

**BLONDE D' AQUITAINE  
BREEDERS SOCIETY OF GB**

**RULES, REGULATIONS AND BYLAWS**

**Of**

**The Blonde d' Aquitaine Breeders Society  
of  
Great Britain Ltd  
(Incorporated on 27<sup>th</sup> day of September 1971)**

**Revised April 2013**

## **1 ESTABLISHMENT**

The Blonde d' Aquitaine Breeders Society of Great Britain is a Company limited by Guarantee and not having a share capital.

## **2 MEMBERSHIP**

Membership is open to anyone interested in the Blonde d' Aquitaine Breed. Each application for membership is subject to approval by the Council of the Society. The annual subscription will be fixed each year by the Council and will be payable on 1 January each year. Life Membership, Junior and Associate Membership schemes are available. Each such capacity must be notified to the Society. Only full members will be eligible to enter cattle in the Society's Herd Book or to sell cattle at a sale held under the auspices of the Society. The Council will have the right to terminate the membership of any person who does not abide by the Rules of the Society as per *Articles of Association 41-43*.

## **3 OFFICE BEARERS AND COUNCIL**

The Office Bearers of the Society shall consist of the Chairperson, Vice Chairperson and Secretary/Treasurer. The Offices of Secretary and Treasurer may be held by one person. The Secretary/Treasurer shall have no vote at meeting of Council.

## **4 DUTIES OF OFFICERS**

The Chairperson shall preside at and regulate the proceedings of all general meetings of the Society and meetings of the Council. After the Minutes of each meeting have been confirmed by those present he/she shall sign the same as a true record. In the absence of the Chairperson, the Vice Chairperson shall take the Chair. In the absence of both, the meeting shall elect a Chairperson from among the attending Members, as per *Articles of Association No 19*

The Secretary shall attend all general meetings of the Society and meetings of the Council present the Minutes of the preceding meeting. He/she shall conduct the correspondence of the Society and notify Members of meetings. He/she shall maintain and register new entrants in the Herd Book and issue pedigree certificates. He/she shall record changes of ownership and issue certificates for such changes and Pedigree Export Certificates when notified. He/she shall maintain a Grading-Up (supplementary) register. He/she shall allot to each breeder a Prefix to be approved by Council.

The Treasurer shall attend all general meetings of the Society and meetings of the Council at which he/she shall present a current financial statement and give notice of changes in the Membership. He/she shall, for the use of the Society, receive all money payable to the Society and from such money pay all sums payable by the Society. He/she shall keep an account of all such receipts and payments in a manner directed by the Council. He/she shall not pay any money on account of the Society except current expenses, without the previous sanction of the council. All sums of money in the hands of the Treasurer, not being required for the immediate use of the Society shall be invested in such a manner thought suitable by the Treasurer and confirmed by the Council.

4 The Council shall prepare an income and expenditure accounts for the year together with a balance sheet. These accounts shall be audited annually by a firm of Chartered Accountants appointed annually at the Annual General Meeting (*See Articles of Association 68-71*).

5 **GENERAL MEETINGS** (*Articles 11-32*)

The dates of the Annual General Meetings shall be agreed by Council.

At least 21 days notification shall be given to Members by the Secretary and business shall be:

- A To present and confirm the Minutes of the last AGM and all other Extraordinary General meetings held since then.
- B To receive a report from Council.
- C To approve the Annual Accounts.
- D To elect the Auditors.
- E To announce the result of Council Election.
- F Any other business.

6 **POSTAL VOTING**

Will be arranged for the election of Council Members. Such postal votes shall be received by the Secretary not less than 7 days prior to the meeting.

7 **PROXY VOTES** (*Articles 26-32*)

Proxy Votes on Special Resolutions are available and must be submitted as laid down in the *Articles of Association 26-32*.

The Council may direct the Secretary to call an Extraordinary General Meeting for any purpose as may be necessary.

8 **POWERS OF THE COUNCIL** (*Articles 33-67*)

The business of the Society shall be governed and conducted by the Council who shall have full power to manage and regulate the same, subject to the directions, if any, given by the Society at a General Meeting.

The Council shall have the power to appoint the Committees consisting of one or more of their number and this Committee may, in turn, co-opt from outside the Council. The Committee can act for any purpose which the Council thinks fit and may delegate to such a Committee, any of its powers it thinks fit.

Three years is deemed to be the maximum length of time the Chairman and Committee Chairman may serve without a break of at least one year.

