

IRISH PARTHENAISE CATTLE BREED SOCIETY LIMITED
Herd Book Rules

1. Herd Book of the Society

The Irish Parthenaise Cattle Breed Society Limited, here after known as the "Society", shall maintain one or more registers as follows.

- a) A register of the particulars of the pedigree, status and performance of eligible Parthenaise pedigree cattle here after known as the "Animals".
- b) Such information as the Council may from time to time decide.

2. Definition of Breed Characteristics

Mature cows are well-framed very attractive animals, which weigh up to 950kgs while bulls weigh up to an impressive 1250kgs. The cows are tan or wheaten in colour with black points around the eyes and ears, the bulls are darker with dark brown or black on the neck, head and underside of the body. Both sexes have hard black hoofs, black tail whisk and nose with lighter white colour around the muzzle. Cows must have black skin pigmentation in the anal and vaginal area. Bulls must have black skin pigmentation in the anal area and black skin on the end of the scrotum. White on the legs is also desirable.

3. Definition of Breeding Objectives

To promote and improve the Parthenaise breed of cattle. The society may from time to time encourage a targeted breeding programme .

4. Division of Herd Book

The herd book is composed of a main section and a supplementary section.

Main Section

To qualify for entry into the Main Section of the herd book an animal shall:

- Be descended from parents and grandparents entered in the Herd Book or another E.U. Herd Book for the Parthenaise Breed.
- Be identified at birth according to the rules of the Herd Book.
- Have a pedigree established in accordance with the rules of the Herd Book.

The Main section of the Herd book is divided into two classes.

Class I: These animals comply with all the characteristics of the breed and are free from genetic defects, and have been subject to a linear scoring inspection.

Class II: These animals meet the minimum criteria for entry in the Main Section but have not been subject to linear scoring, have an undesirable breed characteristic and/or are carriers of genetic defects.

Supplementary Section

Animals that do not meet the criteria for entry into the main section may be entered in to the supplementary section subject to the following conditions;

- (i) The animal is identified in accordance with the herd book rules.
- (ii) Be judged to conform to the breed standard
- (iii) The animal has at least one parent who is a pure bred Parthenaise, which has been confirmed by DNA typing.

Grading Up: Females whose mother and maternal grandmother are entered in the supplementary section of the herd book, and whose father and two grandfathers are entered in the main section of the herd book, and provided all have been confirmed by DNA typing shall be regarded as pure bred and entered into the main section of the herd book.

An animal from another Member State shall be entered in the class of the book whose criteria it meets.

5. System of Identifying Animals

- (a) Their National Identification Number identifies animals in the herd book.
- (b) Each animal must be named; the first letter of the name must be that of the current Society year letter. For example, the year letter for 2005 was A therefore each animal born in 2005 will have a name beginning with A (French Alphabet 20 letters).
- (c) Each member must make an application to register an approved prefix name. This prefix name shall not have been allocated to another member of the Society, either in the past or present. This shall be applicable to all animals bred and notified by that member, either alone or jointly with any partner or any persons in any one herd.
- (d) Another member may not contemporaneously use a herd name that has been used by one member. The Council at their discretion may approve herd name transfers.

6. System of Recording Pedigrees

- (a) The Society reserves the right to refuse to accept the notification of birth of a calf where the data provided is deemed to be deficient or inaccurate.
- (b) Where AI technicians are not using handhelds, breeders are required to submit copies of AI docketts as evidence of insemination. These docketts shall be retained on file for inspection and reference.
- (c) Where a breeder is a DIY operator, the society retains the provision to implement random checks to obtain details of the breeder's DIY licence number and expiry date check straws that the breeder has purchased.
- (d) 10% of registrations will be DNA typed at random in any year. This rule will apply in addition to other DNA testing requirements.
- (e) The Society reserves the right to withdraw any certificate without refund if the animal fails parentage verification. The onus is on the breeder to ensure that all details on the Pedigree Certificate are correct. The Society will not be responsible for lost or mislaid forms.
- (f) The cost of any DNA typing will be paid by the member and the Society reserves the right to request the owner to do additional DNA/blood typing at his/her own expense if deemed necessary by the Council.
- (g) The council has decided that all bull calves to be registered must be genomically proofed and all heifer calves will have hairs collected and stored for future reference.

7. Embryo Transfers:

(i) All donor cows for embryo transfer or bulls used for A.I. breeding purposes must be DNA typed by an approved laboratory before progeny can be accepted for registration.

(ii) Embryos must be notified at the time of collection on the appropriate embryo registration form, which must be properly and accurately filled out and signed by both the owner of the donor female and the representative of the approved collection team. Original copy should be sent to the Society within 14 days of collection of the embryos. The breeder is advised to keep a photocopy for his/her own records.

