

BRITISH *Boer Goat* SOCIETY

RULE BOOK 2018



Charity Number 1168793

1. MEMBERSHIP

The Members of the Boer Goat Society, a charitable incorporated organisation Charity Number 1168793, (hereinafter referred to as “BBGS” or the “CIO”) shall abide with the following rules

- (i) Application for membership shall be made on the official form, to be obtained from the society and returned to the Membership Secretary.
- (ii) Members shall pay an annual subscription, which shall become due on 1st April each year. The amount of the subscription shall be decided and amended when necessary by the charity trustees of the CIO (hereinafter referred to as the “BBGS Committee” or the “committee”).
- (iii) Those members who fail to pay the membership fee by 1st June in the current year will be deemed not to be members of the society and shall not enjoy the benefits of membership.

2. BIRTH NOTIFICATION SYSTEM

The BBGS runs a Birth Notification Scheme where all kids can be Birth Notified electronically free of charge. This does not constitute registration of the goat. However it is recommended that Members use this system for the following

- (i) To assist in the record keeping and management of your herd at kidding.
- (ii) To record the birth date and parentage of the kid should it need to be changed to full registration in the future with the accompaniment of the correct registration fee and only by the breeder of the goat.
- (iii) To record the birth date and parentage of the kid so that a ‘Meat Certificate’ can be issued when needed to authenticate the provenance of the meat being sold as Boer Goat Meat.

To make use of this system, when an animal is sent to the abattoir, the breeder of the animal records on the grassroots system the death of the goat. A meat certificate will then be sent electronically to the breeder. This can be used to identify the carcass, its age and provenance.

Only meat sold from registered and/or birth notified Boer Goats can be labelled with the BBGS meat label and sold as Boer Goat meat.

3. REQUIREMENTS FOR REGISTRATION OF BOER GOATS

- (i) Registrations may only be made by a fully paid up FULL, or JOINT or LIFE or HONORARY or JUNIOR member of the society with a registered prefix.
- (ii) Application should be made by the breeder – that is the owner of the dam at the time of the birth of the animals to be registered. Where this is not possible the society may at its discretion accept an application from an owner other than the breeder. In such cases the owners prefix shall be used as a suffix.
- (iii) No two herds will be allowed to register the same prefix, (the registration Secretary will advise if your chosen prefix is available).
- (iv) Registration Applications shall be made on the appropriate form obtainable from the Registration Secretary or from the BBGS website or completed online.
- (v) Colour of goats submitted for registration must be accurately described on the application form as – either ‘Show’ or ‘Red’ or ‘Commercial’.

- (vi) 'Show colour' is as described in Boer Goat Society "Breed Standards" booklet
- (vii) 'Red' is as described in Boer Goat Society "Breed Standards" booklet.
- (viii) Boer goats exhibiting colours not conforming to either the 'Show' or 'Red' standard must be described as 'Commercial'.
- (ix) 'Show' goats will be allocated the letter 'S' and Red goats the letter 'R' and Commercial goats the letter 'C' following their registration number.
- (x) A certificate of service signed by the owner of the buck shall accompany each application, except where the servicing buck was in the registered ownership of the breeder. (Forms obtainable from the British Boer Goat Society or the BBGS website.)
- (xi) All goats to be registered with the society must be ear tagged in their ears with an individual ear number and herd number to comply with DEFRA regulations. This number must cross-reference to the goats' registration number.
- (xii) Grades of Boer goats are defined as follows:
 - Grade 0 – is 96.875% or over Boer genes
 - Grade 1 – is 93.75% Boer genes
 - Grade 2 – is 87.5% Boer genes
 - Grade 3 – is 75% Boer genes
 - Grade 4 – is 50% Boer genes

