

# **Irish Rouge de L'Ouest Sheep Society**



## **RULES OF PROCEDURE**

**in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2016/1012**

**Adopted on 10th June 2024**

**Version 1**

## **Participation in the Breeding Programme and Membership**

The aim of the Society is to encourage the breed commercially in Ireland and to support pedigree breeders in the improving of genetic lines of the core stock.

### **Breeders Rights & Obligations**

**Breeders shall have the right to participate in the Irish Rouge de L'Ouest Sheep Society approved breeding programme provided that:**

- a) their breeding animals are kept on holdings located within the geographical territory of the Irish Rouge de L'Ouest Sheep Society breeding programme.
- b) their breeding animals belong, in the case of purebred breeding animals, to the Rouge sheep breed.

Breeders should complete the application form for participation and the data consent form and return to them to the Secretary in order to participate. Forms are available from the Secretary.

### **Membership Benefits**

Breeders have also the option to become a member of the Society. New members are always welcome to the Society on payment of an annual membership fee which, for 2024, is €50.00.

**Although not compulsory, membership offers many benefits including, but not limited to:**

Participating in Irish Rouge de L'Ouest Sheep Society Pedigree Sales

Entry in the Irish Rouge de L'Ouest Sheep Society All-Ireland Annual Shows

Entry in the annual Irish Rouge de L'Ouest Sheep Society Show Flock of the Year Award

To participate in defining and developing the breeding programme by been permitted to attend the Irish Rouge Sheep Society AGM

Reduced fees for Lamb Registrations

### **Breeders Rights**

**Breeders have the right:**

- to participate in the breeding programme
- to retain ownership of their breeding animals
- to have their animals entered in the Flock Book in accordance with the Rules of the Irish Rouge de L'Ouest Sheep Society Breeding Programme
- to participate in performance testing and genetic evaluation and obtain up to date results where available

- to be provided with a zootechnical certificate
- 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
- to avail of the services as outlined in the breeding programme

## **Irish Rouge Sheep Society Rights and Obligations**

**The Irish Rouge de L'Ouest Sheep Society has the right: -**

- to define and carry out their breeding programmes autonomously, provided that they comply with Animal Breeding Regulations (Regulation (EU) 2016/1012 and any conditions of their approval
- to exclude breeders from participating in the breeding programme that fail to comply with the rules of the breeding programme or with the obligations set out in these rules of procedure
- to exclude breeders from membership where they fail to comply with obligations set out in these rules of procedure
- The Irish Rouge de L'Ouest Sheep 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 their breeding programme in accordance with these rules of procedure

## **Non – Discrimination**

Nothing in the Society's rules shall be used for any discriminatory treatment of breeders or potential breeders of registered Rouge Sheep.

All breeders regardless of the size of their flock or their gender shall follow the same rules and regulations of the breeding programme and be treated equally in accordance with the same rules and regulations.

Breeding animals entered in breeding books under EU Rules by breeding bodies and the offspring produced from germinal products of such breeding animal, are entered or eligible for entry without discrimination on account of their country of origin, in the case of purebred breeding animals, in the breeding book of the same breed maintained by that Society/Association.

## **Appeals**

Where a breeder considers he/she has been unfairly treated, they have the right to have their case examined by an Appeal Committee. The appeals committee shall be appointed by the Committee and composed of members not involved with the dispute and/or experts. The appeals procedure to be applied shall be as follows:

**Stage. 1:** A breeder who feels aggrieved in relation to any matter pertaining to Association business should write, in the first instance, to the Chairman of the Society making it clear that Stage 1 of the appeal procedure is being invoked. The Chairman will reply as soon as is reasonably practicable, but in any case, within 30 days from receipt of the letter from the applicant. Contact details can be found on the website.

**Stage 2:** If the grievance remains unresolved at Stage 1, or a reply is not forthcoming from the Society Chairman within 30 days, the breeder(s) may Request in writing that at their next Committee meeting, the Committee shall allow the breeder(s) to attend the meeting during the period that the grievance is being Considered. The breeder will be allowed to make an oral submission on the Grievance. The Committee will then consider the issue and must communicate its Decision to the appellant within 30 days.

**Stage 3:** If the issue remains unresolved after Stage 2, the breeder(s) may request an independent hearing. Appeals at Stage 3 will be heard by an Individual or group of individuals with appropriate expertise and 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 3 months. The person(s) hearing the case will decide on the Apportionment of costs.

**Stage 4:** Any dispute that remains unresolved after Stage 3 may be pursued by Invoking provisions under the legal personality of the Society.

All breeders and persons associated with a breeder must conduct themselves in an acceptable and appropriate manner at all times in relation to the Society's business. Any breeder or associated person witnessed or reported to be physically or verbally aggressive towards any individual carrying out their duties on behalf of the Irish Rouge de L'Ouest Sheep Society, will be reported to the Committee for sanction

The Society, its servants or agents shall not be responsible for injury, loss or damage to any person, animal or property occurring during or as a result of Inspections or generally carrying out the business of the Society or any Society related activity.

