

## **BULL REGISTRATIONS DURING COVID-19**

The current restrictions on vets being advised not to do farm visits other than for emergency or welfare calls may have an impact on members who wish to register bulls. In order that members are not put at a disadvantage when wishing to sell bulls, and to keep this summer's breeding season as normal as possible the Society is introducing the following temporary self certification process for bull registrations where members have sold bulls but are unable to have their bulls inspected.

Members who have bulls they wish to register for their own use this season are advised to postpone registration until the COVID-19 restrictions have been lifted. The Trustees will review this position at the end of May 2020 if the restrictions are still in place. Please contact the office if you think this is going to put your bull over-age for registration.

This self certification method of bull registration is exceptional, will only be in place during the COVID-19 restrictions, will be kept under review and should only be used if your vet is not able to visit your farm for routine visits.

Any bulls registered since 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2020 and up to two months (to the day) after the restrictions are lifted will be charged what the registration fee would have been had the bull been registered on 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2020 when the lockdown was imposed.

The Society suggests members have the conversation with their vet in the first instance as some areas require pre-movement TB testing so the inspection may be able to be done at the same time as the TB test.

Temporary exceptional bull registration regulations:

- Members wishing to register bulls during the COVID-19 restrictions should complete a bull registration form, submitting photographs, hair samples and payment as normal. Forms and photos can be emailed.
- The weight of the bull should be submitted either by using on-farm scales, or a weigh band. Photographs of the method of weighing and the weight should be taken and included with the application.
- The veterinary inspection of the bull will be waived, but the member should self certify that they believe the bull to be sound in the areas of the vet inspection.
- The registration form will only be processed when the seller tells the office the bull has been sold, and has provided details of the purchaser.
- A full pedigree certificate will be issued once the relevant transfer fees have been paid, printed with the statement '*this bull has been registered during the COVID-19 pandemic and has not been subjected to the usual veterinary inspections*'
- Any purchaser wishing to have the statement removed from the pedigree certificate in the future will have to get a vet inspection completed at a later date and submitted to the Society.

Any bulls registered in this way would be fully registered within the Herdbook and have no restriction on use.

During the COVID-19 restrictions, unregistered bulls offered for sale will be posted in the 'Bulls for Sale' section of the website, rather than in the 'Stores for Sale' section, on the condition that these bulls will be registered as above as part of any subsequent sale

12 April 2020