Percentage will be shown on the registration certificate.
- (xiii) The British Boer Goat Society will upgrade to Purebred (in accordance with EU Directives) those female with 96.875% (and over) Boer genes
- (xiv) All percentage female goats are eligible for registration.
- (xv) Only Male Boer goats that are 100% [grade "0"] are eligible for registration [i.e. both parents must be 100%]
- (xvi) On acceptance of a registration by the society, owners will be issued with a registration certificate for each goat giving its registered number and other particulars. The number will indicate its grade, registration number and colour e.g. '1-234-S' vis. (Grade-Registered No. – Colour) All forms and certificates issued and received by, or on behalf of the society shall remain the property of the society.
- (xvii) For an imported animal, its parents and grandparents as a minimum must be registered with a bona-fide Boer Goat Society or Association in their country of origin. (This may be more than 1 country). If the said paperwork carries the correct qualifying percentage information, from a recognized breeder, the goat shall be eligible for registration at the stated percentage. If this is not available they will be registered at 50%.
- (xviii) If an application for registration is refused or withdrawn, the owner of the said goat shall have the right of appeal to the committee, which will appoint three members to inspect the animal and advise the committee. Any decision then made by the committee will be final.
- (xiv) Registration fees: MALES £20 and FEMALES – £9. Registration fees are doubled for kids not registered within one year of birth, except imported goats, which should be registered with 3 months of their arrival

into the UK.

(xx) Registrations to be included in the current year herd book to be received before 31st December of that year.

(xxi) Registration cards - Registration cards should be preserved and if the goat named thereon is sold the card must be returned to the British Boer Goat Society. No alteration should be made to the card other than by the society. The registration card for any registered dead animals must be returned to the registration secretary.

4 . REQUIREMENTS FOR TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP OF BOER GOATS

- (i) An application to transfer ownership of a registered goat can only be done by a paid up member
- (ii) Applications may be made on current prescribed transfer forms or through Grassroots on line system
- (iii) Prescribed forms (if used) must be completed and signed by the current registered owner
- (iv) Prescribed forms must be returned to the registration secretary, with the correct payment (£3 per goat), as soon as practical after the transfer of the goat
- (v) Registered goats must be transferred into the new owners name prior to applications to register any progeny from these goats

5. PAYMENTS

Payments may be made by cheque, BACS, IBAN or via PayPal. In respect of cheques, payment is deemed to have been received once the cheque has cleared into the Society's account. For BACS and PayPal payment is deemed to have been received once it has appeared on the Society's Bank/Pay Pal accounts. No membership pack/registrations/transfers will be implemented until payments are received.

6. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS

Annual General Meetings will be held in accordance with the Constitution.

7. DISPUTES

Any complaint against a member or other person for having failed to observe any of the rules or regulations of the society, or for being guilty of discreditable conduct may be investigated by the committee.

8. CONDUCT AND DISCIPLINE

(a) Disgraceful Conduct

Any Member of the Society who conducts himself or herself in a disgraceful manner or in a manner which may or might bring the name of the Society into disrepute shall be guilty of a breach of these Rules.

(b) The BBGS Committee & Discipline

The attention of Members and other persons is drawn to the disciplinary provisions of the BBGS Constitution whereby the BBGS Committee has wide powers to terminate Membership if the BBGS committee resolve that is in the best interests of the CIO that the Member should be removed from membership to include any failure to observe any of the provisions of these Rules or the BBGS Constitution or any other Regulations, Rules and Bye-laws made by the BBGS. The Constitution and Rules are intended to ensure that Members compete in BBGS competitions

and behave towards each other and represent themselves and the Society in the best and appropriate manner but inevitably circumstances will arise which are not precisely covered. In such circumstances wherever possible the spirit of the Constitution and Rules will be followed to produce the fairest result for Members.

If it appears to the BBGS Committee that any person may at any time within the previous 12 months have been guilty of a breach of these Rules, or on the referral to it by a Disciplinary Steward of a matter under (A) above, or on the receipt by the BBGS Committee of a complaint against a Member of the Society, or any person assisting a Member, the BBGS Committee may deal with the matter in accordance with the procedure set out in the CIO constitution.

