

CONSTITUTION AND RULES OF THE SOCIETY OF BORDER LEICESTER SHEEP BREEDERS

NAME	1.	The Society shall be called “THE SOCIETY OF BORDER LEICESTER SHEEP BREEDERS”.
OBJECTS	2.	The Society is established for the following charitable purposes as defined under Section 7(2) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005: - 7(2) (b) The advancement of education 7(2) (g) The advancement of the arts, heritage, culture or science 7(2) (m) The advancement of environmental protection or improvement 7(2) (o) The advancement of animal welfare
ACTIVITIES	(a)	To promote knowledge and understanding of the breed by attending shows and events and by the distribution of publicity materials both to the public and to the sheep industry.
	(b)	Maintaining the integrity of the breed and its place in the heritage of rural Britain by setting standards for breeding. The production of an annual flock book recording pedigrees and enabling the purity of the breed to be maintained.
	(c)	To further in every way the prosperity of the breed so that it continues to be an important part of the diversity of the rural environment.
	(d)	The promotion of high standards of stockman ship and animal welfare by organising classes at agricultural shows and sales and by providing prizes to encourage the widest participation in the drive to improve standards.
MEMBERSHIP	3.	(a) Membership is open to applicants. Each applicant for membership shall sign an application form in which he shall bind himself to abide by the Rules and Regulations of the Society as then existing or as they may thereafter be amended. Each application shall be submitted to a Council Meeting, and if approved the applicant after payment of the appropriate entrance fee and annual subscription be deemed to be admitted and added to the roll. Membership may be refused for good and proper reasons only. (b) No Member shall be allowed to own or have on their holdings Border Leicester Sheep which are not pedigreed. (c) Associate Membership is available to any person who does not intend to register or sell Border Leicester sheep. Associate Members will not be entitled to hold any registration under Regulation 2, Form of Registration.

Life Membership	4.	Any Member of the Society who shall have paid up all arrears of their subscription, or any new Member upon their admission, may compound for all future annual subscriptions by the payment of a Life Membership Subscription at the rate applying at the time.
Firm Membership	5.	Membership is open to firms under one subscription and under one Flock Number, provided the sheep are the bona fide property of the members of the said firm. Any one member of a firm or partnership shall be privileged to represent their firm at Meetings of the Society or be eligible to serve as a Member of Council.
Withdrawal from Membership	6.	Members wishing to withdraw from the Society shall express their wish in writing to the Secretary before the close of the Financial Year on 30th April. Otherwise, they will be held to continue their membership for another year.
Arrears	7.	(a) Any member who shall be in arrears of their Annual Subscription and/or any other monies due to the Society shall be ineligible to sell their sheep at any of the Principal Sales. Principal Sales are those where levies are collected by the Society. Any member who shall be in arrears of their Annual Subscription shall not be eligible to win a Special Prize at any Agricultural Show where a Special Prize has been offered by the Society of Border Leicester Sheep Breeders. Members must make their annual returns not later than 31st January. (b) Any Member whose subscriptions are more than six months in arrears from 1st December shall be deemed to have lapsed. (c) Every member shall be obliged to make an Annual Return not later than 1st December in each year comprising Ram Registration form, Additions to Ewe stock, Annual Subscriptions and Flock Book Contribution. Failure to submit an Annual Return by 31st January, will render that year's lamb crop ineligible for registration. Council has the absolute discretion to allow for the lamb crop to be registered at a future date.
Rights and Privileges	8.	The rights and privileges of every Member of the Society shall be personal to himself and shall not be transferable or transmissible by their own act or any operation of law.
OFFICE BEARERS	9.	The office-bearers of the Society shall consist of a President, Vice-President, Immediate Past President, a Committee of Twenty-Three other Members, a Treasurer and Secretary (which last two mentioned offices may be held by one person). The Management of the Society shall be vested in the President, Vice-President, Immediate Past President, and the Committee of Twenty-Three other Members. This

managing body shall be termed the Council of the Society. The President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary and Independent Examiner shall retire annually, and shall be elected by the Members at the Annual General Meeting but shall be eligible for re-election. The representation of Council shall be drawn based on one member from the South of England, three members from Wales, two members from Ireland and the remaining seventeen places by regional representation from Scotland and Northern England. The period of office will be for five years and retiring Council members shall not be eligible for re-election until after the lapse of one year.

COUNCIL POWERS OF

10. (a) The Council shall have the power to fill up any interim vacancy that may arise either in the Office-Bearers or Council. A new member shall take the place of their predecessor in the list.

