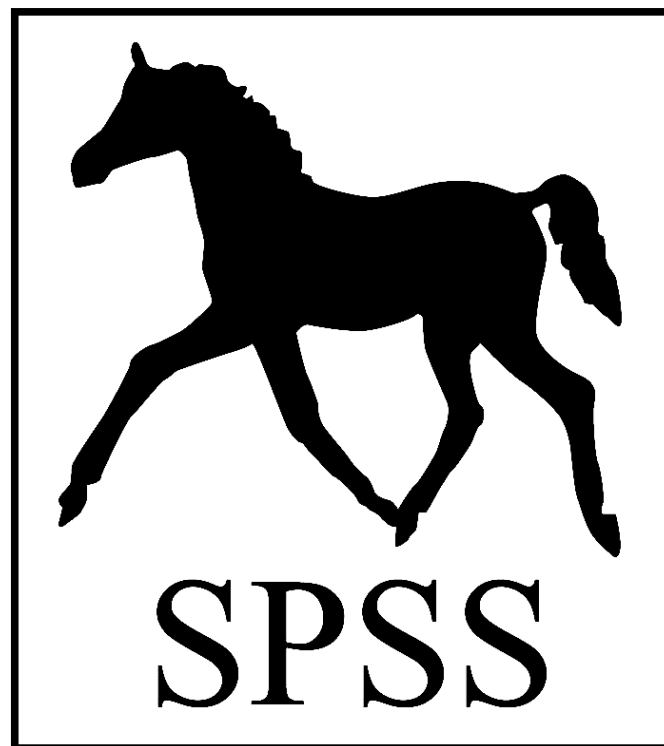




SPORTS PONY STUDBOOK SOCIETY

RULES AND REGULATIONS



JANUARY 2012

SPORTS PONY STUDBOOK SOCIETY

Legal status

The Sports Pony Studbook Society is a non-profit making company limited by guarantee with company registration number 4106148

The Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Sports Pony Studbook Society are available upon request from the SPSS Head Office or at Companies House.

The Sports Pony Studbook Society is recognised as efficient by the Department of the Environment and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) and is an approved Passport Issuing Organisation for equine passports.

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PART I: REGISTRATION AND PAPERS

Important note: In accordance with DEFRA and EU rules on indigenous breeds:

- * the SPSS pedigree papers will not be issued to any animal eligible for registration as a **pure-bred pony** with any Mountain and Moorland (indigenous pony breed) studbook listed with DEFRA. However, these ponies may be registered with SPSS and have their original papers over-stamped or documented accordingly provided they meet the criteria listed in Rule 3 below.
- * Pure-bred ponies of Mountain and Moorland breeds as defined above must be registered with and receive papers/passport documents from their native pony stud book even if both parents are graded with the SPSS.

1 SPSS Pedigree papers

1.1 Full (Section I) papers

These will be issued to the following:

- Progeny of two parents both graded with the SPSS (inc. temporarily graded/licenced stallions). Blue Papers
- Progeny of one parent graded with the SPSS and one parent graded/licenced with a warmblood or sporthorse studbook. Blue Papers.

1.2 Part-bred (Section II) papers

These will be issued to the following:

- Progeny of one parent graded with the SPSS. Cream Papers
- Progeny of SPSS Foundation Stud Book stallions. Cream Papers

For ponies conceived abroad or from imported semen, for '**graded with the SPSS**' read '**currently graded with a recognised sports pony stud book abroad**'.

1.3 Green (Section X) papers

In accordance with the EU Commission Decision 96/78 EC on 'criteria for entry and registration of equidae in stud-books for breeding purposes', **Green** (Section X) papers will be issued to any animal sired by an ungraded stallion with original Blue or Cream papers issued by the SPSS and out of an ungraded mare with original Blue or Cream papers issued by the SPSS.

Animals with Green papers will be eligible for SPSS grading in the normal way, with the following provisos:

- (i) Colts and stallions will be eligible for the Foundation Stud Book only
- (ii) Fillies and mares will be eligible for the Preliminary Stud Book only.

