. They support Welsh classes in shows run by other societies by providing ribbons and prize money and organising events to advance breed education.
- Each RPG is run by a committee of up to seven members of the Society elected by members who live in the region. The members of the Committee then elect a Chairman, a Vice Chairman, a Treasurer, Secretary and a Publicity Officer. Other members of the Society can be co-opted to help run events.
- There are also Sub-committees and Working Parties of the Committee of Management which operate under the same regulations and guidelines as RPGs.
- Regional Promotional Groups do not receive any direct funding from the Society. They meet the costs of all their activities through their own fund-raising efforts.
- RPGs, Sub-committees and Working Parties come 'under the umbrella' of the Society and are not individual organisations. The Standard Operating Procedures Manual (SOP) publication has regulations and guidelines for RPGs and is available on the Society website.
- Members are encouraged to be involved in RPGs, Sub-committees and Working Parties. Current contact details for your nearest Regional Promotional Group can be found in the front of the Action newsletter or on the WPCS website under the Contact tab.

Regional Promotional Groups

VICTORIA - North East Border

VICTORIA - Gippsland & Peninsula

VICTORIA - Ballarat & Central Highlands

VICTORIA - Yarra Valley

TASMANIA

NEW SOUTH WALES - Eastern

NEW SOUTH WALES - Northern

NEW SOUTH WALES -Southern

NEW SOUTH WALES - Western

QUEENSLAND

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

SOUTH AUSTRALIA



Where to find information

WPCS Website: THE WEBSITE www.wpcs.com.au is constantly being updated with the latest Show Dates, Schedules, changes to Rules and Regulations, Show Results and information on Welsh Ponies in general. We suggest you check the Website frequently to ensure you have the latest information.

eNews: YOU CAN SUBSCRIBE free of charge to receive WPCS eNews! These are updates and reminders to all members about important information. You can sign up for eNews by ticking the relevant box on your membership renewal form, or by advising the office.

Facebook: THE WPCS has a Facebook page that also sends out updates of Information to Members. Find us at Welsh Pony and Cob Society of Australia Inc. RPGs, Sub- committees and the Welsh National Show Working Party have Facebook pages as well.

Action Magazine: ALL MEMBERS receive the Action Newsletter sent out quarterly. Members wishing to advertise in the publication should refer to the Action advertising form on our website or in the back of the magazine. Each issue features a Photo Gallery specific to the season. Members are invited to submit photos of their ponies for inclusion at a nominal fee.

Journal Publication: AN ANNUAL showcasing Achiever awards, tributes and memorials for people and ponies lost through the year and highlights from the shows throughout the year as well as interesting stories. As a full member, you will receive a copy each June. Associate Members will not receive the Journal however, the publication can be purchased from the office.

Stud Book: THE WPCS keep a stud book of all ponies registered with the Society. This can be viewed on our website. Hardcover editions up to Volume 20 can be purchased from the National Office. Access to the online Stud Book is free and members are encouraged to use this important reference tool. When searching the online stud book, the best search technique is to use only a few letters of the pony's name for a wider search.



What type of membership best meets your needs

Membership of the WPCS is paid annually. The membership year runs from July 1st to June 30th. The membership renewal form is enclosed in the Winter 'Action' Newsletter mailed to all current members or can be obtained on the WPCS website.

You must be a current financial member to have a pony transferred / registered into your name.

Membership options available:

LIFE MEMBERSHIP: For a 'natural person' is a one off fee paid by a Member. This fee is applicable only to the Nominee of the membership and cannot be transferred to another Member at anytime. Life members have all the rights of full members.

FULL MEMBERS who have paid the current annual subscription fee are entitled to register, transfer and exhibit ponies at Society approved events. They will also receive the Action Newsletter quarterly and the annual Society Journal publication once a year. This is posted to current full members in June in the relevant membership year.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS who have paid the current annual subscription fee are entitled to transfer and exhibit ponies at Society approved events and will receive the Action Newsletter quarterly.

ADDITIONAL MEMBERS: \$20.00 per adult member. A fee of \$20.00 (inc. GST) each is payable for any additional adult persons (above the initial two adult members) who wish to be included in a membership. Any additional persons are restricted to immediate family members (husband, wife, partner, child) aged 18 years and over.

JOINT OWNERSHIP: \$20.00. This is not a membership but is an agreement which entitles joint ownership of a pony/cob between two current individual financial members of the Society. It specifies percentage of ownership and other relevant details. Both members must be financial in their own right to apply for a joint ownership. Please refer to www.wpcs.com.au > The Society > Stud Book Regulations > 21. Joint Ownership



FAMILY: No additional fee. We do not have a family membership as such. Two adults may be included in the fee for the membership type applied for. The two adults must be from the same immediate family (husband, wife, partner, child) and aged 18 years and over.

The insurance waiver must be signed by all members attached to the membership form, if the member is under the age of 18 the waiver section must be signed by the parent or guardian of the membership.

The nominee is a person responsible for signing any society documentation and is the member with voting rights (full membership only) of the membership and must be over 18 years of age.

Change of Address/Name: Any change of Address must be submitted to the WPCS in writing or on the form located in the Forms and Information section of the Website. Change of surname must be accompanied by a copy of a marriage certificate if applicable.

Prefix & Brands: Any member wishing to breed and register ponies with the WPCS must apply to the Society for registration of a Prefix and Brand. Branding and or microchipping of ponies is required and members must apply to the Society to register a brand if applicable. For further information on applying for a prefix and brand please refer to our website.

Junior Club & Young Peoples Group subscription: Available to children between 3 and 12 years of age and 12 to 24 years. Children receive newsletters throughout the year and a Christmas gift with the Summer edition. Junior Club Subscription is \$10 per year and an application form can be found in the Action Newsletter or on our website. Junior Club Subscription is not a membership of the Society.

Shows run by the WPCS often hold events that are open to Junior Club card holding members. Please check the show schedules or with your local RPG for more details on these events.



When you buy a registered pony or cob or Part Welsh ...

BEFORE YOU PURCHASE a registered pony, ask to see the registration papers. Check the animal against the papers to be sure it is who it says it is. Note that not all ponies are branded now - some have a microchip instead.

With the purchase made, it is time to transfer the registration to your name. This is done by the vendor noting the details on the back of the card and sending it in to the National Office. It is the vendor's responsibility to pay the transfer fee, but in some cases, it is negotiated that the buyer will pay.



Welsh Pony & Cob Society of Australia Inc
ABN 70 066 732 367 Reg No A00006317F (Approved by the Welsh Pony & Cob Society, Wales)
24 Main Street Pakenham PO Box 762 Pakenham VIC 3810 Phone 03 5941 3288 Fax 03 5941 2248

Certificate of Pure Welsh Registration

Sex Mare Reg No M-15199 Vol 17 Section C - Welsh Pony of Cob Type
Registered Name MITHRIL BRITANNICA DNA No
Body Colour & Markings Chestnut Turning Grey, Star blaze snip inv n/s nostril upr lwr
lip chin conj, nlf & o/f pastern, n/h cannon, o/h 1/2 cannon

DOB 08/09/2007 Brands OS 2 over 7 NS tagged -over M B conj
Sire BARNON IMPERIAL JACK Reg No S-1653
Dam MITHRIL VALERIE Reg No M-9505

Breeder: Milvain Mrs Christine, 'Mithril Welsh Ponies', 650 Lancefield Road, KILMORE VIC 3764
Owner: Milvain Mrs Christine, 'Mithril Welsh Ponies', 650 Lancefield Road, KILMORE VIC 3764

Date of Issue 16/10/08 Registrar *Jan Hill* Microchip

This animal has been accepted for entry in the Welsh Pony & Cob Society of Australia Inc Stud Book. This card remains the property of the Society.
IF THIS ANIMAL IS SOLD PLEASE COMPLETE THE FORM OVERLEAF AND SEND TO THE NATIONAL OFFICE WITH THE APPROPRIATE FEE.

