

Stallion Licencing Guidance

Mare owners will wish to know that the stallion they are considering using is a good example of the breed and has no known physical or genetic defects. This used to be taken on trust when the stallion owner walked the stallion from croft to croft and served mares along the way but now SPARKS helps by showing which options are available and which would be the best choice.

Along with SPARKS, the Eriskay Pony Society promotes the use of licensed stallions and the breeding grant and all advice given will reflect this. The Society will not licence, or otherwise approve for breeding, any stallion that has an identified genetic defect or where the rules regarding parental DNA have not been complied with.

It is imperative that stallions used for breeding have been licensed and the following procedures must be followed by the stallion owner prior to the pony being licensed.

Examination

1. Veterinary Check by a RCVS Vet including the Vet taking a sample of hair for DNA purposes. The vet will check for undesirable degenerative features that should not be passed to the next generation. The vet should use the Vet Form to guide the examination, completing each part of it, and then return it to the owner who should send the form to the Registrar. This can be the paper copy or a scanned copy by email.
2. Breed Standard inspection by two Eriskay Pony Society Inspectors, appointed by the Society. The representatives are checking that the stallion meets the breed standards laid down and that he is a good example of the breed.
3. DNA sample taken and returned to the Registrar, as per the rules, who will arrange testing.

Planning by Stallion Owner

1. The owner of a colt or an unlicensed stallion intended for breeding is encouraged to contact info@eriskaypony.org or registrar@eriskaypony.org to plan ahead for becoming licenced.
2. The stallion has to be comfortable with having his feet picked up and able to stand calmly while being touched all over. This is imperative prior to any inspections.
3. A fully up to date passport showing current ownership is required. The Vet will check Microchip for ID Purposes and take a hair sample for DNA ID purposes.
4. Prior to either inspection the stallion should be well handled and groomed. In particular, the mane and tail should be groomed clean and be free from products and sprays so as not to adversely affect the DNA testing.
5. The DNA Hair Sample could be taken by your vet at a prior date and sent to the Registrar in advance of the inspection as parental testing and compliance with the stud book rules are always welcome.

Stallion Health

The stallion should remain in good health and free from STDs. He will require swabs and vaccines prior to breeding and these should be discussed with your equine vet.