Appointment of Committee's

- (b) The Council at the first Meeting after its appointment shall appoint from among its own number an Editing Committee, Publicity Committee, and a Finance Committee, and it may appoint such other Committees as it may deem necessary to attend to the various departments of the Society's work.
- (c) The Council shall have the power to remove from membership any Member who may be found guilty by the Council for wilful misrepresentation in making an entry for the Flock book or of wilful infringement of any Rule, Regulation or By-law of the Society, and the name of anyone so removed shall be deleted from the Roll.
- (d) The Council shall have power to enact byelaws for the government of the Society and regulations for registration in the Flock Book, conditions of sale and entry and regulations covering the use of artificial insemination and embryo transplants. Such byelaws, regulations and conditions shall be submitted to the Annual General Meeting, but they shall nevertheless continue in force until either altered or rescinded by a General Meeting of the Members.
- (e) The Council have power to prohibit Members from exhibiting at any agricultural show where the Rules and Regulations thereof regarding Border Leicester are considered by the Council to be contrary to the interest of the Border Leicester Breed or Border Leicester Breeders.
- (f) Inspection of Rams at Principal Sales - "Council would reserve the right to inspect and if necessary, instruct the withdrawal of rams from any of the Principal Sales should the necessity arise".

Investment of Funds

- (g) The Council has the power at any time to make such investments of surplus funds as may seem to it most advantageous.

- (h) Without prejudice to the terms of Clauses 7(b) and (c) the Council of the Society shall have the power to expel a Member when, in their opinion, it would not be in the best interests of the Society for him to remain a Member. A Member shall not be expelled unless he is given fourteen days written notice to attend a meeting of the Council of the Society and written details of the complaint made against him. The Member shall be given the opportunity to appear before the Council of the Society to answer any complaints made against him and shall not be expelled unless at least two thirds of the Council then present vote in favour of their expulsion. Any such vote shall be taken by secret ballot.

DUTIES OF
THE SECRETARY

11. The Secretary shall keep a Register of the Members of Society and Minute Book, in which shall be recorded the Rules and By-laws, and the proceedings of the Society, and he shall also edit the Flock Book of the Society, under the discretion of the Editing Committee. The Register and Minute Book shall be always open to the inspection of Members. The secretary shall call and attend all Meetings of the Society and of the Council. He shall have the power to call Extraordinary Meetings of the Council when he thinks necessary, and he shall be bound to do so on the presentation of a requisition by any four Members of the Council, and to give at least ten day's previous notice. He shall call meetings of the Society on the presentation of a requisition signed by Twenty Members and shall give at least ten day's previous notice. Each requisition and note shall state the purpose for which the Meeting is to be held.

DUTIES OF
TREASURER

12. The Treasurer shall collect the whole Revenue of the Society and deposit the funds in such bank, in name of the Society, as the Council shall fix. Drafts on the bank shall be signed by the Treasurer or the Convenor of the Finance Committee or any other Members of that Committee appointed for the purpose. The Treasurer shall have the power to sue, in their own name as Treasurer for all monies due to the Society. The financial year shall close on the 30th of April in each year, and the Accounts of the Treasurer shall be independently examined before the Annual General Meeting by a qualified Chartered Accountant.
- (a) The property of the Society, other than cash at Bank, will be vested in not more than four custodians. They shall deal with the property as directed by Resolution of the Council of the Society and entry in the Minute Book of the Council shall be conclusive evidence of such a resolution.

- (b) The Custodians shall be the President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary of the Society from time to time and who shall be Custodians by virtue of their office.
- (c) Custodians of the Society shall be entitled to their expenses with the prior approval of Council in pursuit of their duties.

MEETINGS

- 13.
- (a) All meetings of the Society shall be held, and the Office of the Society situate, in such place as may from time to time be determined by the Society, or the Council of the Society, and the Annual General Meeting of the Society shall be held at Lanark in September, the night before the Ram Sales.
 - (b) All Meetings of the members of the Society, including the Annual General Meeting, shall be called by circular at least ten days before the day of the Meeting.
 - (c) At all Meetings of the Society, The President, who failing, the Vice-President whom failing, a Chairman who may be appointed by the Meeting, shall preside and shall have both a deliberative and casting vote.

Quorums

- (d) A General Meeting of the Society, ten, and at Meeting of the Council, five, shall form a quorum. The decision of the majority at all Meetings shall be binding upon all Members present or absent from such meeting and all future Members.

DISSOLUTION OF THE SOCIETY

- 14.
- The Society may be dissolved at any time on a Resolution to that effect passed by the vote of at least two-thirds of the Members of the Society specially called for the consideration of such a resolution, and for the purpose of this rule, but for this only, members may vote by proxy. In the event of the dissolution of the Society, any assets remaining after the satisfaction of all debts and liabilities shall not be paid to or distributed among members of the Society but shall be given or transferred to a recognised charitable organisation(s) having objectives similar to those of the Society.

ALTERATION OF RULES

- 15.
- Proposals to alter any of these Rules, or to adopt shall first be admitted to the Council, who shall lay such proposals either before a General Meeting called for that purpose on at least ten days' notice, or before the ensuing Annual General Meeting, such previous notice being also given, and any alterations or additions, so far as adopted, shall thenceforth form part of the Rules of the Society.