

IRISH VENDÉEN SHEEP SOCIETY LIMITED

Registered under Industrial & Provident Societies Acts 1893 – 1978



Approved: 26th November 2022

Rules of Procedure

in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2016/1012

Participation in the Breeding Programme and Membership

The Irish Vendéen Sheep Society Limited is registered under the Industrial & Provident Societies Acts 1893-1978 under the auspices of the Irish Co-operative Organisation Society Limited. The aim of the Society is to encourage the breed commercially in Ireland and to support pedigree breeders in the improving of genetic lines of the core stock.

Breeders shall have the right to participate in the IVSS approved breeding programme provided that:

- a) their breeding animals are kept on holdings located within the geographical territory of the IVSS breeding programme.
- b) their breeding animals belong, in the case of purebred breeding animals, to the Vendéen sheep breed.

Breeders have also the option to become a member of the Society. New members are always welcome to the Society on payment of an annual membership fee which, for 2023, is €40.00 for members of the Sheep Ireland LambPlus programme and €60 for non-members of the LambPlus programme.

Members Benefits

Although not compulsory, membership offers many benefits including, but not limited to:

- Participating in IVSS Pedigree Sales
- Entry in the IVSS All-Ireland Annual Show
- Entry in the annual IVSS Show Flock of the Year Award
- Subsidised Genotyping and Registration Fees
- To participate in defining and developing the breeding programme by submitting proposals to Council for consideration at their next meeting.

Application for Participation in the Breeding Programme:

Flock Code, Prefix and Pedigree Number

On written application to the Society and completion of the GDPR consent form, a breeder nominates their first and second choice Prefixes. This is to avoid duplication of Prefixes within the Flock Book. The 3 letter Flock Code is allocated by the Society in conjunction with the

Prefix. It will usually consist of the first letter of the breeders surname followed by the first letter of their first name followed by the first letter of the flock Prefix.

The pedigree number is the individual identification of an animal in the Society's Flock Book. It comprises the 3 letter Flock Code followed by a 2 digit year and a 3 digit individual identifier.

Example:

Joseph Sheepbreeder nominates **Hill** as his first choice of Prefix and it is accepted by the Society. This means that **SJH** is his Flock Code if it is not already in use in the Society Flock Book.

The **pedigree number** of his first-born lamb in the 2021 breeding season is **SJH21001**

All breeders should complete the annual ewe and ram census if and when requested.

Application for Membership:

While applying to participate in the breeding programme, new breeders may apply to become members of the society. To become a member, the membership application and GDPR consent form (available on the Irish Vendéen Sheep Society's website www.vendeensheep.ie) should be completed and returned to the email address listed on the form.

Registration Fees

Details of Fees

Members:

- From 1st December to 30th November in the breeding year €15.00
- From 1st December onwards in the following year €25.00

Non-Members:

- Pedigree Registration for sheep belonging to non-member breeders €70.00

All breeders:

- Reprint of Zootechnical Certificate €5.00

Rights and Obligations

Breeders Rights

Breeders have the right:

- to participate in the breeding programme
- to retain ownership of their breeding animals
- to have their animals entered in the Flock Book in accordance with the Rules of the IVSS Breeding Programme
- to participate in performance testing and genetic evaluation and obtain up to date results where available
- to be provided with a zootechnical certificate
- have ongoing access to up-to-date results of the performance testing and genetic evaluation for their breeding animals, via their Sheep Ireland flock page, where those results are available
- to avail of the services as outlined in the breeding programme

IVSS Rights and Obligations

The Irish Vendéen Sheep Society has the right: -

- to define and carry out their breeding programmes autonomously, provided that they comply with Animal Breeding Regulations (Regulation (EU) 2016/1012) and any conditions of their approval
- to exclude breeders from participating in the breeding programme that fail to comply with the rules of the breeding programme or with the obligations set out in these rules of procedure
- to exclude breeders from membership where they fail to comply with obligations set out in these rules of procedure
- The IVSS 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, in the process of carrying out their breeding programme in accordance with these rules of procedure

IVSS Breeders Appeals Procedure

Objective

The objective of this procedure is to provide a breeder who has a grievance with the Society, or another breeder of the Society, an opportunity to have the grievance examined and resolved at the earliest practical moment and at the most local level possible.

Whilst the matter is being considered under the Appeals Procedure, the operation of the Society cannot be interrupted. The person(s) raising this matter shall continue to comply with the rules of the Society during the course of the examination of the matter in question. By so doing, he/she will not create any precedent nor will his/her participation in the breeding programme of the Society be prejudiced in any way in relation to the matter being processed.

Procedure

The procedure to apply shall be as follows:

Stage 1

A breeder who feels aggrieved in relation to any matter pertaining to Society business should, in the first instance, write to the Chairman of the Council of the Society making it clear that Stage 1 of the appeals procedure is being invoked. The Chairman will reply as soon as is reasonably practicable, but, in any case, within thirty days from the receipt of the letter from the appellant.

Stage 2

If the grievance is not resolved at Stage 1, or a reply is not forthcoming from the Council Chairman within thirty days, the breeder(s) may request in writing that, at their next Council meeting, the Council allow the breeder to attend the meeting during the period that the grievance is being considered. The breeder will be allowed to make an oral submission on the grievance. The Council will then reconsider the issue and must communicate its decision to the appellant within thirty days.

Stage 3

If the issue remains unresolved after Stage 2, the breeder(s) may request an independent hearing. The Council shall grant such a hearing. Appeals at Stage 3 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 three months. The person(s) hearing the case will decide on the appointment of costs, as appropriate.

Stage 4

Any dispute that remains unresolved after Stage 3 may be pursued by invoking provisions under the legal personality of the Society: ICOS. (1963 Companies Act as well or just ICOS)

The Society expects all its breeders to abide by the rules, regulations and standards established by the Society.

Non-Discrimination

The Society shall operate in a non-discriminatory fashion towards its breeders.

Purebred breeding animals entered in breeding/flock books by breed societies or breeding bodies for that breed, and the offspring produced from germinal products of such breeding animals, shall be entered or eligible for entry without discrimination on account of their country of origin in the Irish Vendéen Sheep Society flock book.

Mission Statement

To promote and increase usage of Vendéen rams as a terminal sire among commercial sheep farmers.