

**Lead Body for British Sport Horses and Ponies  
Open Meeting - Thursday 7 June 2007  
BEF Offices, Stoneleigh Park**

**Purpose:** to present the proposal of the Lead Body Steering Group to the industry and to receive their recommendations

### **Meeting Notes**

A colour brochure containing the Steering Group's proposal, upon which these notes are based, was made available to each attendee. This is available at [www.bef.co.uk](http://www.bef.co.uk) in the *British Breeding* section.

Each Steering Group member made a short presentation on a specific area of their proposal. The presentation slides are available at [www.bef.co.uk](http://www.bef.co.uk) in the *British Breeding* section (it is a large file).

You will need to look at the brochure and the presentation in conjunction with these meeting notes.

The focus of the meeting was upon:

- **proposed objectives of this Lead Body**
- **proposed functions of this Lead Body**
- **membership details of this Lead Body**
- **proposed fee structure of this Lead Body**

Broad agreement to the Steering Group's proposals were secured from the industry representatives present. Those unable to attend are also invited to send any additional comments and suggestions to Jan Rogers.

The following are recommendations made either at the meeting or subsequently, and will now be considered by the steering group for inclusion in the final document.

1. That there be a membership group consisting of individual breeders who do not align themselves with any one particular studbook but seek to register their horses with whatever association or society that they feel it is most appropriate. This individual breeders' membership group may be a national group or a number of regional breeders' groups. It was suggested that this could be achieved by individual breeders joining the Supporters of British Breeding (SBB) and for SBB to have a membership of the Lead Body Council.
2. That the native and indigenous breeds who are members of the British Horse Society Horse and Pony Breeds Committee also come into membership of this Lead Body under the umbrella of the BHS H&PBC and are represented by them. Either this, or Native Ponies (GB). [Note however, that the BHS H&PBC would represent native and indigenous horses and ponies whereas Native Ponies (GB) is principally concerned with ponies.]

3. That consideration be given to those native pony breed societies with a keen interest in sport horses and ponies but limited numbers entering competition might be enrolled under one membership.
4. That Scottish Equine Breeders' Association (SEBA) and the Welsh Equine Council (WEC) be invited to be members.
5. That driven horses and ponies (Horse Driving Trials) be included within this Lead Body as well as ridden horses and ponies.
6. That the Lead Body establishment process continue with the number of existing interested parties. If additional stud books wish to join later, they may do so but their support is not critical in order to proceed.
7. Membership pricing bands were suggested which will be discussed at the next meeting and included in the final proposal.
8. That an action plan to be written, setting out to achieve the objectives and stating what may be achieved with different levels of income. This is to include some early 'easy wins' to secure the confidence of stud books and breeders, demonstrating that the Lead Body's actions can deliver value for money.
9. A number of other positive suggestions and modifications were made which will form a part of the deliberations by the steering group.

The Steering Group were thanked for the work and thought they had put into the production of such a clear, concise proposal, presentation and brochure.

### **Next steps**

The Steering Group will now be chaired by Lynne Crowden during the transition period between the BEF-initiated set-up period and the establishment of the Lead Body. *British Breeding* will continue to support the project physically, through Jan Rogers and Graham Suggett's input, and financially until December 2007.

At the next meeting the Steering Group will refine and modify the proposal in line with the feedback received from the industry. In addition the Steering Group will write an action plan for the consideration of the industry.

The Steering Group will also develop a financial plan to segregate startup costs from running costs so that the detail of this and how any money will be used is perfectly clear. Timescales and targets, based on income projections will also be included.

Following this meeting, the final proposal, including the action plan and all the benefits of the Lead Body structure will be circulated to potential member groups along with a letter asking for commitment to join by a given date.

The Lead Body will be launched on or around 1 September 2007. Details to be notified.

Date of next Lead Body Steering Group meeting 11 July 2007. Please email any comments to Jan Rogers at [janrogersequine@aol.com](mailto:janrogersequine@aol.com) in advance of this date.