The registration certificate provides valuable information about the animal. Note that the markings on a grey horse may become difficult to distinguish as they age. The back of the card records transfers and leases. This card records that the animal has died, and the cancelled card has been returned to the owner.

You must be a financial member of the Society to have ponies registered in your name. The membership year is from July 1st to June 30th.

Transfers are normally processed in the office and the paperwork returned to the buyer within three weeks. When a pony is transferred, as well as the card, the details in the stud book are updated.

The WP&CSA has a full time registrar employed in the National Office and members benefit from the fast, efficient and friendly service provided.



How to use the online stud book ...

THE ONLINE STUD BOOK is accessed via the Society website www.wpcs.com.au
It contains up to date and historic data.

When you are searching for details of a particular pony, it is best to use a shortened version of the name. A misspelt word will result in no entry being returned.

If you are sure of the spelling of the prefix, use that, then the first letter of the pony's name, and tick the box for 'any part of name'.

When the entry for a pony opens, you can see the pony's registration number, the Section, whether it is a stallion, mare or gelding, the colour and the microchip number (this is not always required). Also on this page is the date of birth, and the name of the current owner.

By using the tabs at the top of the page, you can access the markings including the brands, and the pedigree, siblings, progeny, and transfers.

WPCS: MITHRIL BRITANNICA Home Page	
Welsh Pony & Cob Society of Australia Inc. Search Studbook What If ?	
Profile	Markings Photos Pedigree Siblings Progeny Shows Location Transfers
Name: MITHRIL BRITANNICA	Date of birth: 08 Sep 2007
Number: M-15199	Registered: 16 Oct 2008
Registry: M	Imported:
Volume: 17	Exported:
Breed: C	Died: 03 May 2009
Sex: Mare	URL:
Birth colour: Chestnut	Breeder: Milvain, Christine
Colour: Turning Grey	Owner: Milvain, Christine
Height:	Partners:
Microchip:	
DNA:	
EA:	
Blood type:	
Generations:	
Purity: 100.00%	
Status: Registered	



How to transfer a pony to new owner

When you sell a Welsh registered pony to another member of the Society:

1. Fill out the transfer information on the reverse of the registration certificate.
2. Send the registration certificate and the fee for transfer to the National Office promptly. The transfer fee increases after 42 days.

Transfers may also be made via email. If you wish to do this, please follow the procedure outlined on the website -

www.wpcs.com.au > Registration > Other Forms > Pony Transfer

When you sell a Welsh registered pony to a non-member of the Society:

1. Financial membership of the new owner is compulsory in order to obtain registration certificates.
2. If the new owner wishes to become a member, then you should record their details on the reverse of the registration paper and forward it with the transfer fee to the Office. The new owner will be contacted and invited to apply for membership and then the transfer can be completed.
3. If the new owner does not wish to become a member, then you should forward the registration certificate to the Office with a note stating that the pony has been sold without papers. There is no fee for this.

Leasing a pony, cob or Part Welsh

LEASES should be recorded with the Society. The regulations can be found on the website www.wpcs.com.au > The Society > Stud Book Regulations > 20. Recording a Lease.

If you lease a pony or cob, you should also have a signed agreement in place.



Buying or selling pony or cob ... things you should know

IT CAN BE A TIME OF GREAT EXCITEMENT and happiness when buying a pony or cob! But before you purchase, you should make yourself familiar with what is required to transfer a pony into your name. Here are some key things to be aware of and check for when considering buying a pony/cob:

FOR BUYERS:

If the pony is already registered:

DOES THE SELLER have the pony's registration card?

- If yes, make sure they have signed as vendor and all transfer details are completed on the reverse (including transfers that have not been recorded on the stud book – missing information will require the office to confirm details).
- The vendor should post the registration certificate along with the applicable transfer fee to the Society postal address.
- Check that the pony's markings, including brands, match the registration certificate. *Some ponies may only be microchipped, but this information would be included on the registration certificate.
- If you are purchasing a colt with the intention of breeding, all colts have to be adult registered with the Society between the ages of 2 and 4. Full details on the process are on the website.

IF THE VENDOR DOES NOT HAVE THE CARD...

- Check if they are the current recorded owner of the pony on the studbook. If they are, they can order a duplicate certificate and transfer it to you.
- If however there has been more than one skipped transfer and the card is lost you will need to contact the Society to request the paperwork to apply for a statutory declaration transfer.



IMPORTANT - make sure you receive a signed written receipt from the seller, noting the pony's registered name, and naming you as the purchaser, noting the pony has been 'paid in full'.

*If you are given a pony free of charge, please ask for a 'receipt' noting you have been given the pony, including your name, and signed by the person gifting the pony.

If the pony is not yet registered:

PLEASE NOTE that if a pony is not already registered at another equivalent breed society, the breeder needs to complete the pony registration form, including completing and signing the breeder declaration.

A service certificate by itself is not enough to register a pony.

- The breeder must be a current Full member of the Society, have a prefix (and brand if ponies are not microchipped) recorded, and they must be the owner/lessee of the dam at foaling.
- The breeder must also be the recorded owner of the stallion at service (or have a service certificate from the owner of the stallion).
- The sire of the pony must be adult registered to be listed as the sire of the pony.
- There are additional requirements for ponies conceived through AI frozen semen and Embryo Transfer – please see the Society website for more information about AI/ET: <https://wpcs.com.au/other-forms/>



FOR SELLERS:

When you sell a pony - as noted on the Certificate of Registration, the card remains the property of the Society.

The correct process is to post the registration certificate to the Society including the applicable transfer fee, with all transfer information completed on the reverse of the card. The registration card then remains on file in the office, ready for the new owner to join the Society, enabling the transfer to be processed.

The reason for this is because sometimes new owners are not members and may never join or take a while to do so. If they are given the certificate, then sell the pony on, it can make it very difficult for a new owner to transfer the pony, as the card may be lost along the way, making it difficult to confirm the pony's chain of custody.

For sales where a purchaser confirms they will not be joining the Society, the seller sends the certificate to the Society, noting the pony has been sold to a non-member, and providing the new owner with a signed and dated sales receipt which includes the registered name of the pony, who it has been sold to and that it has been paid for in full.

All this information helps with any future requests from an owner of the pony to be transferred. This information assists with any future request for a transfer from a new owner as it helps confirm the chain of custody. If a pony is sold to a non-member who does not intend joining the Society, no transfer fee is required when the certificate is returned to the office upon sale.

Important - please provide the purchaser with a signed and dated written receipt from the seller, noting the pony's registered name, and naming the purchaser, noting the pony has been 'paid in full'.

***If you are giving a pony away free of charge,** please provide the new owner with a receipt noting they have been given the pony, including their name, and signed by the person gifting the pony.

