

Mismarked Horses

One substantial change that has evolved since volume XXXV 1 is the amendment to the rules of entry to the stud book in respect of mismarked horses. A combination of factors including the emergence of Sparks and the passport rules made the change inevitable after many years of debate and a relaxation of the historic position has now developed.

All pure bred Cleveland Bays are now accounted for in the stud book irrespective of mismarking. Where mismarking occurs the stud book entry will reflect this as will be seen on some entries in this volume. It should be noted also that horses that have white that is within the breed standard will be recorded as well as horses that are outside the standard. This significant change came into effect part way through the stud book cycle and therefore only applies to those entries that were registered following the decision being taken at the Council meeting in January 2004.

This change in policy has led to several horses being re-classified and entered into this volume of the stud book to recognise their position as pure Cleveland Bays. Some horses were previously registered as part bred Cleveland Bays and others were placed in the Grading Register.

I am pleased to be able now to record their pedigrees in their rightful place and I have included them in a separate section of the studbook for ease of reference. I do still come across pure Cleveland Bays from time to time which have not been registered at all with the Society due to mismarking and sadly they cannot always be accommodated in the stud book due to the loss of papers over time; however, this issue is now likely to occur less frequently with the transparent approach that is now operating.

For ease of reference I have set out below the rule change on mismarking that was first published in the 2004 CBHS Magazine and which, it should be noted, details changes to the Grading Register process.

1. All horses on the Grade Register should be reviewed by a sub group of the Breed Committee as to their purity of Cleveland Blood.
2. All horses on the Grade Register deemed to be of pure Cleveland Blood will be transferred to the Pure Studbook subject to Breed Committee and Council approval (Points 1 and 2 were later amended to accommodate several pure CBs registered as part-breds and as such excluded from the stud book because of this issue.)
3. Passports will be amended or new passports issued subject to the mismarking comments below:

All Pure passports will include a section headed "Breed Committee comments on colour markings at time of registration." This section will note whether the colour is entirely acceptable or whether there are mismarkings according to the Breed Standard.

4. Colour marking comments will be repeated in both the Studbook and the magazine.
5. Existing breed standards on colour will remain in force.
6. The Grade Register will continue to operate but only for upgrading horses being introduced to the breed, starting at Grade C with **at least 75% Cleveland blood**.
7. Grade D will remain the register for the male progeny of Grade Register mares by licensed pure stallions.

Further Changes

Legislation also now requires the Society to find a home in the stud book for those animals whose parents both appear in the stud book but whose offspring fall outside the registration process. A good example of this would be a pure foal sired by an unlicensed stallion – These horses would previously have been rejected for the stud book or placed in the Grade Register. In these circumstances, and provided all other elements of the registration process are met, the Society is now required to register the foal in the Grade Register.