



Shetland Pony Evaluation Scheme

What is the Scheme and why use it?



Until July 2005 the Shetland Pony Stud-Book Society (SPS-BS) had in operation a Stallion Assessment Scheme whereby stallions, in order to be registered as breeding stock were required to pass not only a veterinary inspection by a Society appointed vet, but also assessment by a Society senior judge. From July 2005, under EC Decision 96/78, it was declared that the only criteria necessary for full acceptance in the Stud-Book of a stallion and his progeny, was that both parents of the stallion be themselves registered with the Stud-Book.

The PBSA has set up a Shetland Pony Evaluation Scheme of its own which is open to both Stallions and Mares. This scheme gives breeders the opportunity to have their ponies fully evaluated by not one but three senior Panel judges as well as the SPS-BS VVE.

The aim of this scheme is to do what we can to ensure that at least the quality and purity of the breed is maintained and at best it continues to improve.

The wide interest shown and commendation on the PBSA's stance on Shetland Pony evaluation, received from outside the Islands, both from the UK and abroad, indicate the marked preferences of many people for fully evaluated stallions, mares and their progeny.

To enhance a pony's award, the opportunity is available for them to participate in a temperament and performance test of your choice. Three disciplines, ridden, driven and long reining are available at the discretion of the organising committee.

The scheme is open to anyone and is completely voluntary. Please get in touch with Leona Smith, details below, for more information and if you are interested in joining with us in our efforts to uphold the Shetland pony breed standards.



Requirements for Entry

Ponies must be registered with the SPS-BS and be owned or leased by the applicant. Proof of lease must be provided by the applicant.

Stallions must be in possession of their SPS-BS stallion number. This provides proof of successful completion of the VVE.

Mares must have successfully undergone an examination to International Veterinary Standards and provide the "Mares Vetting Form" as proof.

Passports and proof of parentage verification must be handed to the Area Organiser for scrutiny on the day of evaluation.

Stallions must be parentage verified by DNA (both parents) prior to evaluation. Mares must be parentage verified by DNA (both parents if alive) prior to evaluation. Mares born after 1st Jan 2011 must be parentage verified (both parents). This must be done well in advance in order to allow time for results to be returned before evaluation day. Should these results not be available on the day of evaluation, the pony will not be accepted and must wait until next evaluation. If both or either parent is not available for DNA testing then contact should be made with the PBSA Area Organiser.

There is no lower age for Stallions but the adult teeth must be 'in wear' for him to be acceptable for this scheme. Mares must be 4 years old or over.

A pony must measure 107cm or less on the day of evaluation (vet measured). In the event of a dispute, a current JMB certificate will be acceptable. If no such certificate is available on the day, the pony's award will be withheld until a valid certificate is obtained. This will be at the applicant's expense.

What Happens on the day?



Each pony will be presented for evaluation before 3 senior panel judges. Firstly at walk and trot on the hard. They will then proceed for a walk; trot and track-up inspection on grass, first in a circle then on a triangular course with the evaluators positioned one at each apex. Here the pony will be presented to

each evaluator in turn to allow individual 'hands-on' inspection with reference to the points of the SPSBS BREED DESCRIPTION.

At the end of an evaluation session, certificates, which record the ponies' achievements, will be presented.



How much does it cost?

The costs have been provisionally set at £50 per pony for evaluation and £25 per pony for a performance test. Please note that these figures are dependant on sufficient ponies being forward and may be subject to change.

When is it?

The dates for the evaluations in 2011 are Saturday 30 & Sunday 31 July. Future years evaluations will always be held on the last weekend in July. **The closing date for entries for this years evaluations is 30 June.** So get more information NOW!

How do I find out more about it?

Further information and application forms are available from:

Mrs Leona Smith, Area Organiser, Bretta, Dunrossness, Shetland, ZE2 9JG.

Tel: 01950 460531; e-mail: spesareaorganiser@hotmail.co.uk

http://www.shetlandponybreeders.com/about_scheme.php