



The Irish Cob Society

THE IRISH COB PART BRED STUDBOOK BREEDING PROGRAMME

1. The Irish Cob Part Bred Studbook (studbook of the origin of the breed)

The first Irish Cob Part Bred Studbook (the studbook of the origin of the breed) was established by the Irish Cob Society in Ireland in 2005.

2. Characteristics of the breed / The Irish Cob Part Bred Breed Standard

As there is no limit to the horse and pony breeds which can be used to cross with the Irish Cob, to produce an Irish Cob Part Bred, Irish Cob Part Breds can be of any type, colour (including the eyes) and height.

The Breed Standard requires:

- (a) at least 25% Irish Cob blood (studbook pedigree) or,
- (b) Score a minimum of 2 points or 1 point for 1. BREED TYPE on the Irish Cob Society (ICS) Supplementary Inspection Sheet.

3. Breeding objectives of the breeding programme

The breeding objectives of the Irish Cob Part Bred Studbook Breeding Programme are:

- (a) To assist Irish Cob stallion owners to keep their stallions by encouraging them to use their stallions not only to cover Irish Cob mares, but also to cover mares of other breeds (such as the Irish Draught Horse and Thoroughbred), and therefore to promote the Irish Cob as having a physical structure and temperament suitable for producing in-demand cross-breed leisure and performance horses.
- (b) To protect the Irish Cob Part Bred by the following means of selection and grading:
 - By selecting animals with one parent or no parent registered in the studbook, with a view to registering them in the supplementary section of the studbook, so that their progeny can be upgraded to the main section of the studbook.
 - By grading animals registered in the studbook as Main Section Class 2, Main Section Class 3 or Supplementary Section Class 4, with a view to upgrading their registration status in the studbook to Main Elite Class 1 or Supplementary Elite Class 1.

4. Division and conditions for entering the studbook

ANIMALS THAT HAVE BOTH PARENTS REGISTERED IN THE MAIN SECTION

Class 2 (Main Basic Register)

Where an animal has both parents registered in the main section of the studbook, the animal will be registered within the main section of the studbook as Class 2. The animal's class within the main section will be Main Basic Register.

ANIMALS THAT HAVE ONE PARENT REGISTERED IN THE MAIN SECTION AND THE OTHER PARENT REGISTERED IN THE SUPPLEMENTARY SECTION

Class 3 (Main Basic Register)

Where an animal has one parent registered in the main section of the studbook and the other parent registered in the supplementary section of the studbook, then animal the animal will be registered within the main section of the studbook as Class 3. The animal's class within the main section will be Main Basic Register.

***ANIMALS THAT HAVE BOTH PARENTS REGISTERED IN THE SUPPLEMENTARY SECTION
(Upgrading of progeny of animals registered in the supplementary section to the main section)***

Class 4 (Main Basic Register)

Where an animal has both parents registered in the supplementary section, then the animal will be registered within the main section of the studbook as Class 4. The animal's class within the main section will be Main Basic Register.

ANIMALS THAT HAVE ONE PARENT OR NO PARENT REGISTERED IN THE STUDBOOK

Class 5 (Supplementary Basic Register)

Where an animal has one parent registered in the studbook (main or supplementary section), or has no parent registered in the studbook, then the animal will be registered within the supplementary section of the studbook as Class 5 provided that the animal has reached a minimum of two months of age and has been approved by at least one Irish Cob inspector (a Grade 1 inspector and/ or a Grade 2 inspector) having scored a minimum of 8 points for 'Breed Type' on the Irish Cob Society (ICS) Supplementary Section Registration Assessment Sheet. The animal's class within the supplementary section would be Supplementary Basic Register.

***UPDATING THE REGISTRATION STATUS OF ANIMALS REGISTERED IN MAIN OR SUPPLEMENTARY
SECTION TO ELITE CLASS 1 REGISTRATION***

Class 1 (Main Elite Register)

Where an animal has basic (Class 2, 3 or 4) registration in the main section, then the animal will have its class within the main section upgraded to Class 1 provided the animal has reached a minimum of two years of age and has been approved by at least two Irish Cob inspectors (two Grade 1 inspectors or a Grade 1 inspector and a Grade 2 inspector) having scored the minimum points required for Class 1 Elite Grading on the Irish Cob Society (ICS) Elite Grading Inspection Sheet. The animal's class within the main section would be Main Elite Register.

Class 1 (Supplementary Elite Register)

Where an animal has basic (Class 5) registration in the supplementary section, then the animal will have its class within the supplementary section upgraded to Class 1 provided the animal has reached a minimum of two years of age and has been approved by at least two Irish Cob inspectors (two Grade 1 inspectors or a Grade 1 inspector and a Grade 2 inspector) having scored the minimum points required for Class 1 Elite Grading on the Irish Cob Society (ICS) Elite Grading Inspection Sheet. The animal's class within the supplementary section would be Supplementary Elite Register.

NOTE: Irish Cob inspectors are qualified to assess and inspect both Irish Cobs and Irish Cob Part Breds.

Grading rules

Stallions: All stallions graded by the Irish Cob Society must be registered in the main or supplementary section, must have reached three years of age, must be graded by at least two qualified Irish Cob inspectors/judges at a grading inspection using the Irish Cob Society (ICS) Stallion Grading Sheet, must pass an examination carried out by a qualified veterinary surgeon, and be PSSM/1 and FIS negative.