If the new owner is a financial member, upon payment of the transfer fee and ensuring all transfer information is included, the transfer will be completed to the new owner and the card will be posted to them.



WELSH PONIES AND COBS - THE BREED FOR ALL THE FAMILY

CONGRATULATIONS! You have chosen to own a Welsh pony or cob or Part Welsh. Welsh ponies and cobs are as versatile as they are beautiful. They are intelligent and love to work. Welshies can be seen participating in just about every horse related discipline. They make wonderful ponies for children, have a real talent for harness work, many are natural jumpers and there are many competing successfully in competitive dressage.

There are many opportunities to show Welsh and a handbook is being prepared dedicated to showing.

The Welsh Pony & Cob Society of Australia, through the Regional Promotional Groups and sub-committees, runs shows and events throughout Australia. State All Welsh Shows are held in Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia and Western Australia, and the annual Welsh National Show. A medal scheme operates at these shows. RPGs run shows in their districts and work to support agricultural and other shows in their area.

All Welsh Show classes cover all the Welsh sections and Part Welsh with events for all age groups, led and ridden. There are ridden classes ranging from Leading Rein and First Ridden through to Hunters. Classes at shows run by the WPCSA are judged by members of the judging panel. The Society maintains a 3 tier judging panel. Applicants to the panel must have been a financial member for the previous five years, be over 21, and attend a specified number of seminars.

At three nominated shows in each state, points are given for the first three placings in Welsh led classes only to recognise breeding stallions for the Sires Ratings award. Recognition of the sires of saddle animals is made from points gained in performance classes.





Performance Competition for Junior Club and Young People's Group subscribers

THE PERFORMANCE COMPETITION is open to Subscribers to the Junior Club and Young People's Group who ride a registered Welsh pony, cob or Part Welsh whose owner is a current financial member of the Society. The competition runs from 1st August to 31st July and nomination is free.



Photo: Michelle Renee Photography

What is the Australian Ridden Championship (ARC)?

ARC IS A NATIONAL ridden competition for registered Welsh Ponies & Cobs and Part Welsh, consisting of Ridden Welsh, Part Welsh, Leading Rein, First Ridden, Show Hunters and Show Ponies and Horses. ARC is run under the rules and regulations of the Welsh Pony & Cob Society of Australia Inc.

Qualifying events are held during the competition season with a National Final being held in March each year. The two highest placed exhibits in each qualifying class are eligible to compete at the National Final.

Due to generous sponsorship, ARC offers great prize money.



Photo: Lisa Gordon.



Achiever Awards

DO YOU OWN or know of a super Welsh pony or cob or Part Welsh horse or pony that epitomises the temperament and versatility of the breed?

The awards are in recognition of outstanding performances by a Welsh or Part Welsh pony or cob in Open Company.

Nominations may be submitted by owners, supporters or RPGs by February 1st.

The pony/cob/Part Welsh must be registered with WP&CS of A and the owner must be a current member.

Committee of Management wishes to acknowledge Pure and Part Welsh Ponies and Cobs who are flying the flag in the big wide world of Open Competition. We all know that the Welsh are more than capable of excelling in multiple disciplines on the open stage.

There are various categories: •Dressage •Show Jumping •Combined Driving
•Interschools •Eventing •Pony Club •Show Harness •Open Show (saddle)
•Show Hunter •Leading Rein/First Ridden •Other (Camp Drafting/Endurance)

Performances are not limited to the previous 12 months and may be cumulative. Dates of performances claimed and other information required must be provided on the nomination form, with a photograph and a 300 word article about the pony.

Please do not include performances gained in specified Welsh classes, Achievement Awards are to reward success in Open Competition.

Winners are decided by a totally blind vote by members of the Committee of Management with the coordinator being ineligible to vote due to knowledge of the particulars of each entrant and any members of the Committee who have bred or own a nominated horse being ineligible. Independent persons with knowledge of each discipline will be consulted to ensure performances are relevant.

Successful applicants will be notified and the awards presented at the annual Conference and AGM in June each year and the stories are featured in the Journal.

More details and entry form can be found on the Society website:

www.wpcs.com.au > Competitions > Medals & Awards > Achiever Awards



Foal Futurity

The idea of a Foal Futurity is to illustrate a breeder's confidence in their decisions on breeding a good foal. A certain portion of the entry fees are used as prize money for the competition, so the more entries the higher the prize money. The first WPCSA Foal Futurity was judged at the Victorian All Welsh Show in 1985. Foal Futurity competitions are held in each State. Welsh ponies, cobs and Part Welsh are shown under up to three judges as two year olds. There are three separate 'nominations / entry fees' payable per animal.

To enter a WPCSA Foal Futurity, unborn foals must be nominated by the 31st July in the season prior to their birth. In the year following their birth, ie as yearlings, a second nomination fee is payable by the 31st July in the season prior to them turning yearlings, and as two year olds, the third nomination fee is due also by the 31st July in the season prior to their turning two years old. If the three nominations are not paid, the animal is not eligible to be exhibited.

If an animal changes hands and the nominations are still paid, the animal is still eligible for the Foal Futurity, with procedures in place for transfers including between States.

The Dinah Creswick Breeder's Trophy

THIS TROPHY was created in memory of the late Lady Dinah Creswick of the Nattai Stud. The winner receives a beautiful plate which depicts *Coed Coch Proffwyd (Imp UK)* who was imported to Australia by Lady Creswick and has had a world wide influence. *Proffwyd* is number 1 in the Australian Welsh Studbook. The Competition commenced in 2005-2006 and the points are calculated at State All Welsh Shows in rotation. Points are accrued in in-hand classes only from first place down to sixth. Champion and Reserve also score but Supremes are not included in the count. Progeny groups are the only groups included. The prestigious trophy is presented each year at the AGM.





Do you compete in Official EA Dressage Competitions?



DRESSAGE PERFORMANCE MEDALS are an exciting new initiative recognising dressage achievements! There is a growing number of Welsh and Part Welsh competing regularly and successfully in Official Equestrian Australia Dressage.

This is a three tiered system offering gold, silver and bronze medals for scores obtained since August 1st 2020. The medals recognise achievement by registered Welsh Ponies and Cobs and Part Welsh participating in Official EA Dressage.

Animals and their owners (not necessarily the riders) must be financial members of the WPCS of Australia Inc at the time of application. The Welsh registered name must be used in the EA registration.

Performances can be from any Official EA Dressage competition in Australia.

Applications may be made at any time throughout the year for performances gained during the previous 12 months. ie, within 12 months of your first qualifying score.

Only one medal per combination per level is available in any 12-month period.

Subsequent medals must be at a higher level than the one previously awarded.

Proof of performance is required – copy of official results (screenshot of results from sites such as Event Secretary), or copy of test papers.

There is no cost to members to participate in the scheme. Applications can be made at any time throughout the year for performances gained during the previous 12 months i.e no more than 12 months between the date of the first score and the other two scores. Application form and other details at:

www.wpcs.com.au > Competitions > Medals & Awards > Dressage Medal

Thank you to Chris Milvain of Mithril Stud for suggesting the scheme and sponsoring these lovely medals!



Sires Ratings



THE AIM of this competition is to recognise the contribution Welsh sires have made to the breed, and to encourage showing of Welsh ponies and cobs.

