

Breed Standard.

[This Breed Standard shall apply to all Red Polls, whether entered in the Pedigree Register or the Grading Register, born on or after the 1st January 2015]

Distinctive characteristic.

The Red Poll is a dual-purpose animal. The breed was evolved to combine the production of the very highest standard of beef with a satisfactory milk yield. Accordingly, judging should aim at deciding the best COMBINATION of these qualities. Moreover an obvious deficiency in one cannot be counterbalanced by superlative excellence in the other.

Definition

For the purposes of this Breed Standard and for the purposes of the Conditions of Entry to the Herd Book, a Red Poll animal shall be classified as "Registered" if it is registered in the Pedigree Register of either the Red Poll Cattle Society or the Red Poll Development Society.

Parentage.

All Red Polls shall have been sired by a Registered Red Poll Bull or shall have been born to a Registered Red Poll Cow.

Colour.

Colour must be red, deep red for preference. A sandy colour is an objection. Any white patch except on the udder, shall be a disqualification. Any white hairs shall constitute an objection except that a white or silver haired end of the tail is permissible. Where it is contended that any white hairs are the result of trauma, including freeze branding, these may be disregarded upon production to the Society of satisfactory evidence, including a veterinary certificate where appropriate, in support of such contention.

Head.

The head must be naturally polled i.e. not artificially polled.

Any horn, slug or abortive horn shall be a disqualification.

[Slugs are horny substances adhering to the skin over the seat of natural horns, free from any attachment to the skull and consequently as moveable as any piece of the skin. Abortive horns are horny substances attached to the skull but more or less developed as horns.]

Nose.

The nose should be flesh coloured.

A black or blue nose shall be a disqualification.

Black or blue spots on the nose shall constitute objections.

The Cow.

The cow should have a fine head and neck

Her back should be level, with the tail long and set on level with it.

Her loin should be wide and her hips evenly rounded and not too prominent.

Her body should be deep with the ribs well sprung, the legs being at the four corners and set well apart. She should be a good mover on legs of medium length.

Her hindquarters should be long from hip to aitch bone and not patchy at the rump

ends, the buttocks being deep and well fleshed down to the hocks.
Her forearms and half legs should be well developed.
She should be thick through the heart and her brisket should be deep, wide and forward. Her skin should be fine and soft to the touch.
Her udder should be well developed but not pendulous and should come well up between the hind legs and run well forward.
The teats should be of moderate size set evenly at the four lower corners of the udder and pointing to the ground.
The milk veins should run well forward along the belly.

The Bull.

A similar description to that given for the Cow applies to a Bull except for the reference therein contained to the head and neck and to the udder.
A Bull should be of a decidedly masculine type with strong head and neck, a powerful chest and well placed rudimentary teats.
He should be a good mover on legs of medium length and his testicles should be flesh coloured and hang evenly.

Disqualification/Objection

Any Animal with a Disqualification shall not be eligible for entry in the Herd Book.
A Bull with an Objection shall not be eligible for entry in the Herd Book.
An Objection shall not render a Cow ineligible for entry in the Herd Book.

Artificial Alteration.

Any artificial alteration of the natural colour or conformation of an animal either by colouration or any other means shall ipso facto disqualify the animal from receiving an award and shall render its owner liable to expulsion from the Society.

Conditions of Entry to the Herd Book

[These Conditions of Entry to the Herd Book shall apply to all Red Poll Cattle born on or after the 1st January 2015]