Should either or both of the parents of a Green-papered SPSS pony subsequently grade with SPSS then the Green papers can be upgraded to Cream or Blue as appropriate on payment of the appropriate fee. Graded status will also be amended where necessary.

2 Height restrictions

No adult stallion or mare over 158 cm will be eligible for SPSS grading but foals and youngstock with one SPSS graded parent and the other over height are eligible for registration and pedigree papers.

3 Registration of ponies with existing pedigree papers from other stud books

Over-stamping and/ or recording of pedigree (as appropriate) will be available to the following ponies:

- Pure-bred animals with papers issued by a stud book listed with DEFRA except for those of current Rare Breed status
- Part-bred animals with papers issued by a stud book listed with DEFRA
- Pure and part-bred animals with papers issued by a recognised foreign pony stud book

Over-stamping / recording of pedigree is an initial step in the grading process and such over-stamped or recorded ponies must successfully attend a SPSS grading in order to gain the status of a graded sports pony for breeding purposes.

PART II: GRADING AND LICENSING PROCEDURE FOR STALLIONS

4 SPSS Graded stallions

4.1 Eligibility for stallion grading

To be awarded a full SPSS Graded Stallion Licence a stallion must:

- be no more than 158 cm at maturity
- be at least two and a half years old
- **Have three full generations** of recorded pedigree and fit into one of the following categories:
 - (i) have Blue or Cream papers issued by the SPSS
 - (ii) have papers issued by the GSB, Weatherbys or an EU recognised sports pony stud book
 - (iii) have papers issued by a World Breeding Federation of Sport Horse member stud book or daughter stud book (eg AES, BWBS, SHBGB, BHHS, TBF)
 - (iv) have papers issued by another UK pony stud book listed with DEFRA **not currently of Rare Breed status** plus proof that the pony has been approved and/or licenced by its own stud book
- **EITHER** successfully attend an SPSS stallion grading or site inspection
OR have already been fully graded/approved with a foreign sports pony breed society prior to importation into the UK.

Any stallion presented for grading with a temporary (as distinct from lifetime) set of pedigree papers/passports issued by another stud book listed with DEFRA will have its documentation and bloodlines fully verified by the SPSS before its eligibility for grading can be confirmed.

4.2 Post-grading procedures

Upon grading with the SPSS a stallion will also need to:

- provide a DNA sample for parentage testing purposes
- provide a veterinary certificate to include freedom from hereditary disease
- provide evidence of current freedom from all types of equine venereal disease and infection as specified by current DEFRA guidelines on an annual basis before the commencement of the covering season in all subsequent years.

Only stallions that have fulfilled all the above requirements will be regarded as currently graded with the SPSS and be permitted to have SPSS pedigree papers issued on their foals.

4.3 Full permanent approval

All SPSS licenced stallions have to fulfil specific competition or progeny performance requirements in order to ensure permanent approval as a fully graded stallion. Stallions that have attended grading and are still to complete their own or progeny's performance requirements are viewed as licenced rather than fully approved.

4.4 Elite status

At the discretion of the SPSS committee, Elite stallion status will be awarded to SPSS graded stallions that compete at top national level in any recognised FEI discipline or that have sired progeny competing at that level.

5 SPSS Foundation Studbook for stallions

5.1 Purpose

The SPSS Foundation Studbook has been created to:

- (i) fulfil the needs of those organisations that may require discipline-based stallion gradings for competition purposes
- (ii) fulfil the legal obligations on competitiveness placed upon breed societies by EU Commission Decision 96/78 EU (see Rule 1.3).