Mares & Geldings: All mares and geldings graded by ICSI must be registered in the main or supplementary section, must have reached three years of age, and must be graded by at least two qualified Irish Cob inspectors at a grading inspection using the Irish Cob Society (ICS) Mare Grading Sheet or the Irish Cob Society (ICS) Gelding Grading Sheet.

5. Geographical territory for the breeding programme

The geographical territory for the Breeding Programme covers Ireland and Northern Ireland and any other geographical territory where there is a demand for registering Irish Cobs in the studbook of origin of the breed in Ireland.

6. System for identifying animals

MAIN SECTION

A breeding animal that is qualified for registration in the main section of the studbook must be identified within 12 months of its date of birth and have a transponder implanted by a qualified veterinarian, and the covering certificate and DNA parentage verification (by hair sample) provided.

If the breeding animal is not identified within 12 months of its date of birth, it must be issued a replacement passport in which it will be classified as not intended for slaughter for human consumption. The Irish Cob Society Zootechnical Certificate is also included in the studbook passports.

SUPPLEMENTARY SECTION

A breeding animal that has qualified for registration in the supplementary section of the studbook must be identified within 12 months of its date of birth and have a transponder implanted by a qualified veterinarian, and DNA parentage verification (by hair sample) provided if one parent is registered in the studbook. If the breeding animal is not identified within 12 months of its date of birth, it must be issued a replacement passport in which it will be classified as not intended for slaughter for human consumption. Zootechnical Certificates are included in the studbook passports.

7. System for recording pedigree

Where an animal that is being registered in the studbook has had its pedigree verified in accordance with 6 above, the animal shall have its verified pedigree recorded on the database and in its passport. Any verified recorded ascendants will also be shown in its passport.

8. Population of animals in the breeding programme

All entire males and all females registered in the studbook are breeding animals and are therefore included in the breeding programme.

9. Number of breeders in the breeding programme

All breeders who register breeding animals and/or their progeny in the studbook are included in the breeding programme.

10. Rights and obligations of breeders and the breed society

RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF BREEDERS

(a) Breeders' rights shall be respected; breeders shall not be discriminated against, and the right of breeders to ownership of their animals shall be recognised. All breeders who register animals in the breeding book (main section or supplementary sections) are involved in the breeding programme but have free choice in the selection and breeding of their breeding animals and the right to enter them in the breeding book.

(b) Breeders are obliged to identify their animals in accordance with S.I No. 254/2023.

Non-discriminatory treatment of breeders

The Irish Cob Society shall ensure that all breeders are treated equally, and that in the event of a breeder (or other ICSI customer) raising a dispute regarding a decision made by the Irish Cob Society, the aggrieved breeder (or breeders) can invoke the appeals procedure referred to in the Irish Cob Society dispute resolution procedure.

RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF THE BREED SOCIETY

(a) The breed society shall have the right to define and carry out the breeding programme autonomously in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2016/1012.

(b) By way of derogation to 1(a) above, the breed society shall have the right to exclude breeders from participating in the breeding programme where those breeders fail to comply with the rules of that breeding programme or with the obligations set out in the rules of procedure referred to in point B(1)(b) of Part 1 of Annex I of Regulation (EU) 2016/1012.

(c) The breed society shall have the right to exclude breeders from membership where those breeders fail to comply with their obligations set out in the rules of procedure referred to in point B(1)(b) of Part 1 of Annex I of Regulation (EU) 2016/1012.

(d) The breed society shall, without prejudice to the role of the courts, have a responsibility to settle disputes that may arise between breeders, and between breeders and the breed society or breeding operation, in the process of carrying out breeding programmes approved in accordance with Article 8(3) of Regulation (EU) 2016/1012 (and where applicable Article 12) in accordance with the rules of procedure referred to in point B(1)(b) of Part 1 of Annex I of Regulation (EU) 2016/1012.

DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROCEDURE

Where a dispute arises regarding a decision made by ICSI in relation to an animal registered in the Irish Cob Studbook, or in relation to an animal in respect of which registration in the Irish Cob Studbook or in the Part Bred Irish Cob Studbook is sought, the owner or keeper of the animal shall have the right to have a considered written representation on the issue.

APPEALS PROCEDURE

STAGE I – An owner or keeper who feels aggrieved in relation to any matter pertaining to the Irish Cob Society, shall in the first instance, write to the CEO making it clear that Stage I of the Appeals Procedure is being invoked. The CEO will issue a reply to the owner or keeper as soon as is reasonably practicable, but in any case, within 30 days from receipt of the letter from the owner or keeper.

STAGE II – If the grievance is not resolved at Stage I, or if a reply is not forthcoming from CEO within 30 days, the owner or keeper may request in writing that they attend a meeting with the Irish Cob Society. The Irish Cob Society will allow the owner or keeper to attend the meeting during the period that the grievance is being considered.

At the discretion of the Irish Cob Society, the owner or keeper may be allowed to make an oral submission at the meeting on the grievance. If the oral submission is allowed at the meeting, the Irish Cob Society will then reconsider the dispute issue and shall communicate its decision to the owner or keeper within 30 days.

STAGE III – If the dispute remains unresolved after Stage II, the owner or keeper may request an independent hearing, usually by an official of the competent authority. The Irish Cob Society shall grant such a hearing. Appeals at Stage III 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 3 months. The person(s) hearing the case will decide on the apportionment of costs, as appropriate.

STAGE IV – Any dispute that remains unresolved after Stage III may be pursued by the owner or keeper or by the breed society according to the 1963 Companies Act.