There is recognition of the leading sires in hand and performance.

The Sires Rating Competition runs for a full breeding year each year i.e. 1st August – 31st July inclusive.

Three shows in each State are nominated as eligible shows and these eligible shows are listed in Spring Action annually.

The Regional Promotional Group is responsible for supplying results to the Welsh Pony & Cob Society Australia National Office. All results for the prior year must be sent to the National Office and to the Sires Rating coordinator by the 30th June.

Led Competition - Points are given for the first three placings in all Welsh Led classes only. Champion, Reserve Champion and Supreme Awards or similar do not apply.

Eligible classes for Led are in-hand breed classes for Section A, B, C, D & E. Foal class results are not included as foals are not required to be registered to be exhibited.

Performance Competition - points are allocated from Section A, B, C, D and E open (unrestricted) ridden and harness events.

The results are published in the Journal and in the Spring Action issue and the results are shown State by State and Nationally.

The Sires Ratings are kindly sponsored by Keyi Welsh Pony Stud - Chris and Janet Murphy.



Breeding and Registering a foal

Breeding a foal can be immensely satisfying and rewarding. The pleasure of seeing a healthy mare and foal in your paddock is wonderful.

Proper preparation will ensure that when you come to register the foal, it is an easy and straight forward procedure. Keep a record of your mare, either entered into a digital program or as a hard copy in a book or filing system.

For many years, when colts have their veterinary inspection prior to adult registration, the Society has required them to have their DNA recorded as part of the initiative to make the stud book an accurate record. Until recently, the few mares which have DNA records have been tested voluntarily, or when they have had foals via frozen AI. But the time has now come to extend DNA typing to mares so that pedigrees can be verified, an important step in maintaining an accurate stud book.

For Welsh foals born on or after 1st August 2027 DNA typing of the dam ***if it is her first Welsh foal to be registered*** is mandatory. DNA kits must be purchased from the WPCSA. The form is available at www.wpcs.au > Registration > Other forms > DNA Request. It is not required to have a veterinarian pull the hair for DNA profiling.

It is strongly suggested that the DNA profile of the dam is done prior to the birth of the foal in case of the unfortunate event that something happens to the mare during or after foaling. Make sure the mare is registered in your name as the owner, or if the mare is leased, that the lease has been formally recorded with the WPCSA with you as the current lessee.

When you arrange to send your mare to stud, please ensure that the stallion is correctly adult registered and is in the name of the person who is offering the service. You will need a Service Certificate signed by the stallion owner to be able to register the foal.

All paperwork for any Welsh registration (*excluding Part Welsh and Section E geldings) must be received at the National Office prior to the 31st of July of that breeding season or administration fees will be applied. *Part Welsh and Section E geldings may be registered at any age.

Registration takes approximately four to six weeks. It is helpful to the Office if you apply as early as possible.



Natural service or AI - fresh, chilled or frozen?

BREEDERS HAVE THE CHOICE between natural service and artificial insemination. For registration purposes, the Society treats natural service and fresh or chilled AI in the same way. The stallion must be correctly adult registered and a service certificate signed by the stallion owner supplied to the mare owner. The registration certificate - available at www.wpcs.com.au > Registration > Forms must be filled out with a tick for 'AI - Fresh/Chilled'.

Frozen semen was initially rarely used and mainly by the elite performance industry, but these days it is readily available for several breeds and extensively used. The possibility of error is greater when using frozen semen and the regulations covering its use are designed to protect the integrity of the stud book.

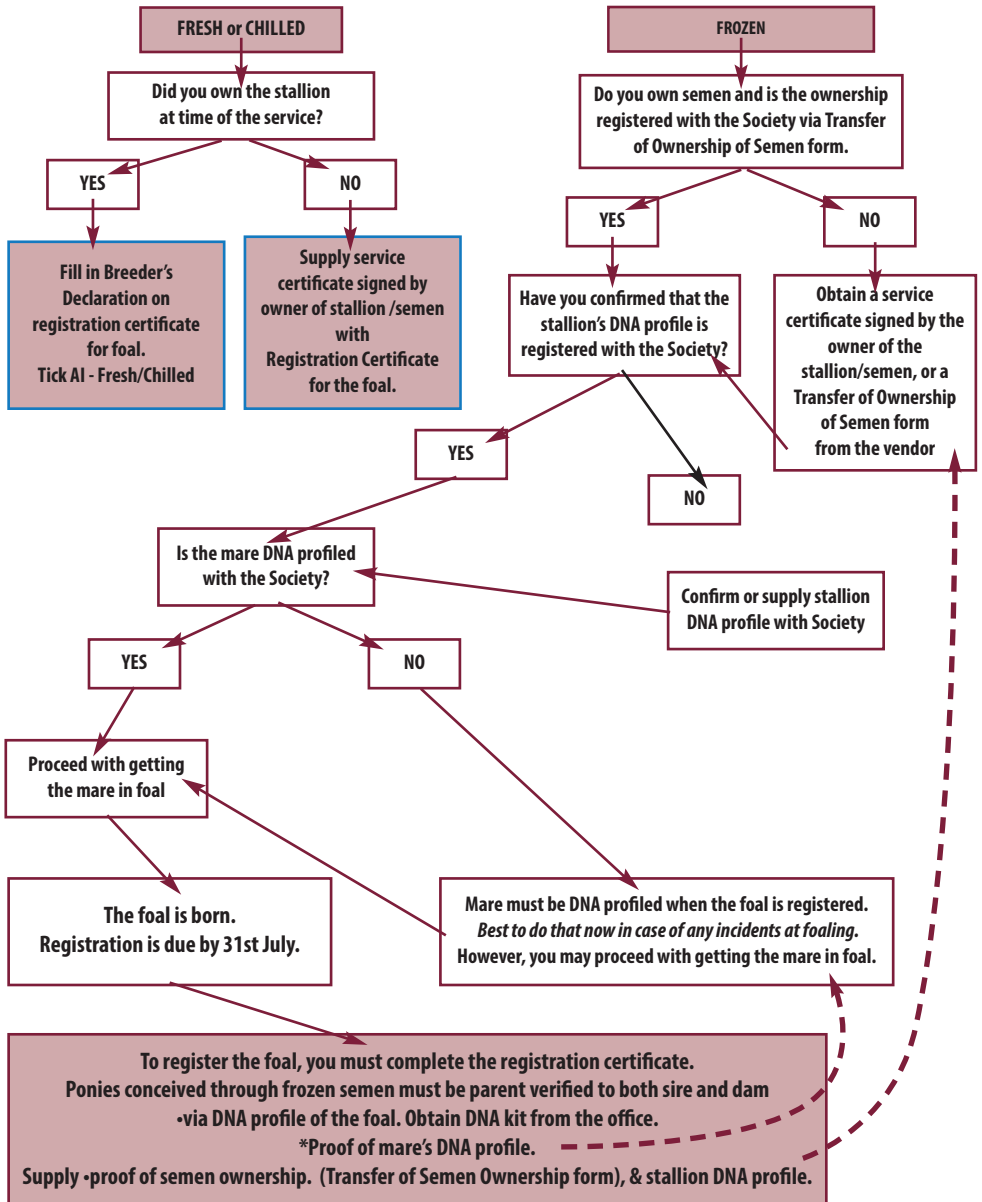
Registering a pony conceived through AI – frozen semen

- Ponies conceived through frozen semen must be parent verified to both sire and dam. For a WPCS registered stallion the DNA will already be on file, therefore DNA profiles will only need to be done for the pony being registered and the dam - the foal must be DNA profiled. The cost for DNA profiling / parent verification may be obtained from the current WPCSA list of fees.
- It is strongly recommended that DNA for the dam is done prior to foaling in the unfortunate event that the mare dies giving birth
- Where the Society does not have the DNA profile of the stallion on record, it must be forwarded to the office for allocation of a DNA number and for parent verification of progeny
- The registration form should have the AI frozen semen box ticked at the breeder's declaration
- If the breeder is not the recorded owner of the sire/semen at insemination, either a service certificate signed by the owner of the stallion/semen at the time of insemination or a Transfer of Ownership of Semen form (if the semen has been purchased) must be supplied.