The duties of the Council shall be to attend to the general and financial business of the Society, the election of Members and to deal with all matters concerning the Society arising between the Annual General Meetings, not required by the Articles of Association or Bye-Law to be carried out by a General Meeting.

8 Cont The Council shall also be responsible for the scrutiny of entries for the Herd Book and the Grading-up (Supplementary) Register and shall have power from time to time to draw up rules embodying the qualifications which animals must possess to entitle them to entry consistent with EC Directives, and otherwise regulating the matters concerning the Herd Book and Grading-up (Supplementary) Register.

The Members of the Council shall retire annually by rotation by the nearest number to one third of the Members (*Article of Association 54*).

Council Members absent from 3 consecutive meetings without a valid excuse should be deemed to have automatically resigned.

## **REGISTRATIONS**

### **HERD BOOK**

9 Full details of the pedigree Blonde d'Aquitaine cattle born in the United Kingdom will be entered in the Herd Book if such is maintained by the British Society, together with imported Blonde d'Aquitaine cattle if registered with a recognised Blonde d'Aquitaine Herd Book.

Only calves out of full pedigree registered Blonde d'Aquitaine dams and by full pedigree registered Blonde d'Aquitaine sires will be eligible for entry in that Main Herd Book. Registration forms are available from the Secretary of the Society. Normally registrations must be made by the end of the month following the month of birth but late registrations will be accepted, at an increased fee with the exception of heifers twinned to bulls and any request for a beast over 12 months will be subject to Council approval.

Members can De-register calves prior to their 1st birthday.

Calves begotten by Artificial Insemination are eligible for entry in the Herd Book provided that the relevant AI Certificate accompanies the birth registrations card.

### **TRANSFERS**

Transfer of pedigree certificates are £10+VAT. The responsibility to inform the office of a change of ownership rests with the purchaser of the animal.

Animals sold for export must be accompanied by a pedigree export certificate obtained from the Society. Payment of the fee for pedigree export certificate is the responsibility of the vendor.

Every 100th calf or a calf chosen at random registered with the Society is liable to a spot check. If the inspector suspects any irregularity he may call for the calf, its sire and dam to be blood typed or DNA tested (this at the expense of the breeder).

If an irregularity is proved that calf will not be registered.

## 10 **GRADING-UP (SUPPLEMENTARY) REGISTER**

This register is restricted to females only, sired by a full pedigree registered Blonde d' Aquitaine sire.

Grading-up will be carried out commencing with a Base Female who must be sired by a registered Blonde d' Aquitaine and who must be notified to the office but no fee will be payable. Specific forms will be available upon request. A Base Female then bred to a pure Blonde d' Aquitaine bull can breed a Grade C female to be marked with the suffix 'C'. A Grade C female when mated to a pure Blonde d' Aquitaine bull can breed a Grade D female to be earmarked with the suffix 'D'. A Grade D female when mated to a pure Blonde d' Aquitaine bull can breed a graded pedigree E female to be marked with the suffix 'E'.

An inspection will take place at the Grade D stage and to be of a high standard consistent with breed improvement. This inspection can take place at any time after the animal has reached the age of 15 Months and the inspection fee will be assessed by Council. A female rejected at inspection will be downgraded one generation.

11 **Notification of calves born dead or dying** shortly afterwards is requested in order to maintain more meaningful records.

## 12 **BLOOD TYPING/DNA**

All bulls imported in the 1972 importation were blood typed. This register is held by the Secretary. All full pedigree registered bulls may be subjected to blood typing/DNA at any time and will then be recorded on this register so that pedigrees may be verified. Random blood typing/DNA may be carried out from time to time to verify pedigree for natural born progeny. When all samples are collected for this purpose an officer of the Society must be present to verify parentage and check for illegal substances.

All laboratory and veterinary fees thus incurred will be the responsibility of the breeder

## 13 **EMBRYO TRANSPLANTS**

The Society will accept for registration as full pedigree Blonde d' Aquitaine those calves produced by an Embryo transplant provided that:-

- A The sire and donor dams were registered with the Blonde d' Aquitaine Society as full pedigree Blonde d' Aquitaine cattle.
- B The registration is accompanied by Certificate of Embryo Transplantation signed by the veterinary surgeon performing this operation.
- C Every 25th Embryo Transplant calf is required to be blood typed and the owner will be notified by the Office if this is the case, this should be paid for by the breeder. You are urged to ensure that both sire and dam have been blood typed at the time of flushing. Progeny thus registered must bear the suffix 'T'.

Fees for registering ET calves are published on an annual rate card.