(iii) When an embryo is notified, as above, in any way changes its status by means of thawing, implantation, change of ownership etc., this change of status must be notified to the Society on an approved Embryo Amendment Form appropriately signed.

(iv) In the case of calves born as the result of embryo transfer, both donor sire and dam must be DNA typed and the resultant calf must have its parentage verified by an approved laboratory within 12 months of birth.

8. Certificate of Registration

(a) All calves must be registered at birth with Animal Events, for entry in the Main Herd Book. Only the breeder or the owner who has purchased an incalf pedigree animal may register a calf.

(b) A certificate of registration, with the animal's ancestry shall be issued to the breeder by the Society when all registration criteria of Animal Events are met. The onus is on the breeder to verify that all information on the certificate is correct and if not, to contact the Society's office with corrections.

(c) On sale or transfer within Ireland of any animal, the vendor must supply its registration certificate. Purchasers of animals should return the official pedigree certificate together with the appropriate transfer fee to the Society.

(d) In the event that a breeder wishes to remove an animal he has bred from the pedigree register he may do so by informing the society secretary and returning the pedigree certificate if it has been issued. A partial refund of registration fee may apply.

9. Inspections

(a) The Irish Cattle Breeding Federation has put a programme of official scoring and inspection in place. Participation in this programme is compulsory for animals registered in Class I of the herd book. All breeders are encouraged to take part in this programme.

(b) A programme of official weight recording, progeny and performance testing may be operated in conjunction with the appropriate official approved body. Such data may be entered on the herd book certificate as decided by the Council.

10. Imports

Each imported animal must be registered with the Society as soon as possible by submitting the official Herd Book Pedigree certificate of the country of origin together with the normal registration fee.

Imported embryos should be registered with the Society, applying the same criteria and fees as home produced embryos. Copies of official documentation must be applied as appropriate, including copies of the official Herd Book. Both donor animals must be DNA typed and the resulting calf's parentage verified.

Export of animals, embryos, semen etc., should comply with the national legislation in place at the time.

11. Membership

To be admitted a member of the Society by the Board, an applicant shall be

(a) The owner or part owner in Ireland of a pure bred breeding Parthenaise female eligible to be registered in a Herd Book, within 18 months of joining the Society.

(b) The breeder of an embryo calf whether male or female provided that the calf parentage be verified by DNA typing to be of parents already registered in the Irish Parthenaise Cattle Breed Society herd book or in the herd book of a recognised foreign Parthenaise Cattle Breed Society.

(c) A herd name that has been used by a member of the society may not be contemporaneously be used by another member. The council of the society at their discretion may approve herd name transfers

(d) Each member shall cooperate with any inspections of the society that the society may call to do as random spot checks etc. from time to time.

(e) The society shall have the right to maintain a computerised record of member's transactions with the society and have the right to penalise members in breach of procedures vital to the accurate maintenance and integrity of the herd book of the society.

(f) The society may provide for if they so desire for associate membership of overseas or commercial breeders but these shall not enjoy the full voting rights of full members as under the articles of the society.

(g) The council of the society may from time to time set or make changes in the fees or penalties for membership, prefix, registration (homebred or imported), late notification penalties, embryo registration, export certification and transfer and any other fees in force.

(i) It is a condition of membership of the Society that all members join Animal Events and undertakes to partake in those elements of the Society's breed improvement programme.

(j) The Society and its council will at all times act in a non-discriminatory and fair manner when dealing with and adjudicating on disputes between itself and member(s) or adjudicating between members.

(k) Each person on being admitted a member shall be given a copy of the current Herd Book Rules

12. Livestock Performance Data

Performance data on the breed is collected and analysed by the Irish Cattle Breed Federation (ICBF) to develop genetic evaluations i.e. 'Euro Stars' for within the breed and across breeds for terminal and maternal indexes. Genetic evaluation for bulls can be accessed on-line through the ICBF website.

13. Breed Improvement Programme

The society's promotes improvement of the breed of which details are listed in Appendix 1.

14. Governance

The Society shall be led by the governing Council (committee) of 18 members elected on a rotational basis by members of the society. Council members will be elected for 4 years and will be eligible for re-election if they so desire, and have been nominated for re-election Members may nominate other members to contest the positions being vacated on the council annually. In year one 4 members will retire and in year two 5 members will retire and this rotation will be repeated in subsequent years.

In the event of retirement, death or disqualification of a member of the council the council may co-opt a member to serve until the next AGM at which time she/he the co-opted member may put them self forward for election and/or another member may be nominated to contest the position. This member when elected will enter the rotational position of the council member he replaces.