For more information about regulations covering artificial insemination, please refer to www.wpcs.com.au > The Society > Stud Book Regulations > 25. Or consult the Registrar registrar@wpcs.com.au



Planning on breeding AI? ... this chart may be helpful





CLASSIFICATIONS OF WELSH PONIES AND COBS

Section A Ponies of Mountain Type, not exceeding 12hh.

Section B Not exceeding 13.2 hh.

Section C Ponies (Cob Type) not exceeding 13.2 hh.

Section D Cobs. Should be over 13.2 hh. with no upper limit.

Foundation Stock – Appendix to each of the above four Sections.

To increase the available breeding stock in the early days of the Society, female animals were accepted into the Foundation Stock Appendix subject to the rules and regulations of the Society. The approved mares were put to a Pure Welsh Stallion and the resulting foals were eligible to be added to the Foundation Stock Appendix as FS mares carrying 50% Welsh blood. These rules were in line with those of the parent body in the UK. FS mares were then returned to a Welsh Stallion and the next generation of females were registered as FS1 and FS2. Registered animals are entitled to be shown as Pure Welsh. For more information on the registration of Foundation stock and the closing dates for the appendices for FS animals please refer to the current Rules and Regulations for Entry of Stock in the Welsh Stud book available on our website.

Section E - Geldings.

All Welsh geldings come under the umbrella of Section E in the studbook. However, their breeding is noted on their registration certificate ie. Section E Gelding of (A) Breeding. At WPCS Australia Inc. events, the classes are usually in the Section of the Studbook from which their breeding is derived, ie. Gelding of Section A breeding. Over height geldings are eligible to be shown in their relevant class. Show preparation: geldings are usually presented in the same manner as mares and stallions in their breed section.

Part Welsh Register - Mares, Stallions and Geldings.

Height – no upper or lower height. The Welsh Breed is in great demand for crossing with other breeds. A pony, horse or cob, either male or female is eligible for entry into the Part-Welsh Register provided it is certified that the breeding of the animal shows no less than 12.5% of proven Welsh blood, calculated from either sire or dam, or cumulative from both.

Part-Welsh horses and ponies excel in all disciplines.



THE WELSH MOUNTAIN PONY

Not exceeding 12 hands high - 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 matured stallions.
- Shoulders** Long and sloping well back. Withers moderately fine, but not 'knifey'. The humerus is 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 knees, 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.
- Hindquarters** Lengthy and fine. Not cobby, 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 leg is not to be too bent. The hock is 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, knees and hocks well flexed with straight and powerful leverage and well under the body.



THE WELSH PONY

Not exceeding 13.2 hands high - 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.

DESCRIPTION OF THE WELSH PONY (COB TYPE) AND THE WELSH COB

**Section C (not exceeding 13.2 hands) The Welsh Pony of Cob Type,
Section C is the stronger counterpart of the Welsh Pony but with Cob Blood.
and Section D (Should be over 13.2 hands high with no upper limit)**

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

Breeding between Sections

Welsh ponies and cobs are the Breed for all the Family thanks to their temperament, soundness, and performance abilities!

No other breed has a type that will fulfil all needs for any purpose. From the 12 hands and under Welsh Mountain Pony (Section A), the up to 13.2 Welsh Pony (Section B) and Welsh Pony of Cob Type (Section C) and the Section D Welsh Cob (preferred over 13.2 but with no upper limit), Welsh ponies and cobs and the versatile Part Welsh are suitable for every discipline. From child's pony to harness pony, right through to the top level ridden animal, including dressage, a Welsh pony, cob or Part Welsh can do it all.

Breeders sometimes cross between Sections. The Section of the resulting progeny is shown below.

A x A = A

B x B = B

C x C = C

A x B = B

B x C = C

C x D = C or D

A x C = C

B x D = C or D

D x D = D

A x D = C or D



COLOURS AND MARKINGS OF PONIES for IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES

BODY COLOURS

The principle colours are black, brown, bay and chestnut. Where there is any doubt as to the colour, the muzzle and eyelids should be carefully examined for guidance.

Black - Where black pigment is general throughout the coat, limbs, mane and tail, with no pattern factor present other than white markings. Black ponies are born a charcoal colour ranging from pale ash to bluish grey. Foals which are born jet black will turn grey.

Brown - Where there is a mixture of black and brown pigment in the coat, with black limbs, mane and tail, except in the soft parts, i.e. around the muzzle and eyes, behind the elbows, in the flank, and sometimes between the hind legs, where the hair is of a lighter colour. These may look black apart from the pigmented soft parts.

Bay - Bay varies considerably in shade from dull red approaching brown, to a yellowish colour approaching chestnut, but it can be distinguished from the chestnut by the fact that the bay has a black mane and tail and almost invariably black on at least the bottom of the limbs. The ears have a black line around them. Bay horses are born with dark skin, unlike chestnuts. The lighter shades can sometimes be misidentified as 'buckskin' or 'dun'. Unless the pony has a dilute parent, whether the dilution is caused by the cream, dun or taffy dilution it cannot be buckskin, dun or taffy.

Buckskin – (Often previously referred to as Dun) Produced by the action of the cream gene (Ccr) on a bay or brown base coat with the shade varying from pale cream through gold to sooty with a lot of black hairs in the coat depending on whether the cream gene is working on pale bay, normal bay or brown. The mane and tail are predominantly black or brown but may contain white hair.

Dilute Black – (Previously known as Black Buckskin and referred to by geneticists as Smoky Black.) Occurs on a black base animal which carries a single cream dilution gene. It is usually very difficult, if not impossible, to visually distinguish from black as cream dilution does not work on black hair.



Above: Buckskin: Produced by the action of the creme gene on a bay or brown coat. There is no dorsal stripe, but may be dark shading. Taina Goron's Section D stallion Rockfire Monarch at Sydney Royal. Photo: Julie Wilson.

Chestnut - This colour consists of yellow coloured hair in different degrees of intensity, which may be noted if thought desirable. The mane and tail of a chestnut may not necessarily be the same colour as its body and can range in colour from silver, through flaxen, salt and pepper to dark liver. Chestnuts have no black hairs on their limbs or in their manes and tails although the liver colouring can be mistaken for such. Chestnuts are born with salmon coloured skin which rapidly darkens to black within a few days.