If the BBGS Committee decides to deal with the matter itself, it shall communicate in writing the substance of the allegations to the person against whom they are made in accordance with the CIO Constitution.

The BBGS Committee shall then determine whether there has been a breach of these Rules and if in its opinion there has been such a breach to impose all or any of the following penalties: -

i. Take no action

ii. A reprimand

Termination of Membership from the Society

(c) The Disciplinary Hearing

i. The Disciplinary Tribunal shall be the BBGS Committee and shall consist of one of whom shall act as a Chairman. Before a Disciplinary Hearing is held, the Secretary of the Society shall give to the person concerned reasonable notice of the date, time and place of the hearing and shall send to him or her, a written statement setting out the substance of the allegations made against him or her. At the Disciplinary Hearing a person is entitled to be heard, to be represented and to call oral evidence. If he or she decides not to attend, he or she may send a written statement to the Disciplinary Hearing and the matter will be dealt with in his or her absence.

ii. Subject to the above provisions the Disciplinary Hearing may adopt such procedure and admit such evidence as it thinks fit provided that the person against whom the allegations are made has a proper opportunity of answering them.

iii. If in the opinion of the Disciplinary Tribunal there has been a breach of these Rules it may, save where any Rule specifically provides otherwise, impose all or any of the following penalties.

iii.i) Take no action

iii.ii) A reprimand

iii.iii) Termination of Membership from the Society.

(d) The decisions of a Disciplinary Tribunal shall be final and no appeal shall result there from.

9. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

Save from death or personal injury caused by the negligence of the Organisers or anyone for whom they are in law responsible, neither the Organisers of any Show or Event or Activity to which these Rules apply, nor the BBGS Committee, nor any agent, employee or representative of these bodies accepts any liability for any accident, loss, damage injury or illness to Goats, Exhibitors, Members, Spectators, Land or any other person or property

whatsoever, whether caused by negligence, breach of contract or in any other way whatsoever. Members are strongly advised to ensure that they have a minimum of third party insurance cover.

10. COMPLAINTS

- (i) Should any Member wish to register an objection or complaint, whether it is against a Judge, Exhibitor, Show Organiser, Member, BBGS Committee or otherwise, they must write to the BBGS office within 14 days of the event.
- (ii) Any complaint must be made in writing and signed (no anonymous complaints will be actioned) and submitted to the BBGS office.
- (iii) Any complaint against a member or other person for having failed to observe any of the rules or regulations of the society, or for being guilty of discreditable conduct may be investigated by the BBGS Committee or if in its opinion the matter is sufficiently serious refer it to be dealt with by the Disciplinary Tribunal referred to in (C) above.
- (iv) Such complaint must be made in writing by a member and due notice of its nature must be given to each member of the committee and a copy of the complaint posted to the person against whom the complaint is made, at least seven days before the same is heard by the charity trustees.
- (v) The persons concerned shall be informed of the date and about the time when the complaint will be considered, and they shall have the right of being present with any witnesses or representation should they desire, otherwise any evidence they wish to place before the committee must be submitted in writing.
- (vi) Every such complaint, unless made by an official of the society, having no personal interest in the matter, must be accompanied by a deposit of two hundred & fifty pounds (£250), which shall be liable to forfeiture should the charity trustees consider the complaint to be a frivolous one or one which should not have been made.
- (vii) The committee's decision in the matter shall be final.

11. SOCIAL MEDIA and INTERNET POLICY

The BBGS acknowledges the importance of the internet and social media sites such as Twitter, Facebook, Linked-In, and all other forms of electronic communication and the role which "Social Media" plays in the day-to-day lives of Members.

This policy note is to remind Members that the Rules of the BBGS apply to all Members when using Social Media and the Internet. Failure to adhere to this policy note could lead to disciplinary action being taken against a Member.