## 14 EARMARKING

All cattle have to be officially tagged in each ear and this number must also be notified on the registration form in line with EU Directives.

Tattooing is no longer obligatory. If it is done it should be in one or two rows in the inside of the calves left ear (near side). If in two rows, the herd designation letters are to be tattooed on the top row (eg ABC) with the year and sequence numbers on the bottom row (eg 01-1). For animals in the Grading-Up (Supplementary) Register the Grade letter will follow the sequence number on the bottom row (eg O1-3-C). Full instructions about tattooing are as follows:

### *Tattooing Notes*

- A Herd Designations Letters are an exclusive combination of three letters allotted to each herd by the Secretary and subject to Society approval.
- B The year numbers will follow the year (eg, 2001 - 01, 2002 - 02, 2003 - 03 etc)
- C The sequence of number of those calves intended for registration is the number of the calf, beginning at 1, in order of calving in each herd in each calendar year, irrespective of sex and whether pedigree or grading-up.
- D The class letter is 'C', 'D', 'E' for grade cattle, 'T' for Ovum Transplant births. 'X' and 'Y' for twins (as below) and 'Z' for triplets.
- E Twins should be marked with the suffix:  
'X' for similar sex (eg ABC-00-3-X and ABC-00-4-X)  
'Y' for differing sex (eg ABC-00-7-Y and ABC-00-8-Y)  
A heifer born a twin to a bull can only be registered when she has proved her ability to breed. She should be treated in the same manner as every other calf except that the registration fee is only payable upon final registration and the following should be included on the birth registration form *"BIRTHNOTIFICATION ONLY"*.

## 15 NAMING OF CATTLE

Each herd owner nominates a herd prefix of one word and this prefix will be registered with the Society provided that a similar prefix has not already been registered.

When naming animals for registration the herd prefix will be used, followed by one word name with the initial letter being the same as the year letter. Thus the individual names of all animals born during 2001 will start "S" ie Stoneleigh Sally and for 2002 "T" Stoneleigh Thomas or Tilly etc.

## RIGHT OF APPEAL

In the event of a dispute concerning the registration of cattle, the breeder can request an investigation. This investigation shall be carried out by a referee or referees appointed for this purpose by the Council.

## BREED STANDARDS

A strong beef breed with expressive head, straight or slightly convex profile, broad forehead, triangular face, muzzle in proportion.

Unbroken wheaten coloured coat, varying from a light to dark hue with lighter patches around the eyes and muzzle, on the inside of thighs and on the inclined parts of the abdomen and canons.

### *Desirable characteristics*

- ï Upright stance with strong fine bones and well developed joints.
- ï Deep chest with an arched rib cage.
- ï Broad pelvis at the hips and the second thigh, well set tail.
- ï Marked external genitalia and sexual characteristics.

### *Disqualifying characteristics*

- ï Bad stance, feet and gait
- ï Deficiencies in breed and sexual characteristics
- ï Insufficient development and/or poorly fed.
- ï Bad temperament.
- ï Broken colouring ie black/brown hairs and/or white patches.
- ï Undershot or overshot jaw.

At Society Sales the inspector(s) are instructed to reject any animals with any of the following.

- 1 Suspect temperament. Animals with bad temperament will not be sold through the nng.
- 2 Any hair colouring other than unbroken wheaten colour. Black hairs will not fail inspection though would have "Black Hairs" written on inspection card. The animal would be paraded twice round the show ring then be expected to leave and would not be judged. It would be announced by the auctioneer that the animal has black hairs and not recommended for pedigree breeding. The Pedigree Certificate would be marked at the office "NOT RECOMMENDED FOR PEDIGREE BREEDING"
- 3 Poor conformation.
- 4 Poor weight for age. Bulls have to be a minimum of 500kgs and a weight for age is applicable. (see table following). Underweight animals will not be sold through the nng.
- 5 Undershot or overshot jaw.
- 6 Insufficient testicular development. Minimum of 30cm
- 7 Poor locomotion.
- 8 Any infections or contagious disease that are untreated or still visible.
- 9 Incomplete or inconsistent identification.
- 10 If the inspector considers pre inspection clipping has been carried out to disguise black hairs he will reject that animal.

Any animal rejected for conditions considered to be hereditary will have their pedigree certificates endorsed with "*This animal is not recommended for pedigree breeding*".



Email: [secretary@britishblondesociety.co.uk](mailto:secretary@britishblondesociety.co.uk)

Website: [www.britishblondesociety.co.uk](http://www.britishblondesociety.co.uk)