

Rules 1

THE RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE BRITISH BLEU DU MAINE SHEEP SOCIETY LIMITED

1. The objective of the Society is to maintain the purity of Bleu du Maine sheep and to promote their improvement. The Society shall collect, verify, preserve and publish in a flock book, the pedigrees of the said sheep and other information relating to them.
2. (a) Each applicant for membership shall complete and render to the Secretary a form of application provided by the Society. (b) The annual subscription shall be £30.00 + VAT or such other annual sum as the Council shall from time to time determine.
3. Members of the society shall conform with the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Society and with the Rules of the Society and shall avoid conduct which appears to be derogatory of the character or prejudicial to the interests of the Society; and a member may be held responsible for the conduct of his bailiff, shepherds or other employee or agent.
4. One third of the members on the council shall retire annually in rotation but they shall be eligible for re-election.
5. No member of the Society shall be elected to the Council unless he shall own or shall be in control to ten pedigree Bleu du Maine sheep.
6. The Council may elect any ex-president as an honorary life-president (to be a member of the Council) and may elect any person as an honorary member for such period and subject to such conditions as they think fit.
7. Unless disqualified under any other rule, a lamb whose sire and dam are registered is eligible for entry. Animals in order to be eligible for registration must conform with these Rules in all material points.
8. Members shall keep a private flock book and no entry shall be received for the Society's flock book unless the breeder of the animal to be entered keeps a private flock book as provided herein. Such private flock books shall be regularly written up in ink and open at all times to inspection duly authorised by the Society.
9. If any member shall be proved to the satisfaction of the Council to have made a willful false entry for the flock book, such member shall be expelled from the Society and no animal bred by him after such expulsion shall be accepted for entry in the flock book.
10. All lambs must be ear-marked in accordance with regulations laid down by the Council from time to time by ear-tagging before they are one month old. The ear number of all animals must be stated on the birth notification form.
11. The birth of every animal must be notified to the Society within the time specified by the Council on the appropriate form which are obtainable from the Society free of charge or via the online Grassroots system. Birth registrations received after the period above will not be accepted except on the authority of the Council who shall have discretion to charge additional fees as necessary.
12. The Society will enter into the breeding book, animals of the same breed, line or cross that are eligible for entry under the Society's breed criteria, without discrimination on account of their country of origin.
13. All entries for the flock book to be subject to a registration fees as shall be determined by the Council from time to time.
14. Pedigree certificates must be issued by the Secretary for all sheep to be exported from the United Kingdom and the fee therefore shall be fixed by the Council from time to time.
15. Every member must adopt an approved prefix before he can register an animal and pay such fee therefore as shall be determined by the Council from time to time which will entitle him to the exclusive right to such prefix as long as he is breeding pedigree Bleu du Maine sheep. The adopted prefix shall be applicable to all animals registered by that member and no other member may make use of the same in any form in naming his sheep.
16. All sheep (lambs included) sold as pedigree stock shall be accompanied by a certificate of breeding which will be issued by the Society at a fee to be determined by the Council from time to time.

Rules 2

17. If a lamb is by artificial insemination approved in accordance with the Society's regulations, the insemination certificate must be forwarded with the birth notification form. The registration of lambs got by embryo transfer must be accompanied by full veterinary certification.

18. Lambs are automatically registered when the birth notification forms are received at the Society's office and certificates of registration are sent to breeders.

Rules 2

BLEU DU MAINE SHEEP SOCIETY RULES FOR SHOWS & SALES

1. All pedigree sheep sold at official society sales to be sold in Guineas
2. Commissions will be charged at the rate of 5p in the guinea on all pedigree sheep sold together with a 2% Society levy
3. The Auctioneers will pass from sale any animal not achieving the upset price of 250gns.
4. All sheep will be identified by ear tag numbers. Vendors are responsible for taking their sheep to the sale ring and returning them back to the pens after being offered for sale.
5. Sheep will only be accepted into the Market and penned for sale if they are accompanied by a current SAC Certificate of Official MV status, which has been correctly completed.
6. There will be no physical examination of individual sheep, but Council members retain the right to examine any animal that in their opinion fails to reach the recognised breed standard. The decision of the Council to carry out this inspection shall be final and binding and they shall be absolved from any liability for any action taken as a consequence of their decision. The Council members can only judge the sheep on the day of the sale and cannot be held responsible for the future development of the sheep.
7. The use of growth promoters is banned by the Society and they reserve the right to random test any sheep offered for show or sale. The vendor will be responsible for the correctness of identity and all sheep must have official ear tags. The Society reserve the right to scan any animal, provided two Society officers are present and a report submitted. Buyers shall have one hour following the end of the sale to lodge any faults or misrepresentations to the auctioneers.
8. Any female that has been subjected to abdominal surgery (laparoscopic AI, embryo transfer or Caesarean section) must be so declared in the catalogue and must physically be capable of breeding again.
9. All rams to be warranted stock-getters and prove to be capable of natural service. If the ram is proved to be infertile or incapable of natural service, the purchaser has 14 weeks to submit to the Auction company a claim substantiated by a veterinary surgeon's certificate. The V.S. certificate shall certify that the rams incapacity or ineffectiveness is not the result of injury, accident or illness happening after the time of sale. It shall also certify that the purchasers female breeding stock have been found, on examination, to be in normal breeding condition and that they are not responsible for the ram's incapacity of ineffectiveness. The purchaser shall have the option of, either, a refund of the purchase price or, accept a replacement of similar quality. If the vendor so wishes he shall be entitled to have access to the ram for a veterinary examination. If a settlement is not reached then an independent arbiter shall be appointed by the Auctioneers and his decision shall be final. The transport costs, veterinary fees etc., involved in returning stock to the vendor must be borne by the purchaser. All male sheep to have two correct testicles. No rigs or chasers to be shown or sold. It must be declared if a vendor has retained semen from a ram before offering it for sale.
10. All sheep must be forward for penning at the times as laid out in the catalogue. Sheep arriving after these times will be disqualified from the sale.
11. Any animals in the sale premises which are sold by private treaty after the auction are subject to the full commission and levy on the price realised and all such transactions must be passed through the auctioneer.
12. The use of hair removing substances and/or razor blades is strictly forbidden.
13. Faces & legs may be washed but may not be artificially coloured in any way. The use of colourless oil is permitted. This rule applies to all shows and sales.
14. No lambs to be born before 1st January. If born before this day they become shearlings on the 1st January and must be registered with the appropriate year letter
15. The purchaser shall have one hour following the end of the sale to lodge any faults or misrepresentations to the auctioneer. Any rejected sheep are not sold under Society rules and are sold as seen.
16. Transfer Registrations will be dealt with by the Society
17. Substitute sheep will be allowed provided they are clearly identifiable and are shown in accordance with Society rules.
18. A sale can only be described as dispersal where every registered sheep belonging to that flock is offered for sale. Further, the flock name will be thereafter terminated and cannot be resurrected by the present holder or used by any other member or future member. However, the Council retains the right to grant re-use of the flock name on consideration of special circumstances. There will be no need for the sheep to be inspected and where applicable, the sheep will be sold at the end of the sale. At a reduction sale, all sheep presented for sale will have to be inspected by the Society. The sheep will be sold in the appropriate sale classes
19. ERRORS OR OMISSIONS. Neither the Auctioneers or the Society can accept responsibility for any errors or omissions.
20. The vendor will be responsible for the correctness of the identity of all sheep.