5.2 Eligibility and grading procedure

The SPSS Foundation Studbook for stallions is open to

- (i) all stallions of 158 cm or below with incomplete or unknown pedigrees and
- (ii) all stallions with SPSS Green (Section X) papers (see Rule 1.3)

provided that they:

- are no younger than 6 years of age at time of presentation of grading with the SPSS **AND**
- have a proven record of success at affiliated level of competition in either dressage, showjumping or eventing **AND**
- successfully attend an SPSS stallion grading organised by either the SPSS itself or at the request of an official competitive discipline organisation **AND**
- fulfil the requirements of Rule 4.2 above.

NB: Stallions younger than 6 years old whose owners wish to present them for SPSS grading for Foundation Stallions alongside British Showjumping stallion approval for competition may do this but, if successful in the SPSS grading, **PROGENY SIRED BEFORE THE STALLION REACHES 6 YEARS OF AGE and fulfils all other performance and vetting requirements will not be eligible for SPSS papers.**

6 SPSS Approved Sports Pony Stallions

6.1 Purpose

Approved Sports Pony Stallion status has been created to fulfil the needs of those stud books that may wish to provide a performance-based stallion approval system for its stallion licensing/approval scheme as part of, or in addition to, its existing breed type, conformation and pedigree assessments.

6.2 Eligibility and grading procedure

Approved Sports Pony Stallion status assessments will only take place in collaboration with the studbook concerned and only stallions nominated by them will be eligible for the assessment. Rule 3 governs registration of the progeny of Approved Pony Stallions.

7 Registration of progeny

Upon entry to the SPSS Stud Books as an SPSS graded stallion or an SPSS Foundation Studbook stallion, all **unborn** and future progeny may be registered with the SPSS according to the normal registration rules, provided all regulations on re-inspection and veterinary protocols are observed.

PART III: MARE GRADING

8 Eligibility

Mares must be at least two and a half years old and no more than 158 cm at maturity. Graded status will depend upon the level of marks attained for conformation, temperament, performance record and the extent of known bloodlines.

Mares already graded with a recognised sport pony studbook abroad or similar daughter organisation in the UK will be accepted into the equivalent section of the SPSS Mare Studbook upon registration according to grading marks, competition record and pedigree.

9 Mare studbooks

9.1 Head Studbook

Head Studbook (HSB) status will be awarded for the following:

- Three full generations of recorded pedigree *plus* grading marks of 80% or above *or*
- Three full generations of recorded pedigree *plus* grading marks of 75% or above *plus* a successful competition *or* breeding record.

9.2 Main Studbook

Main Studbook (MSB) status will be awarded for the following:

- Two full generations of recorded pedigree and grading marks of 70% or above.

9.3 Preliminary Studbook

Preliminary Studbook status (PSB) will be awarded for the following:

- All mares achieving grading marks of 65% but lacking the required recorded pedigree
- All mares entering the grading with SPSS Green (Section X) papers (see Rule 1.3).

10 Elite status

Elite status will be awarded to any SPSS graded mare that has an international competition record under saddle at FEI level *or* is the dam of an FEI international competition pony/horse. This is indicated by a prefix **E** placed in front of the normal studbook prefix.

11 Registration of progeny

Upon entry to the SPSS Studbooks as a graded mare, the mare must provide a DNA sample for parentage testing of her progeny. Once this has been lodged with the SPSS, all progeny may be registered with the SPSS according to the normal SPSS registration rules.

PART IV: MEMBERSHIP AND REGISTRATION FEES

12 Membership subscriptions

- Annual Full Adult:£25.00
- Annual Family:£35.00
- Life Adult:£150.00

Only full paid-up members can register and grade ponies with SPSS for breeding and documentation purposes.

13 Registration fees

13.1 General note

NB: **ALL** applications for registration must be accompanied by:

- * the relevant SPSS application form
- * an identity form completed by a veterinary surgeon (good photocopies of vaccination certificates are acceptable) or provided as part of existing registration documents
- * the appropriate registration and membership fees.

