



## **Rules of Procedure of the Irish Blonde d'Aquitaine**

**Cattle Society Co-operative Ltd**

**Rev 4-1/11/22**

### **Regulations governing the Rules of Procedure.**

REGULATION (EU) 2016/1012 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 8 June 2016 on zootechnical and genealogical conditions for the breeding, trade in and entry into the Union of purebred breeding animals, hybrid breeding pigs and the germinal products thereof and amending Regulation (EU) No 652/2014, Council Directives 89/608/EEC and 90/425/EEC and repealing certain acts in the area of animal breeding ('Animal Breeding Regulation')

### **Rights of Breeders**

1. Breeders shall have the right to participate in a breeding programme approved in accordance with Article 8(3), and, where applicable, Article 12 provided that:

(a) their breeding animals are kept on holdings located within the geographical territory of that breeding programme namely The Republic of Ireland.

(b) their breeding animals belong, in the case of purebred breeding animals, to the breed covered by that breeding programme namely The Breeding Programme Irish Blonde d'Aquitaine.

### **Breeders participating in the Breeding Programme Irish Blonde d'Aquitaine**

1. Breeders have the right to
  - a- have their purebred breeding animals entered in the main section of the breeding book
  - b- have their animals recorded in a supplementary section of the breeding book
  - c- participate in performance testing and genetic evaluation
  - d- be provided with a zootechnical certificate
  - e- on request, to be provided, with up-to-date results of the performance testing and genetic evaluation for their breeding animals, where those results are available
  - f- have access to all the other services provided in relation to that breeding programme to the participating breeders by the breed society or breeding operation carrying out that breeding programme
  - g- become a member of the Irish Blonde d'Aquitaine society

### **Membership:**

To become a member of the Irish Blonde d'Aquitaine Cattle Society Co-operative Ltd (Irish Blonde society), the applicant shall be the owner in the Republic of Ireland of a "purebred" Blonde female entered in a herd book recognised or listed by the EU for the Blonde d'Aquitaine breed. Application for membership is also accepted from the owner in the Republic of Ireland of a Blonde male or female born as the result of embryo transfer for the intention of purebred breeding. The animal(s)

must be listed in a herd that is registered with a Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine herd number. Where the herd number is not in the applicant's name or the applicant is not the designated herd keeper, the applicant must have the consent of the herd owner.

1. Applications for membership will be considered if the following documents are completed and submitted to the Society's office

(i) Application for membership (Form A) with appropriate membership fee (See Appendix 1)

(ii) CMMS data release permission form (Form B)

2. Following receipt of application to the society office a list of applications for membership are presented to Council at the next meeting of Council.

3. As part of the application process, each member must register an approved herd name comprised of not more than fifteen letters. This herd name shall not have been allocated to another member of the Society, either in the past or at present. This shall be applicable to all animals bred and notified by that member, either alone or jointly with any partner/s or other persons in any one herd. A herd name that has been used by one member may not contemporaneously be used by another member. Herd name transfers may be approved by the Council of the Society at their discretion.

4. Members have the facility to pay by direct debit.

5. Members must permit that data relating to the genealogy and performance of their cattle may be communicated to and examined and processed by competent authorities in the field of livestock breeding, subject to Council approval, and that the Society be free to disseminate the results of this analysis as the Council see fit from time to time.

6. The Society shall have the right to maintain a computerised record of member's transactions with the Society, and reserve the right to penalise members found to be in breach of procedures vital to the accurate maintenance and integrity of the breeding book of the Society.

7. The Society shall if they so desire, provide for Associate, Overseas or Commercial memberships but these shall not enjoy the voting rights of Full members as under the Articles of the Society. Associate, Overseas and Commercial membership is open to people who don't meet the criteria of a full member but who would like to receive Society annual publications, to keep up to date with information on the breed.

8. It is a condition of membership of the Society that all members undertake to partake in those elements of the Society's breed improvement programme that the Council from time to time deem compulsory.

## **Advantages to becoming a Society Member:**

- a- Access to all National pedigree shows and sales
- b- Participating in all Society events both virtual and reality
- c- Influence change directly
- d- Becoming a Council member

## **Rights and obligations of the Irish Blonde d'Aquitaine Cattle Society:**

1. As regards their breeding programme, the Irish Blonde Cattle Society has the right to define and carry out such breeding programme autonomously for the Irish Blonde breed provided that they comply with Commission Regulation 2016/1012 and any conditions of their approval.
2. The Irish Blonde Cattle Society shall have the right to exclude breeders from participating in a breeding programme where those breeders fail to comply with the rules of that breeding programme.
3. The Irish Blonde d'Aquitaine Cattle Society shall have the right to exclude breeders from membership where those breeders fail to comply with their obligations set out in the rules procedure.
4. The Irish Blonde d'Aquitaine Cattle 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 in the process of carrying out the Irish Blonde breeding programme.

### **Non-Discrimination:**

The Society will ensure that equal treatment is afforded to all members participating in their breeding programme.

### **Appeals Procedure of Irish Blonde Cattle Society Ltd:**

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

While the matter is being considered under the Appeals Procedure, the operation of the Society cannot be interrupted. The person(s) raising the 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 membership of the Society be

prejudiced in any way in relation to the matter being processed.

The procedure to apply shall be as follows:

**Stage 1**

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

**Stage 2**

If the grievance is not resolved at Stage 1, or if a reply is not forthcoming from the Secretary within thirty days, the member(s) may request in writing that at their next Council meeting, the Council allow the member(s) to attend the meeting during the period that the grievance is being considered. The member(s) 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 member(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 apportionment of costs, as appropriate.

Any dispute that remains unresolved after Stage 3 may be pursued by invoking provisions under the legal personality of the Society which are defined under the ICOS Rules or the 1963 Companies Act. Details of these provisions can be obtained by contacting the Society Secretary.

The Society expects all its members to abide by the rules, regulations and standards established by this Society

## **Appendix 1**

### **Schedule of Membership fees**

Membership

New Membership, Annual Subscription €100 (€80 if on Direct Debit)

Herd name Registration €50

Share Fee €1

Overseas €20