1. The Herd Book shall consist of 2 sections:
 - i] The Grading Register
 - ii] The Pedigree Register
2. To be eligible for entry in either section of the Herd Book the animal to be entered shall conform to the Breed Standard, save as hereinafter appears.
3. **The Grading Register** shall consist of 3 sections, named A, B and C, and shall be open to females which are not eligible for entry in the Pedigree Register.
 - i] to be eligible for entry in Section A, the female shall conform to the Breed Standard or shall have been adjudged to conform to the Breed Standard by the Council acting in its absolute discretion, but without obligation to any person, on the recommendation of at least 2 Breed Judges who have completed an inspection of the animal, and following receipt of such other evidence or information as the Council considers relevant, notwithstanding that there exists or does not exist some fact or facts which might otherwise mean that the animal does not so conform.
 - ii] to be eligible for entry in Section B, the female shall have been born to a cow registered in Section A and shall have been sired by a Registered Red Poll Bull.
 - iii] to be eligible for entry in Section C, the female shall have been born to a cow registered in Section B and shall have been sired by a Registered Red Poll Bull.
 - iv] the application for entry into Section A shall contain details of the Breeding and Pedigree of the non Red Poll parent and such details shall appear on the Certificate issued for such entrant into Section A and for any of its descendants.
4. To be eligible for entry in **the Pedigree Register**,
 - i] a Bull:
 - a] shall be descended from parents, grandparents and greatgrandparents entered in the Pedigree Register and/or in the Pedigree Register of the Red Poll Development Society, and
 - b] shall have been inspected by a Society Inspector who has certified that it has attained such standard of excellence as Council shall from time to time direct.
 - ii] a Cow:
 - a] shall be descended from parents and grandparents entered in the Pedigree Register and/or in the Pedigree Register of the Red Poll Development Society, or
 - b] shall be a female born to a cow entered in Section C of the Grading Register and sired by a Registered Red Poll Bull.
5. Where a female has entered the Pedigree Register from the Grading Register that

fact shall be recorded in the Pedigree Register and on the Pedigree Certificate for such female and also in the Herd Book entry and Certificate relating to any descendant from such female.

6. Any animal which is entered in the main section of the Herd Book of an EU recognised Red Poll Breeders' Organisation or Association shall also be eligible for entry in the Pedigree Register, provided that it complies with the Breed Standard.

7. Red Poll animals from outside the EU can be entered in either section of the Herd Book at the discretion of Council.

8. If an animal is registered in the Herd Book and it is subsequently suggested that it does not conform to the Breed Standard then Council, acting in its absolute discretion and without obligation to any person, on the recommendation of 2 Breed Judges who have completed an inspection of the animal and following receipt of such other evidence or information as Council considers relevant, may rule that the animal does not conform to the Breed Standard and that its Registration shall be withdrawn.

9. All females should be registered not later than the last day of the year of birth. Late entries may be accepted at the discretion of Council upon payment of such additional fee as Council may decide.

10. i] Application for registration of a Bull shall be made by the Breeder when the Bull is aged between 12 and 24 months.

ii] Subject to 10 vi] hereof, a Bull will not be eligible for registration unless application is made prior to the Bull attaining 18 months of age.

iii] Any calves which have been sired by a bull prior to it being registered shall not be eligible for entry in the Pedigree Register but shall not thereby be disqualified from entry to the Grading Register.

iv] A Bull can not be registered unless it has passed the Society's Inspection and a sample has been taken from it for the purpose of discovering its Myostatin Status. The Myostatin Status of the Bull will be recorded in the Pedigree Register and on the Pedigree Certificate.

v] The Bull's weight shall be ascertained at the time of the inspection and, subject to 10 vi] hereof, it shall not be eligible for registration unless it has a Daily Live Weight Gain of at least 0.9 Kg.

vi] If the Breeder fails to apply for the Bull to be registered before it attains 18 months of age and/or the Bull does not have a DLWG of 0.9 Kg., and/or the Bull does not comply with this clause for any other reason, the Breeder may apply for the application to be considered by the full Council and Council in its absolute discretion may approve or disapprove such application, on such terms or conditions as it sees fit, having considered such evidence as it deems appropriate.

11. The animal must be registered by the Breeder, who must also be a member of the Society. The Breeder must have registered a herd name as a prefix.

12. In addition to the prefix, the animal must be given a name. If any name is used which has already been used in the herd then it shall be distinguished by the addition of 2nd, 3rd, 4th and so on, as the case may be, to that name. In this connection the words "1st", "the", and "young" cannot be accepted.

13. The exact date of birth and the name and herd book number of the parents of the animal must be given in every case. Twins must be stated thus – “twin to a heifer” or “twin to a bull.”

14. Every Red Poll animal must have tags placed in its ears in compliance with current DEFRA Regulations.

15. When making an application for entry into the Herd Book, whether such application is made in writing or electronically, the person so applying shall certify or shall be deemed to certify, that all the details given in the said application are true and correct to the best of his/her knowledge and belief.

16. Registration fees will be as decided by Council.

17. If there be any outstanding subscription, debt or other money due from the member to the Society, the entry may be refused unless payment for such liability accompanies the application.

18. All entries are subject to the approval of the Council of the Society.

19. Entries in each year's Herd Book can not be accepted after 1st February of the subsequent year.

20. The Society will observe the principle of non-discrimination between members.