Silver - (Previously referred to as Taffy or Silver Dapple) is another dilution and it affects only black pigment; it has no effect on chestnut. It acts on a black/brown/bay horse to produce colour known as black/brown or bay silver which may or may not



have dapples. The body colour varies from almost bay to almost black with the mane and tail usually being creamy white or streaky and the black points diluted to a washed out colour. Silver will only be recorded upon presentation of a DNA Colour test proving the presence of the Silver gene unless a parent has already been tested.

Palomino - (Previously referred to as Cream) - A coat colour ranging from pale cream to dark gold with dark skin. Sometimes the coat shows dark hairs (smutting). The mane and tail are white or cream but may contain black or chestnut hairs. Produced by the action of the cream gene (Ccr) on a chestnut base. Can be mistaken for a silver if the cream dilution gene is working over a very dark chestnut base coat colour.

Cremello - Pale cream colour with pink skin and pale glass-blue eyes and a white or pale ivory coloured mane and tail. If one or both parents are grey they may also be genetically, grey: in this case, any progeny may inherit the gene for grey and those that do will eventually grey out to become a stark white colour. Cremello is produced when the creme gene (Ccr) is doubled on a chestnut base, and can also mask roan and the progeny of a genetic Cremello/roan may also be roan.

Below: Cremello - pale cream colour with pink skin and glassy blue eyes. Produced when the creme gene is doubled on a chestnut base. Masks all colours including grey and roan. Section B filly Prinley Park White Rose.





Above: Perlino, pale cream colour with pink skin and glassy blue eyes, like cremello, but the points, mane and tail may show a shade darker. Section A filly Woranora Tia is perlino/roan. Photo: Glenys Lilley.

Perlino – Pale cream colour with pink skin and blue eyes like the Cremello, but the points, mane and tail may show a shade darker. Perlino is produced when the cream gene (Ccr) is doubled on a black, bay or brown base.

Grey - Where the body coat is a varying mosaic of black and white hairs, with the skin black. With increasing age the coat grows lighter in colour. As there are many variations according to age and season, all of them should be described by the general term 'grey'. It is important to always note the birth colour of a grey.

Roan – A Roan must have a roan parent or one which was born roan but on which the action of the greying or cream gene has masked the roan. Roans are distinguished by the base colour, which is permanent and should be described as 'bay roan', 'black roan', 'chestnut roan', 'brown roan', 'buckskin roan' etc. A roan has an admixture of white hairs and the base colour on the body, but the head and legs remain the base



colour. Generally a roan foal is born a solid colour with the roan pattern becoming evident with the first change of coat. Roans may occur on any colour including dilutes, palomino and buckskin. When roan occurs on cremello, perlino and grey it is masked and so is impossible to visually distinguish. Palomino and buckskin roans can be difficult to distinguish and may only be identified by the base colour spearing up the forearms.



Above: Twin Section B fillies, chestnut roan Keyi Cherish and chestnut Keyi Chance. Cherish very clearly shows roan distinguishing characteristics - her head is the base colour (chestnut) and the base colour on her knees comes to a point.



Left: Bay Section B filly Imperial Manika showing extensive white ticking associated with Rabicano - note the silver in the tail.

Overo (only occurs in Part Welsh) - These have irregular white patches which appear to spread horizontally on the body and do not cross the spine. Legs are the base colour unless the animal is showing the effects of the Sabino gene, in which case they will show white markings on the lower parts. Lethal in a homozygous state.

Tobiano (only occurs in Part Welsh) - These usually have white areas which cross the spine with the head as the base colour with or without white markings, white legs and often bi coloured tails.

Ticking – Flecking (refer body and leg markings)

Sabino – (refer body and leg markings)



Dun: This is a very rare colour in Welsh Ponies and Cobs, produced by the action of the Dun gene. The dorsal stripe extending into the tail and mane is characteristic. Also seen here, shoulder barring and below: ear tipping and leg bar. Also she is going grey.. Highland Pony mares at a show in Scotland. Photo: C Mil-

Dun (only occurs in Part Welsh) -

Another dilution which will be expressed on all body colours. The base colour is retained but lightened and is a 'flat' tone so can vary from pale chestnut, through flat bay to black-grey or even a 'flat' shade of palomino or buckskin as it can be found in combination with the creme dilution gene as well. The skin is black (unless working on cremello or perlino), mane, tail and legs are the base colour (eg chestnut, black) and darker than the rest of the body, usually black or dark as are the legs. Duns have very distinct dorsal stripe extending into the mane and tail and widening over the loins, ear tipping extending over the top half of the ear and usually 'primitive' markings including leg and shoulder



barring and mottling. Dun is produced by the Dun gene (D). This is a different dilution to Creme (CCr) and can occur in a homozygous form as a Dun. It can occur in conjunction with any colour including Creme dilution.

Coat Colour terms no longer used -

Cream, Skewbald, Piebald, Pinto, Taffy.



ACCEPTABLE MARKINGS

THE POSITIONS of all white markings must be stated on the application for registration. **Trace line** - is a line drawn through the points of the shoulder to the point of the stifle. **Note** - any continuity from white legs to above the line is acceptable. i.e. any patch which goes above the line but is connected to a leg marking. Any case not clear cut will be referred to the Editing Committee and thereafter to Committee of Management.

HEAD MARKINGS

Star - Any white mark on the forehead. Size, shape, intensity, position, and coloured markings (if any) on the white are to be specified. Should the marking in the region of the centre of the forehead consist of a few white hairs only it should be so described and not referred to as a star.

Stripe - In the majority of cases the star and stripe are continuous and should be described as 'star and stripe conjoined'. Where the stripe is separate and distinct from the star it should be described as 'broken stripe'. Where no star is present the point of origin of the stripe should be indicated. Any variation in width direction and any markings on the white should be stated, including 'inclined to left/right' etc.

Blaze - A white marking covering almost the whole of the forehead between the eyes and extending beyond the width of the nasal bones and usually to the muzzle. Any variation in direction, termination and any markings on the white should be stated. e.g. 'broad blaze', 'narrow blaze'.

White Face - Where the white covers the forehead and front of the face, extending downwards towards the muzzle. The extension may be into the left or right or both nostrils, or covering both and extending further in. The positions of all white markings must be stated on the application for registration.

Snip - An isolated white marking, independent of those already named and situated between or in the region of the nostrils, its size, position and intensity should be specified.

Lip-markings - Should be described as the whole or a portion of either lip.

Flesh Marks - Patches where the pigment of the skin is absent should be described as flesh marks.



①



②



③



④



⑤



⑥



⑦



⑧



⑨



⑩



⑪



⑫



⑬



⑭



⑮



⑯

Description of markings

- ① Wide blaze including eyes, over muzzle
- ② Blaze
- ③ Narrow star conjoined stripe
- ④ Star
- ⑤ Blaze onto upper lip
- ⑥ Star stripe conjoined
- ⑦ Star, small stripe
- ⑧ Snip
- ⑨ Star, small snip
- ⑩ Star stripe conjoined onto upper lip
- ⑪ Snip
- ⑫ Snip into nostrils over upper lip
- ⑬ Lower lip
- ⑭ Snip
- ⑮ Muzzle
- ⑯ Upper lip



White Muzzle - Where the white extends to the region of the nostrils and may include lips.

Wall-Eye / Blue Eye - This term should be used exclusively where there is such a lack of pigment, either partial or complete, in the iris as to give a pinkish-white or bluish-white appearance to the eye. Any other important variations should be noted.

