Dear Member,

Firstly, thank you for your support of the Society – your membership means a great deal to us.

And secondly, it gives us great pleasure to announce that Baroness Mallalieu has agreed to become the Patron of the Exmoor Pony Society. Baroness Ann Mallalieu QC comes from a distinguished political family, is a lawyer, Labour Party politician and President of the Countryside Alliance. Living on Exmoor she is a great supporter of rural life and horses. She is a trustee of Racing Welfare, formerly a trustee of the Horse Trust and recently visited the Anchor Herd with Lord De Mauley. We look forward to welcoming her to the Breed Show.

AGM REPORT
Thank you to everyone who participated in the Annual General Meeting whether in person or by using their proxy. Thank you also to those who returned ballot forms for the committee vote and completed the questionnaire.

Mrs Jill Graham is your new President and Mrs Stephanie Poulter your new President Elect.

Mr Toby Hickman, Mrs Stephanie Poulter and Mrs Denise Sykes retired as Trustees but not from Society life! Toby and Denise continue their work as Area Representatives and Stephanie will take over as President next year.

Whilst your new Trustees are Mrs Gill Langdon, Mrs Clare Phillips (Breed Show Secretary) and Mr Rob Taylor (Co-ordinator for ECHO).

PROPOSALS PASSED WITH IMMEDIATE EFFECT
RULE 6 – Breed Standard
Current wording:
7. Legs: Clean & short, with neat hard feet; forelegs straight, well apart & squarely set; hind legs well apart, nearly perpendicular from hock to fetlock with point of hock in line with pelvis bone; wide curve from flank to hock joint; legs free in motion with no tendency to sweep or turn.
7. Legs: Clean & short, **with neat uniformly dark hoof walls**; forelegs straight, well apart & squarely set; hind legs well apart, nearly perpendicular from hock to fetlock with point of hock in line with pelvis bone; wide curve from flank to hock joint; legs free in motion with no tendency to sweep or turn.

The new wording comes into immediate effect and will mean that the inspectors will only look to see that the hoof walls are uniformly dark and not look at the soles of the feet when undertaking inspections. This new breed standard also applies to all ponies that are eligible for re-inspection i.e. did not meet the breed standard at their first inspection. All owners who wish to have a pony re-inspected should contact the Secretary - current charges will apply – and can be linked in to the autumn inspections if required.

**RULE 8 - Registration**

New 8 (k)

With the exception of foal transfers undertaken at the time of registration and before the passport is issued, notification of sale and the payment of any applicable transfer fee will be the responsibility of the owner listed on the database.

It is hoped that this change will assist in the monitoring of the movement of registered Exmoor ponies worldwide and in ensuring that the information exported to the Central Equine Database is accurate and that owners are complying with their legal responsibilities in relation to Equine Passports with immediate effect.

**RULE 10 – Branding**

Current wording:

10. (a) No pony shall be branded without the permission of the breeder and owner or agent as defined in 7 (i).
    (b) Registered ponies that are to be branded, shall be hot branded by a Society approved Inspector and with an iron authorised by the Committee.

New wording:

10. (a) No pony shall be branded without the permission of the breeder and owner or agent as defined in 8 (i).
    (b) Registered ponies that are to be branded in accordance with the ‘DEFRA Code of Practice for the hot branding of semi-feral registered Exmoor ponies’, shall be hot branded by a Society approved Inspector and with an iron authorised by the Committee.

**PROPOSALS PASSED WITH EFFECT FROM 1ST JANUARY 2018**

**RULE 8 – Registration**

Current wording:

8. (a) Any pony whose sire and dam are already registered in the main section of the Exmoor Pony Society stud book is eligible for registration in the main section of the Exmoor Pony Society stud book, subject to proof of parentage as defined in the appropriate EU legislation. Parentage verification by DNA can be requested by the Society at any time.
New Wording:
8. (a) Any pony whose sire and dam are already registered in the main section of the Exmoor Pony Society stud book is eligible for registration in the main section of the Exmoor Pony Society stud book, subject to proof of parentage as defined in the appropriate EU legislation. **Parentage verification by DNA is mandatory for all foals.**

The anticipated change is fee structure is as follows:

**For members:**
The registration charge per foal will be set at £50 to include the passport. The inspection fee per foal will be set at £5.