Council members are required to be diligent to their position and consequently if any member fails to attend three consecutive council meetings without excusing himself /herself then that member shall be deemed to have disqualified themselves from the council and a vacancy will occur.

The council will on the first meeting subsequent to the AGM each year elect the officers of the society and form any subcommittees that they deem to be necessary to further the benefit and growth of the society.

The council may co-opt to the subcommittees people that they determine have a contribution to make to the society.

15. Presentation/Documentation/Data Protection and Limitations of Liability

A condition of membership is that the member agrees:

- (a) To the Society storing on computer his/her transactions, Herd Book information or any other details, which will be updated/maintained by the Society and or any other Society approved third party.
- (b) To the Society publishing and or supplying any and all information relating to his/her transactions/Herd Book information which the Society or any Society approved third party may choose to publish from time to time.
- (c) Not to alter, change edit or amend any information presented on documentation supplied by the Society.
- (d) Not to represent themselves, their views, ideas, or documentation as anything other than their own and as a single subscriber of membership to the Society.
- (e) To review all documentation upon receipt, that is supplied by the Society, to ensure that it is correct and complete.
- (f) To return without delay any documentation supplied by the Society upon receipt on finding any document to be incorrect or incomplete.

(g) To accept all legal responsibility for maintenance and presentation of documentation supplied by the by the Society related to any and all animals, which the member has registered in the Society's Herd Book.

(h) To return to the Society any and all documentation upon request from the Society when the Society so chooses, for inspection, review, reissue of that documentation etc.

(i) To sole liability for any breach of his agreement and where the Society may be liable, it will be limited to:

i The replacement of the defective documentation where possible at no cost to the member.

ii If the above remedy is not applicable, to refund any fees paid to the Society for any defective documentation.

16. Appeals Procedure

The objective of this procedure is to provide a member who has a grievance with the Society an opportunity to have the grievance examined and resolved at the earliest practical moment and at the most local level possible.

While the matter is being considered under the Appeals Procedure the operation of the Society cannot be interrupted. The person(s) raising the matter shall continue to comply with the rules of the Society during the course of the examination of the matter in question. By so doing he/she will not create any precedent nor will his/her membership of the Society be prejudiced in any way in relation to the matter being processed.

The procedure to apply shall be as follows:

Stage 1

A member who feels aggrieved in relation to any matter pertaining to Society business should, in the first instance, write to the chairman of the Council of the Society, making it clear, that stage 1 of the appeal procedure is being invoked. The Chairman will reply as soon as is reasonably practicable, but in any case within thirty days from receipt of the letter from the appellant.

Stage 2

If the grievance is not resolved at Stage 1, or a reply is not forthcoming from the Council Chairman within 30 days, the member(s) may request in writing, that at their next council meeting the Council allow the member(s) to attend the meeting during the period that the grievance is being considered. The member will be allowed to make an oral submission on the grievance. The Council will then reconsider the issue and must communicate its decision to the appellant within thirty days.

Stage 3

If the issue remains unresolved after stage 2 the member(s) may request an independent hearing. The Council shall grant such a hearing. Appeals at Stage 3 will be heard by an individual or group of individuals with appropriate expertise, agreed by both parties to the dispute. From the date of appointment of the person(s) hearing the appeal, the case will be heard and the decision taken will be communicated to both parties within three months. The person(s) hearing the case will decide on the appointment of costs, as appropriate.

Stage 4

Any dispute that remains unresolved after stage 3 may be pursued by invoking provisions under the legal personality of the Society: ICOS.(1963 Companies Act as well or ICOS)

The Society expects all its members to abide by the rules, regulations and standards established by the Society.

Appendix 1

Breed Improvement Programme

The Council advises members to join the Beef Data Genomic Programme as a follow on to the BDP programme this will result in registered bull calves having a genomic profile.

Breeders are encouraged to avail of linear scoring for their animals, which will classify their animals into Class 1.

Breeders should avail of the 'eurostar' evaluation as a tool when making breeding decisions.

The Society annually attends the French Society's Parthenaise National Show to inspect the progeny of the French AI bulls to decide on what bull semen to import and recommend to breeders. Society members are encouraged to also attend this exhibition and avail of the opportunity to see the quality of the pedigree animals on show and visit French farms that has pedigree Parthenaise herds.

The Irish Parthenaise Cattle Breed Society annually sponsors show classes at national and local agricultural shows so as to encourage members to participate in showing their animals both pedigree and crossbred and so enable them to attract customers.

The Society also arranges, for member breeders and interested farmers, farm walks on farms of members and into other suckler herds that are using pedigree Parthenaise bulls so as to learn more about the breed and see how they thrive in working farms.