

Ouessant Sheep Society of Great Britain

Constitution Appendix D – Codes of Conduct



The Society

The Society will:

1. Treat people with dignity and respect regardless of race, nationality, gender, sexual orientation, gender reassignment, disability and/or age.
2. Value and respect people's feelings at all times and will not tolerate discrimination or harassment.
3. Take complaints of discrimination and harassment very seriously, investigate them thoroughly, and take appropriate action to ensure that the Society remains safe and inclusive for all.

Members

The Society expects its Members to:

4. Behave ethically, abiding by this code of conduct and acting in such a way that maintains and enhances the reputation of the Society.
5. Adhere to animal health and welfare standards set by DEFRA and to place the health and welfare of your sheep first.
6. Conform to all legal requirements for their sheep, including identification requirements and movement regulations.
7. Record accurately the information required by the Society for registration of sheep and to conform to the Society's registration rules.
8. Keep the Society Flock Book up to date, recording births, deaths and transfers and completing any Survey or Census instigated by the Society.
9. Register with the Society only those sheep that meet the pedigree requirements of the Society and conform to the current Breed Standard.
10. Give information in writing to the Society's Secretary without delay of any case of alleged misrepresentation or inaccuracy in the particulars furnished by any Society Member with reference to the pedigree or identity of any animal, and to assist the Officers of the Society to investigate any such case.
11. Treat all other members of the Society with consideration, respecting diversity, different views and opinions, and avoiding giving offence.

Sales

Members of the Society agree to abide by the following code of conduct when offering Ouessant Sheep for sale.

12. Members Selling Should:

- a. Advertise registered Ouessants on the Society website.
- b. Describe as 'Pedigree Ouessants' only those sheep registered or birth-notified in the Society Flock Book.
- c. Make clear whenever a sheep that is neither registered nor birth-notified is offered for sale, explain the reasons for non-registration to the buyer and not suggest that the sheep could be 'registered later'.
- d. Provide a printed copy of the OSS Registration Certificate to accompany every sale of a registered sheep. Provide the OSS number of the sire when selling a ewe in lamb.
- e. Declare any known faults in breeding ability, conformation, temperament and ancestry, where this relates to the intended purpose of the purchaser.
- f. Not knowingly sell line bred, or inbred, stock or related male/female pairs without declaring them as such.
- g. Ensure the sheep is in good health, with all routine husbandry completed, and provide the purchaser with proper records of the sheep's medical history and last worming and vaccination dates.
- h. Advise the intended purchaser of the welfare requirements of Ouessant sheep, to avoid selling sheep which might be kept alone, or kept in unsuitable conditions or on inadequate grazing.
- i. Offer after-sales help and advice whenever needed by the purchaser.
- j. Recommend membership of the Ouessant Sheep Society.
- k. Notify as soon as possible the transfer of the sheep, and the details of the purchaser, in the online flock book or to the Registrar via email.
- l. Be honest and truthful in all matters relating to the sheep being offered for sale.

13. Members Buying Should:

- m. Ensure the sheep you are buying is registered or birth notified with the OSS.
- n. Check the pedigree and kinship of sheep on their certificates or in the online flock book before buying.
- o. Check the sheep's conformation against the breed standard.
- p. Check the health and condition of the sheep, as best you are able.

- q. Ensure that each sheep is accompanied by a hard copy of its registration certificate, and that you receive details of its medical history.
- r. Physically check the ear tag number of each sheep against the number recorded on the registration certificate and movement documentation.
- s. Ensure that all sheep bought are transferred to your ownership in the OSS Flock Book.

Officers and Committee Members

Officers and Committee members of the Society have a duty to:

- 14. Accept the responsibilities of their position, and act at all times in the best interests of the Society, ahead of any other professional or personal interest. They should at all times consider what is best for the Society and its members, and not bring the Society into disrepute.
- 15. Use their knowledge, expertise and experience to take the best decisions they can in the interests of the Society. The Committee acts collectively and its decisions are collective rather than decisions of individual Committee members.
- 16. Be familiar with the Society's Constitution and governing documents and act in accordance with their terms and any relevant legislation.
- 17. Manage conflicts of interest effectively. In the course of meetings or activities, committee members will disclose any interests in a transaction or decision where there may be a conflict between the Society's interests and the committee member's interests (which include the interests of any relative or close friend or any person or entity that the committee member is involved with).
- 18. Prepare for meetings by reading the agenda, papers and any emails before the meeting. Attend meetings when possible and give the Chairman prior notice of absence when it is not.
- 19. Actively engage in discussion and debate at meetings, listening carefully, challenging sensitively, and avoiding conflict. As a member of the Committee, accept and uphold collective decisions, including majority decisions, as a committee.
- 20. Respect confidentiality, and work considerately and respectfully with all, respecting diversity, different roles and opinions, and avoid giving offence.