Using Social Media

- (i) You should be aware the BBGS may from time to time carry out internet searches to identify postings which include references to the BBGS and its Members or Committee or Trustees.
- (ii) BBGS images are the subject of copyright and should not be or used in Social Media save as provided in the BBGS website user terms and conditions.
- (iii) You should ensure that any material that you transmit or post to Social Media is clearly stated to be your personal view and is not held out to be, or could be mistaken as, the view of the BBGS or the BBGS Committee.

- (iv) You must not post or transmit any material which could damage the name or reputation of the BBGS, its Members or former Members or which is derogatory to the character of or prejudicial to the interests of the BBGS.
- (v) You must not post or transmit any material relating to the BBGS , Members, former Members, or their goats, which could otherwise be associated with or which may reasonably be attributed as coming from the BBGS, or:
 - (vi) that is threatening, defamatory, 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 or;
 - (vii) which constitutes or encourages conduct that would be in breach of the BBGS Rules, or constitutes a criminal offence, or which could give rise to civil liability, or otherwise be contrary to the laws of, or infringe the rights of any third party in the UK or any other country in the world.
- (viii) Any breach of this policy may constitute a breach of the BBGS Rules and could also lead to civil and/or criminal proceedings being brought against you.

Disclosure Under Law or Regulation

You should be aware that the BBGS Committee will fully co-operate with any law enforcement authorities or court order requesting or directing the BBGS Committee to disclose the identity or locate anyone posting any material in breach of this policy. If the BBGS Committee are requested by the police or any other regulatory or government authority investigating suspected illegal activities to provide your personal information, the BBGS Committee is entitled to do so.

12. RULES REGARDING ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION.

- (i) All processes connected with AI to be performed by qualified persons and to be completed in accordance with current legislation
- (ii) Persons to undertake insemination to provide the society with a copy of their certificate or other evidence of training in A.I. of goats. Or shall be a qualified veterinary surgeon.
- (iii) Any males used for artificial insemination shall be registered with the society or the society of origin for semen imported from abroad.

NOTE: In the case of imported semen the registration certificate for that male must be provided to the society with evidence that the supplier of the semen has the right to supply such in the UK.

- (iv) The inseminator is to provide a signed certificate of service to the owner of the doe with AI clearly marked upon it.
- (v) Certificate of service is to accompany the registration forms for kids born by this method.
- (vi) Goats born by this method will have AI marked on their registration card and alongside their entry in the herd book.
- (vii) The society reserves the right to reject an application to register goats born by artificial insemination if the above rules are not met.

13. RULES REGARDING EMBRYO TRANSPLANT.

- (i) All processes connected with embryo transplant (ET) to be performed by qualified persons and to be completed in accordance with current legislation.
- (ii) All donors and sires shall be registered with the BBGS or society of origin if from abroad prior to entering an embryo transplant program.

NOTE: All does flushed as embryo donors must have the number of embryos collected marked and recorded by the operator at the time of collection so that future offspring may be assigned a number according to that collection.

- (iii) The ET technician is to provide a signed and dated certificate of implantation to the owner of the recipient doe with ET clearly marked upon it. Details must include those of the recipient doe and the number and parentage of the embryos implanted, as well as the contact details of technician.
- (iv) Certificate of implantation is to accompany the registration forms for kids born by this method.
- (v) Goats born by this method will have ET marked on their registration card and alongside their entry in the herd book.
- (vi) Before entering an embryo transplant programme ALL donors must have produced at least one live kid by natural methods and the said kid must have been registered with the society.
- (vii) The society reserves the right to reject an application to register goats born by embryo transplantation if the above rules are not met.

14. RULES REGARDING THE IMPORT OF FROZEN EMBRYOS AND SEMEN.

- (i) All rules regarding AI and ET above must be complied with.
- (ii) Donor goats must be registered with an appropriate Boer Goat breed society.

NOTE: It is advised that an importer of Boer goat embryos or semen seeks confirmation of the ability to register any resulting offspring with the registration secretary prior to the importation.

- (iii) Any members making an application to register offspring from imported frozen embryos or semen shall provide a copy to the society of all information relating to the donor animals including the certificates of percentage and pedigree of the donor goat. The pedigree must include at least parents and grandparents as per an imported live animal.

