

IRISH SIMMENTAL CATTLE SOCIETY CATTLE SOCIETY LTD. RULES OF PROCEDURE

The Irish Simmental Cattle Society Council approved and adopted the Society Rules of Procedure on February 28th 2022. These Rules of Procedure include rights and obligations of Members and the Breed Society as outlined in Article 13 & 14 under Regulation (EU) 2016/1012.

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1. Non-Discrimination

The Society shall operate in a non-discriminatory fashion towards its members.

Breeding animals entered in breeding books by breeding bodies, and the offspring produced from germinal products of such breeding animals 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 breed society.

2. Membership

Full membership of the Society is confined to people who own as least one pedigree Simmental animal, and the animal is located within the geographical territory of the breeding programme. Application forms for membership are available from the Societies office.

The Membership will be divided into two categories, Beef Simmental Members & Dairy Fleckvieh Members. See Appendix 1 fee chart.

Members will be required to select for which category they wish to apply. Breeders can register animals in both categories but can only be an active member in either a Beef Simmental or Dairy Fleckvieh Club. An active member will be allocated Club Membership and voting rights through that Club.

- a) An existing member of the Society is required to act as a witness on application for membership.
- b) On applying for membership, the new applicant must fill out a Society Membership application form and agree to complete the CMMS data release form. All new Members after 01/01/2020 must sign up to the Direct Debit payment method.
- c) **Owners who are not members of the Society shall be allowed enter an animal in the Society's herdbook. However, they must also be signed up to the Society Direct Debit system and will be subject to higher registration fees. See Appendix 1.**
- d) **Animals registered by Non Members shall not be permitted entry into Society Sales or National Shows**
- e) Members shall co-operate in full with any inspectors of the Society that are appointed by the Society to carry out Herd Inspections be they random or pre-arranged inspections.
- f) Membership will be cancelled where the annual membership fee is not paid on request or where rules outlined in the Article of Memorandum of Association are not adhered to.
- g) Members must familiarise themselves with the Society's Social Media Policy (See www.irishsimmental.com) and abide by this policy.

3. Breeder Rights and Obligations

All Breeders shall have the right to participate in a breeding programme of the Irish Simmental cattle Society provided:

- Their breeding animals are located in the Republic of Ireland
- Their animals belong to the Simmental breed covered by the Irish Simmental Breeding Programme.

On meeting the above conditions Breeders participating in the Irish Simmental breeding programme shall have the:

- Right to have animals entered in the main section or recorded in the supplementary section of the Irish Simmental breeding book according to the rules of the Breeding Programme.
- Right to participate in performance testing and genetic evaluations in accordance with the Breeding Programme.
- Right to receive a Zootechnical Certificate for animals entered into the Breeding Book.
- Right, on request to be provided with up-to-date results of performance testing and genetic evaluations for their breeding animals, where those results are available.
- To access Society services in relation to then breeding programme including participation at Society organised sales.
- To become a member of the Society **if they so choose.**
- To participate through the Club structure in the defining and development of the breeding programme **if they join Membership of the Society.**

Breeders participating in the Irish Simmental breeding programme shall:

- Have free choice to select genetics of their own choosing
- Have the offspring descended from those breeding animals entered in the Irish Simmental Cattle Society Herdbook in accordance with the rules for entry and acceptance for breeding.
- Have ownership of their breeding animals.

4. Irish Simmental Cattle Society Rights and Obligations

The ISCS shall have the right to:

- Exclude breeders from the Breeding Programme where they do not comply with the set rules of the breeding programme. or fail to comply with their obligations as set out in these rules of procedure.
- Exclude breeders from Membership where those breeders fail to comply with their obligations as set out in these rules of procedure.
- Without prejudice to the role of the courts settle disputes that may arise between breeders, and between breeders and the Breed Society in the process of carrying out the breeding programme. (See section on appeals)
- Carry out inspections on breeders' animals as agreed by the Council of the Society. These inspections will be arranged by Council and may take the form of visual or weight. Breeders will be notified in advance (at least 24 hours)

5. Membership Re-Application where Membership was previously cancelled

Once an application to re-join the Society is received and meets all the criteria for re-application (Appendix 2), Council will at the next meeting accept the reapplication and place the reapplicant into a probationary category for a 12-month period. After 12 months a review will take place and if Council are satisfied that the reactivated Member meets the set requirements regarding account maintenance then they will be progressed to ordinary membership. Otherwise, the probationary category will roll over for an additional 12 months for a similar process. Members placed in this probationary category shall have all the rights to participate in the breeding programme and trade their animals but will not be permitted to hold any Officer position at Club level or seek a position at Council level during their probationary period. The probationary Member's conduct at Club and National events would form a reference when yearly review takes place.