BODY AND LEG MARKINGS

Ticked - Where white hairs are separately distributed through the coat in any part of the body.

Sabino - The Sabino gene/s can be responsible for all white leg markings and can produce large areas of white with underlying pink skin and heavy ticking. Sabinos will usually have at least one white leg marking which spears upwards and a white chin spot. Markings which are extensive can include long white leg markings and belly splashes that may extend upwards into the body, a large blaze or white face and the chin spot. These ponies may also show extensive ticking and markings to produce an all white animal with dark eyes. Note this animal is not a cremello or perlino and heavy ticking should not be mistaken for roan.

Black marks - Should be used to describe small areas of black hairs among white or any other colour.

Spots - Where small, more or less circular, collection of hairs differing from the general body colour occur, distributed in various parts of the body.

Patch - Should be used to describe any larger well defined irregular area of hairs differing from the general body colour.

Whorls – (cowlicks) these are small areas about the size of a 50 cent piece where the hair grows in a swirl pattern. Irregular setting of coat hairs and whorls should be indicated by an X.

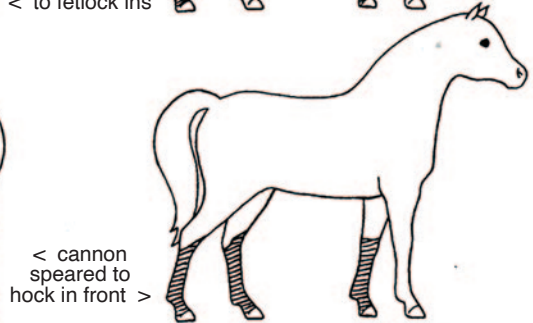
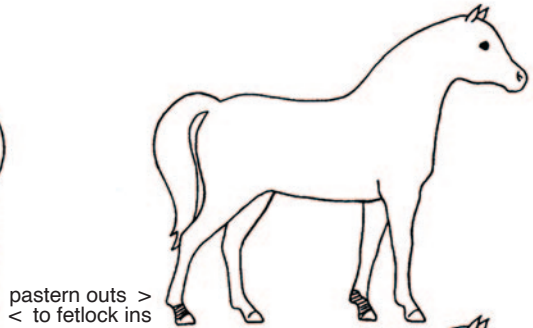
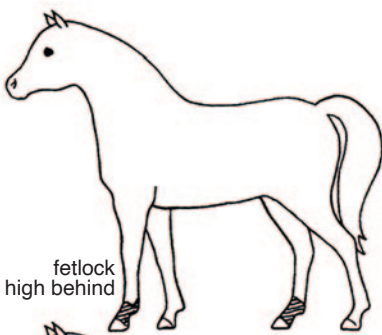
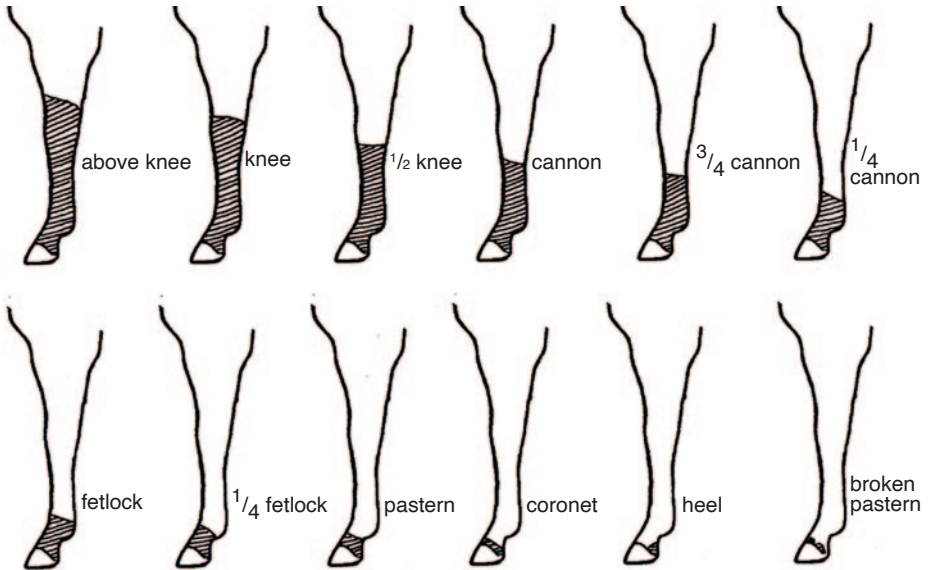
Hoofs - Any variation in the colour of the hoofs should be noted.

White Leg Markings - Any white markings on the legs should be accurately defined and the extent precisely stated, e.g. $\frac{1}{4}$ cannon, $\frac{1}{2}$ cannon, cannon, fetlock, pastern, coronet etc. The use of such terms as sock and stocking should be discontinued.

Ermine Spots – are small to large spots of colour on the coronet band close to the hoof, these should be noted.

Zebra marks - Where there is striping on the limbs, neck, withers or quarters

Mane and Tail - The presence of differently coloured hairs in mane and tail should be noted.





WELSH PONY & COB SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA INC.

Members General Code of Conduct

ALL MEMBERS AND NON-MEMBERS must comply with the following standards of conduct and behaviour during shows and activities conducted by the Welsh Pony & Cob Society of Australia Inc. (WP&CS of Aust. Inc.), at other shows and activities where they attend or participate as members, and in any role they hold within the Society.

Standards of Conduct

Respect and Professional Behaviour

- Treat others with respect, dignity and fairness.
- Be considerate, honest and professional in all dealings.
- Accept responsibility for your actions and maintain high standards of personal conduct.
- Do not engage in harassment, intimidation or any behaviour that could bring the Society into disrepute.

Integrity and Responsibility

- Follow the Society's rules and regulations and help protect its standing and reputation.
- Do not use privileged information to gain a personal or commercial advantage.
- Never use your position for personal gain, to avoid responsibility, or to unfairly prevent another person from exercising their rights.
- Be aware of your legal responsibilities and respect the legal rights of others.
- Do not use your involvement with the Society to promote personal beliefs, behaviours or practices that are inconsistent with the Society's values.

Working with Young People

- Be a positive role model, especially when interacting with people under 18 years of age.
- Ensure interactions with people under 18 are appropriate and avoid unaccompanied or unobserved activities wherever practical.

Safety and Welfare

- Provide a safe environment for all activities.
- Show care and caution towards anyone who is sick or injured.
- Comply at all times with the Codes of Practice for the Welfare of Horses and the Land Transport of Horses.
- Understand the consequences of breaching this Code of Conduct.



Code of Conduct for Competitors and Exhibitors

In addition to the Society's General Code of Conduct, competitors and exhibitors must meet the following standards at any show or activity held or sanctioned by the WP&CS of Aust. Inc.

Respect for Others

- Treat fellow competitors, judges, stewards, officials, volunteers and spectators with respect, dignity and fairness.
- Respect the talent, potential and development of fellow competitors.
- Do not engage in, encourage or tolerate aggressive behaviour.

Professional Conduct

- Conduct yourself professionally in language, behaviour, punctuality and dress.
- Be courteous and kind and set a positive example through your conduct and presentation.
- Maintain high standards of personal behaviour at all times.

Rules and Decisions

- Comply with the rules of the Society and respect the decisions of officials.
- Lodge any appeal through the formal process and respect the final outcome.