NOTE: Documentation showing the number of embryos imported from each doe must also be provided.

- (iv) The society reserves the right to reject an application to register goats born by artificial insemination or embryo transplantation if the above rules are not met.

15. SHOWS, JUDGES & EXHIBITORS

(a) Requirements of Membership

Judges should whenever possible be Members of the Society and must make themselves fully conversant with the Society's Rules and recommendations and Breed Standard.

(b) Annual Appointment

Judges are appointed annually. The Board reserves the right in its absolute discretion to not appoint or re-appoint to the Judges' Panel.

(c) Conduct of Classes

- (i) A Judge must not knowingly Judge any Exhibit which has belonged to them
 - (ii) A Judge must not knowingly Judge a Goat that has been Owned, Produced, Exhibited by them or a close relative or anyone with whom they are in business partnership or by anyone they employ or by anyone who employs them or by anyone with whom they live.
 - (iii) Exhibitors are under the Judge's jurisdiction until asked to leave the line after rosettes have been presented.
 - (iv) Where a two-Judge system is used and the Judges are unable to agree, a referee, who must be a Member of the Society's Panel of Judges, should be called.
- (v) The Judge's decision is final.
 - (vi) Exhibitors may leave the Ring with the permission of the Judge e.g. for a Final Judging or Championship but must be back in time for the Final Judging and prize giving.

(d) Membership

All Exhibitors must be BBGS Members in order to compete in Affiliated Show classes.

(e) Conflict of Interest

Exhibitors are required to notify the Show Steward or Judge if the Judge has an interest in his/her exhibit. For the purposes of this Rule, a Judge has an interest in an exhibit if he/she has:-

- (i) Owned
- (ii) Bred
- (iii) Or has had or has a financial interest or gain from it.

(f) Member Conduct

- (i) No Member of the BBGS shall conduct themselves in a manner or be guilty of behaviour which is derogatory to the character or prejudicial to the interests of the Society and in particular (but without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing).
- (ii) No Member shall behave in an offensive, abusive or unpleasant manner to any person in the Ring or at the Show during any BBGS Affiliated class.
- (iii) No Member shall behave in an offensive, abusive or unpleasant manner to any person, Member or associated person in any way which may reflect badly upon the BBGS or Member thereof.
- (iv) It is the duty of every Member to assist the officers of the BBGS Committee in their investigations of alleged breaches of the Rules.
- (v) Members are responsible for the actions of any Non-Members employed by them or assisting or representing them or otherwise acting on their behalf and any action or misconduct of such Non-Member which would be a breach of the Rules, shall constitute a breach of the Rules by the Member responsible for them.
- (vi) Failure to observe any of the Rules may result in suspension of the Member concerned. Disciplinary proceedings by the BBGS Committee against the person breaking the Rules in accordance with the BBGS Disciplinary Procedure may be implemented (See Rule 8).

(g) The Disciplinary Steward

The Organisers of every Show may appoint a person to act as Steward at that Show. In this situation that Steward will be the Disciplinary Steward at that show.

If in the opinion of the Disciplinary Steward any Member of the Society, Exhibitor, Owner or any other person at any Show or Event or any person assisting any Member, Exhibitor or Owner has been guilty of: -

- Disreputable or Inappropriate conduct or
- A breach of these Rules

He/she may impose all or any of the following penalties: -

- (i) Take no action
- (ii) A reprimand
- (iii) Disqualification of the Exhibitor or Goats from any class
- (iv) Suspend the Exhibitor from taking further part in the Show

Alternatively, within 14 days of the end of the Show or Event, the Disciplinary Steward may refer the whole matter to the BBGS Committee.

Amendments Table Rule Book

Section	New Issue No	Date	Description of change
Various	2	17/04/2017	Grammar change Section 2, clarification of percentages and correction to discounts Section 3.
Various	3	18/07/2018	Price changes