At any stage until the probational period is notified to the Member as having been ended, the Membership status can be removed if over two thirds of a full Council vote to do so.

6. Fee Changes

The Council may from time to time set or make changes in the fees for membership, prefix, registration (homebred or imported), late notification penalties, embryo registration, export cert and transfers. Breeders must have accounts paid up to a one-month credit to be able to entry pre notified Society Sales and National Classes.

7. Financial Responsibility

- All debts must be paid in the order in which they were created. For example, the annual membership can only be paid after all monies owed for the previous year have been paid.
- Members who do not pay by direct debit (cash accounts) must pay for registrations before zootechnical certificates are issued.
- Members who do not pay by direct debit (cash accounts) must pay for the registrations within three months of requesting the registration.
- Monies owed on cash accounts must not exceed €500. Further registrations will not be accepted until the balance is reduced.
- If an animal(s) is registered by direct debit but the direct debit mandate is cancelled after the certificate has been issued and before the registration has been paid for, the rate for that registration will be increased to the cash rate and no further registrations will be accepted until that registration has been

paid for. If the registration(s) is not paid for within three months of being requested the animal(s) will be deregistered.

- If a breeder is found to regularly break the above rules the council reserve the right to remove the breeder from the herdbook.
- New accounts must operate as a Direct Debit member and may not transition to a cash account.
- Reapplying member must operate as a Direct Debit member and may not transition to a cash account.
- The society will periodically request that all cash accounts which have payments outstanding for more than three months and where the value is greater than €100, they must bring their account out of arrears by a set date or they will be removed as breeders from the breeding program and will have to apply to the council to be readmitted.

8. Appeals Procedure

All appeals will be dealt with in accordance with the procedures detailed below

The objective of this procedure is to provide a member who has a grievance with the society an opportunity to have the grievance examined and resolved at the earliest practical moment and at the most local level possible.

While the matter is being considered under the Appeals Procedure, the operation of the Society cannot be interrupted. The person(s) raising the matter shall continue to comply with the rules of the Society during the examination of the matter in question. By so doing he/she will not create any precedent, nor will his/her membership of the Society be prejudiced in any way in relation to the matter being processed.

The procedure to apply shall be as follows:

Stage 1

A member who feels aggrieved in relation to any matter pertaining to Society business should, in the first instance, write to the Chairman of the Council of the Society, making it clear that Stage 1 of the Appeals Procedure is being invoked. The Chairman will reply as soon as is reasonably practicable, but in any case, within thirty days from receipt of the letter from the appellant.

Stage 2

If the grievance is not resolved at Stage 1, or if a reply is not forthcoming from the Council Chairman within thirty days, the member(s) may request in writing that at their next Council meeting, the Council allow the member to attend the meeting during the period that the grievance is being considered. The member(s) will be allowed to make an oral submission on the grievance. The Council will then reconsider the issue and must communicate its decision to the appellant within thirty days.

Stage 3

If the issue remains unresolved after Stage 2, the member(s) may request an independent hearing. The Council shall grant such a hearing. Appeals at Stage 3 will be heard by an individual or group of individuals with appropriate expertise, 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 three months. The person(s) hearing the case will decide on the apportionment of costs, as appropriate.

Stage 4

Any dispute that remains unresolved after Stage 3 may be pursued by invoking provisions under the legal personality of the Society: ICOS Rules or the 1963 Companies Act.

All Breeders shall abide by the Society Rules.

Appendix 1.
Irish Simmental Herdbook Fee Structure

Category	Beef Simmental	Dairy Fleckvieh	
Annual Membership Fee	€50	€50	
Life Membership	€510		
Animal Registration Fee	€54 + €44 if Non Member		Home Bred or Imported. See note on late registration.
Animal Registration Fee (Cash)	€60 + €40 in Non Member		Home Bred or Imported. See note on late registration.
Prefix Registration Fee	€100	€100	New Member

Appendix 2.

Criteria for Re-Application for Membership

Breeders who wish to make a reapplication for membership following cancelling of initial membership in line with the Rules of Procedure must

- Complete and return a membership reactivation application form and a signed Direct Debit Mandate to the Irish Simmental Society
- Agree to make all payments by Direct Debit.
- Agree that no Zootechnical Certificated will be received until payment processed.

(Note the membership reactivation form and Direct Debit Mandate can be obtained by contacting the Society Office. Tel: 057 92 24577)