**For non-members:**
The registration charge per foal will be set at £100 to include the passport. The inspection fee per foal will be set at £10.

Replacing the existing fee structure of:

**For members:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fee</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Inspection fee</td>
<td>£30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Passport</td>
<td>£20</td>
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</table>

**For non-members:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fee</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Inspection fee</td>
<td>£60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Passport</td>
<td>£40</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**RULE 8 – Registration**

Current wording:
8 (a) (3) Any pony not presented for inspection can only be registered in Section X of the main section of the Exmoor Pony Society stud book subject to proof of parentage as in (a) above.

New wording:
8 (a) (3) (i) Any pony not presented for inspection can only be registered in Section X of the main section of the Exmoor Pony Society stud book subject to proof of parentage as in (a) above **except that**

(ii) **In exceptional circumstances as decided by the Committee, the Secretary could register a pony into Section I or Section X as appropriate on receipt of paperwork whereby a vet had microchipped, completed a Society question form and silhouette, photographs of the pony had been submitted and parentage had been verified by DNA.**

The Committee would like to stress that this proposal was brought in to assist in the registration of foals overseas and would only be applied if the Society was not in the position to nominate inspectors to attend an individual’s premises.

**PRESENTATIONS**
The points’ trophies for the Breed Show were as follows:

Frances Margaret Cup for the Breeder with the most points: Tawbitts (Mesdames Ablett and Langdon)
Scottish Trophy: Gaoth (Mrs J Wharton)
Orpheus Cup – Coedywern Nimrod (Mr & Mrs D Thomas)
Sussex Trophy – Knightoncombe Little Wren (Miss S Richards)
Eliis Cup – Tawbitts At Last and Tawbitts Anastasia (Mesdames Ablett and Langdon)
Miles Bowl: Greystonegate Conker (Mr & Mrs R Taylor)

Cups awarded at the AGM:
The Derek Sparks Memorial Trophy (Young Handler): Charlotte Matravers
The Rose Wallace Memorial Trophies (Olympia) – Dunkery Widgeon
Breeder: The late Mrs W Vint Owner: Mrs M Richardson
The Moorland Kingfisher Trophy (HOYS): Warrenmere Woodcock
Breeder: Royal Society for the Protection of Birds Owner: Mrs M Bryant

Performance Awards:
The Hon Mrs Jane Price Cup: Gaoth
Breeder: Mrs A Downing Owner: Mrs J Wharton
The Cinderella Trophy: Dunsmore Glenfiddish
Breeder: Mr & Mrs N Hill Owner: Mrs A Perry
(presented at Eastern Area Awards)

The Marion Williams Bursary Award 2016: Emily Gaskell, Lowena Payne and Rosie Williams

Exmoor Pony Star Awards.
Winner: Viburnum (Mrs S Mansell)
Runner-up: Threeshires Torfida (Mrs D Sykes)
Northern Star: Viburnum

THINGS TO REMEMBER ……………..

FOAL NOTIFICATION SLIPS
It is important that the Exmoor Pony Society knows if you have a foal to be inspected this autumn. This can be done via the phone, email or by returning the foal notification slip, where applicable. We will then send you out the Society microchip paperwork. If you have let us know by phone or email then please ensure that you return the foal notification slip with the completed paperwork. It greatly facilitates the inspection process if breeders can return completed microchip paperwork by 1st September. The exception is, of course, where micro-chipping is taking place on the same day the foal is being inspected. Owners are free-living herds are asked to confirm the number of foals and the name of the veterinary surgeon undertaking the microchipping. Do remember that the mobile penning unit is available to all moorland breeders to assist with gatherings and inspections.

STALLION COVERING BOOKS
It is the time to return stallion covering books to the Society, these provide us with vital information regarding the number of mares that have been covered during any given year and this helps with advanced planning and can also be compared to the number of foals being registered. A mare being covered does not necessarily mean that they will foal in the following year.

THE EXMOOR PONY FESTIVAL
Full details of the festival can be found at www.exmoorponyfestival.com.

Looking forward to seeing many of you during the festival and at other Society events and inspections! Do remember to check out what’s on by either looking at our website www.exmoorponysociety.org.uk or on facebook.

The Exmoor Pony Society