Bullying

The WP&CS of Aust. Inc. is committed to providing a safe and respectful environment at all Society events. Bullying is not acceptable under any circumstances.

Bullying directed at any official, competitor, volunteer or other participant is inappropriate and will be addressed promptly and confidentially by the Committee of Management once a report is received. Any person who believes they have been bullied or intimidated should submit the matter in writing to the Committee of Management.

For further information about bullying, refer to the Anti-Bullying & Harassment Policy.

Consequences of Breaching This Policy

- Breaches of this Code of Conduct will be managed in accordance with the formal disciplinary procedures set out in the Society's Rules.
- Depending on the seriousness of the behaviour, disciplinary action may be taken against any member who breaches this policy.
- Disciplinary action may include formal warnings and, in serious cases, suspension of membership.

The Welsh Pony & Cob Society of Australia can only address complaints regarding breaches of this policy / code if the correct procedure for submitting a complaint is followed.



WELSH PONY & COB SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA INC.

Social Media Policy

Rationale

SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS have become powerful tools for communication, allowing individuals, groups, and organisations to connect and share information without the limitations of geography. These platforms include, but are not limited to, blogs, forums, networking sites, and video-sharing services. Content shared can take various forms - written, visual, or audio-visual - and has the potential to reach wide audiences instantaneously.

While the benefits of increased communication and engagement are significant, these platforms also carry risks. Misuse or inappropriate conduct on social media can have serious reputational, legal, and ethical implications for both individuals and the Welsh Pony and Cob Society of Australia (WP&CS of Aust Inc) as a whole. This policy provides a framework to guide responsible, respectful, and professional social media use within the WP&CS of Aust Inc community.

Purpose

This Social Media Policy outlines the expectations, responsibilities, and obligations of all members, judges, contractors, and affiliates of the WP&CS of Aust Inc when engaging with social media platforms. It aims to protect the integrity and reputation of the Society and its members while fostering respectful and responsible online participation.

Scope

This Policy applies to:

- All WP&CS of Aust Inc members (including youth and life members)
- Judges and stewards
- Committee members, staff, and volunteers
- Affiliates and event organisers
- It applies to all social media use - both personal and professional - when representing or discussing WP&CS of Aust Inc related matters.

Definitions

- **Social Media:** Includes but is not limited to Facebook, Instagram, X (Twitter), YouTube, TikTok, WhatsApp, Snapchat, blogs, forums, podcasts, and other digital communication platforms.
- **Confidential Information:** Any information not publicly available that pertains to WP&CS of Aust Inc operations, strategies, member data, and private correspondence.



- **Disparaging Comments:** Posts or messages that malign, defame, insult, or otherwise negatively impact the reputation of the Society or its members.
- **Malign:** To speak about someone in a spitefully critical manner, intending to damage their reputation.
- **Defame:** To publish or communicate false information that harms the reputation of an individual or group.
- **Insult:** To speak or act in a way that is disrespectful or scornful, causing offence or hurt to others.
- **Committee Member:** For the purpose of this policy, a committee member includes any individual holding a formal position (such as Chairperson, Treasurer, Secretary, Promotions Officer, etc.) on a WP&CS of Aust Inc national, regional, or sub-committee. This also includes any person co-opted into such roles, any delegate of a Show Sub-Committee or Regional Promotional Group, and any person recorded in the official minutes as having attended a meeting of a WP&CS of Aust Inc committee, Regional Promotional Group, or Show Sub-Committee, regardless of voting status or official title.

Member Responsibilities

All members must:

- Engage respectfully and responsibly on social media.
- Uphold the values and reputation of WP&CS of Aust Inc.
- Avoid making negative, defamatory, or misleading comments about the Society, events, judges, members, or affiliates.
- Not share confidential or sensitive information.
- Use appropriate language and tone.
- Consider the legal and ethical impact of posts, avoiding any content that may be perceived as confidential, dishonest, defamatory, threatening, 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.
- Understand that the person responsible for a Facebook page may be held liable if defamatory posts are not deleted, even when posted by another person.
- Understand that a person who did not create the defamatory material, but only shares it (for instance, by “retweeting” a tweet, or sharing a Facebook post), can also be held liable and found guilty of defamation.
- Report any suspected misuse of WP&CS of Aust Inc related social media to the Committee of Management.
- When referencing the WP&CS of Aust Inc online, members should make it clear whether they are speaking in a personal capacity or representing the organisation.



Sub-Committees & Regional Promotional Groups Responsibilities

All members involved in WP&CS of Aust Inc Regional Promotional Groups, Sub-Committees, or Working Parties must adhere to the following additional responsibilities:

- Recognise that any social media accounts, blogs, or sites that represent or are associated with a Regional Promotional Group, Sub-Committee, or Working Party operate under the WP&CS of Aust Inc banner and therefore reflect on the Society as a whole.
- Ensure that confidential or sensitive information is not published or disclosed via any online platform.
- Consider the legal, ethical, and reputational implications of all content posted, avoiding any material that may be perceived as dishonest, malicious, defamatory, threatening, slanderous, or otherwise inappropriate.
- Uphold the WP&CS of Aust Inc Members' Code of Conduct in all digital communications.
- Promptly report any concerns about inappropriate or harmful social media use related to Society activities to the Committee of Management.

Official WP&CS of Aust Inc. Social Media

All official posts must reflect the Society's values and uphold a professional standard. Only individuals authorised by the WP&CS of Aust Inc Committee of Management may:

- Post content on official WP&CS of Aust Inc social media channels.
- Represent the Society in public online discussions.
- Use official logos, images, or branding materials.

Reporting and Complaints

If any member identifies content that breaches this policy or brings the Society into disrepute, they are encouraged to report it in writing to the WP&CS of Aust Inc Committee of Management. Reports will be handled confidentially and in accordance with the Society's disciplinary procedures.

Breaches and Disciplinary Action

Failure to comply with this policy may result in disciplinary action as per The Welsh Pony & Cob Society of Australia Incorporated Rules: Point 16 Discipline of a Member.

All disciplinary outcomes will be determined by the Committee of Management following a fair and transparent process.

Review

This policy will be reviewed every two years or sooner if required by the WP&CS of Aust Inc Committee of Management.

The Welsh Pony & Cob Society of Australia can only address complaints regarding breaches of this policy/code if the correct procedure for submitting a complaint is followed.



Showing your Welsh registered Pony, Cob or Part Welsh

WHEN SHOWING YOUR Welsh Pony, Cob or Part Welsh, there are events Australia wide organised by Regional Promotional Groups and Sub-committees of the Welsh Pony & Cob Society. Whether you are stepping into the show ring for the first time or working towards higher-level competition, showing is a wonderful way to celebrate what makes these ponies so special.

Preparation and familiarity with the Show Regulations and other information including correct presentation and eligibility for classes is important and helps before and during events.

Whether you come home with a ribbon or simply enjoy being part of fun events, every show is an opportunity to learn, improve and enjoy your pony.

From local agricultural shows to major breed events, showing Welsh Ponies and Cobs makes you part of the 'Welsh' community, sharing your passion for this wonderful breed.

WP&CS of Australia Inc Show Regulations

Up to date Show Regulations can be found on the Society website.

wpcs.com.au > SHOWING/JUDGES > Show Regulations

