

IRISH ANGUS CATTLE SOCIETY

RULES OF PROCEDURE

The Irish Angus Cattle Society Council approved and adopted the Society Rules of Procedure on 09/11/2022. These Rules of Procedure include rights and obligations of Breeders 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 breeders.

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 & Breeder Application

Membership of the Society is confined to people who own as least one pedigree Angus animal and the animal is located within the geographical territory of the breeding programme. Application forms for membership & breeder application are available from the Societies office.

Members once registered will be allocated region membership and voting rights through that region.

- a) On applying for membership or breeder application the new applicant must fill out a Society Membership application or Breeder application form, whichever is applicable and agree to complete the CMMS data release form.
- b) Breeders 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.
- c) 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.
- d) Breeders must familiarise themselves with the Society's Social Media Policy (See www.irishangus.ie) and abide by this policy.

3. Breeder Rights

All Breeders have the right to participate in an approved breeding programme and have their purebred breeding animals entered in the main section of the breeding book if the animal meets the criteria outlined in the breeding programme of IACS.

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

- Right to have animals entered in the main section of the Irish Angus 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.
- To become a member of the Society.

Breeders participating in the Irish Angus 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 Angus Cattle Society Herdbook in accordance with the rules for entry and acceptance for breeding.
- Have ownership of their breeding animals.
- Have a Herd Prefix assigned to their herd on application for same.

4. Irish Angus Society Rights

The IACS 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)
- To charge a standard registration fee for the registration in the Irish Angus Herd Book of an animal that was previously registered in any other Angus Herd Book.
- In the case of animals imported into Ireland, to insist that the owner of the animal supply a zootechnical certificate in accordance with EU 2016/1012 regulation.
- Carry out inspections on breeders' herds 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).
- As regards their breeding programmes approved in accordance with Article 8(3), and, where applicable, Article 12 of EU regulation 2016.10.12, Breed Societies and breeding operations shall have the right to define and carry out such breeding programmes autonomously, provided that they comply with this Regulation and any conditions of their approval

5. Fee Changes

The Irish Angus Council may at a Council meeting make changes to its fee structure, including Membership, Prefix, Animal Registration, Late Notification Fees, Embryo Fees etc.

6. Appeals Procedure

All appeals will be dealt with in accordance with the procedures outlined below;

Rules for settling disputes

- (a) Where within the procedures of the Society, a breeder feels that he or she has been unfairly disadvantaged, he / she may make a special appeal to the Council of the Society. Such appeals shall be dealt with in accordance with the appeals procedure below.
- (b) The objective of this procedure is to provide a breeder 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.
- (c) 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 course of the examination of the matter in question. By so doing he/she will not create any precedent nor will his/her membership, (if a member) of the Society be prejudiced in any way in relation to the matter being processed.

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Stage 1

A breeder 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 breeder(s) may request in writing, that at their next Council meeting, the Council allow the breeder(s) to attend the meeting during the period that the grievance is being considered. The breeder(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 breeder(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.

The Society shall at all times apply these rules fairly and shall exercise the principal of equality of treatment to all its breeders.

The Society expects all its breeders to abide by the rules, regulations and standards established by the Society.