13.2 Stallion registration fees

- Registration of stallions **already graded** with other sports pony studbooks:£120.00
- Annual covering fee (only stallions intended to be used for breeding in the current year): ..£50.00
This fee includes the cost of one covering book per year. Extra books available at £25.00 each

Veterinary requirements

Any stallion that is successful in the grading will need to be DNA parentage tested at the owner's expense (ca. £55.00) before any of their progeny can be issued with SPSS papers. In order to complete the grading process successful stallions will also be required to provide a veterinary certificate of freedom from hereditary disease and must also submit up-to-date annual certificates of freedom from venereal disease and infection according to current BEVA guidelines every year before the start of the covering season.

Registration of already registered but **ungraded** colts and stallions with papers from other studbooks (colts 2yrs and over):£50.00

13.3 Mare registration fees

- Registration of mares **already graded** with other sports pony studbooks and WBFSH member studbooks: £70.00

These mares will need to provide a DNA sample (ca £15.00). The SPSS reserves the right to test the DNA sample at the owners expense (ca £40.00)

- Registration of **ungraded** mares with passports from other studbooks:£25.00

13.4 Gelding, foal and youngstock registration fees

- Registration of youngstock and geldings with papers/passports from other studbooks:£25.00
- Original registration of animals with **one parent** graded with the SPSS including passport and registration documents (to include DNA Storage):£75.00
- Original registration of animals with **both parents** graded with the SPSS including passport and registration documents (to include DNA Storage):£65.00
- Original registration of animals eligible for SPSS **Green** (Section X) papers only:£100.00

14 Registration of Prefixes

- Registration of a prefix:£50.00

The SPSS is a member of the Central Prefix Registry, and all breeders wishing to use a prefix or suffix when registering an animal with the SPSS must apply for approval and registration of that prefix before it can be recognised as their own. The SPSS will check with the Central Prefix Register on behalf of the breeder that this prefix is acceptable, but in order to avoid disappointment advises all breeders to consult the Central Prefix Register's own web page <http://www.centralprefixregister.com/> before finalising their choice.

15 SPSS Passports – Change of Ownership & Lost Passports

When a pony holding ANY type of SPSS passport changes ownership the passport must be returned to the SPSS Head Office immediately to have the new owner's details recorded.

- Change of Ownership fee:£25.00
- Replacement of lost passports (originally issued by the SPSS):£60.00

PART V: SPSS GRADING FEES

16 Stallion & mare grading fees

16.1 Stallion grading fees

Only stallions and colts already registered / recorded with SPSS are eligible to enter SPSS Stallion Grading

Entry fee for Stallion Grading:£120.00

Stabling at stallion grading if required will be charged directly to owner according to costs of location.

Veterinary requirements

Any stallion that is successful in the grading will need to be DNA parentage tested at the owner's expense (ca. £55.00) before any of their progeny can be issued with SPSS papers. In order to complete the grading process successful stallions will also be required to provide a veterinary certificate of freedom from hereditary disease and must also submit up-to-date annual certificates of freedom from venereal disease and infection according to current BEVA guidelines every year before the start of the covering season.

16.2 Mare grading fees

Only mares and fillies already registered /recorded with SPSS are eligible to enter SPSS Mare Grading

Entry fee for Mare Grading:£75.00

Stabling at mare grading if required will be charged directly to owner according to costs of location

If successfully graded these mares will need to provide a DNA sample (ca £15.00). The SPSS reserves the right to test the DNA sample at the owners expense (ca £40.00)

17 Special grading and inspection services

Fees for the following gradings will be agreed by the SPSS and the requesting organisation:

- **Gradings for other pony studbooks** Approved Sports Pony Stallion status assessments will only take place in collaboration with the studbook concerned and only stallions nominated by them will be eligible for the assessment. Registration of the progeny of Approved Pony Stallions is governed by Rule 3.
- **Discipline-based gradings** The SPSS Foundation Studbook has been created to fulfil the needs of those organisations that may require discipline-based stallion gradings for competition purposes.

For full information on these gradings see Rules 5 and 6.

18 British Showjumping Stallion Assessment Fee

Entry fee for a stallion attending a SPSS organised British Showjumping Assessment only:£100