

## SUMMARY

The TGCA (Traditional Gypsy Cob Association) Ltd is the body approved by DEFRA to hold the Mother Studbook for Traditional Gypsy Cobs (TGCs) and as a Passport Issuing Office (PIO) in the UK and European Union.

The TGCA is a non-profit association, seeking to protect and promote the very best of our wonderful Traditional Gypsy Cob breed, which originates from the British Isles and makes up the largest population of horses therein.

Through our studbook we aim to record the old established bloodlines and encourage best forward breeding practices, so that we can uphold and build upon the legacy of these horses whilst maintaining the quality and true-to-type stamp of cobs as set out in our Breed Standard.

## 1) TGCA STUDBOOK SECTIONS

The TGCA studbook comprises the three sections:

- **MOTHER STUDBOOK** For ALL Traditional Gypsy Cobs (TGCs)
- **PART BRED REGISTER** For Part Bred TGCs
- **IDENTITY REGISTER** For non TGCs

## 2) THE MOTHER STUDBOOK

The aim of the Mother Studbook is to record individual TGCs, their parentage and their offspring and to use this information to encourage responsible and considered forward breeding practices that protect, promote and build on the best of this breed.

The TGCA will continually monitor and review it's operation of the Mother Studbook and may make alterations and enhancements from time to time as required and in line with meeting the above aims. The mother studbook is open to TGCs worldwide.

## 3) MOTHER STUDBOOK CATEGORIES

The Mother Studbook is further divided into three categories.

- BREED IDENTITY (BIR)
- SUPPLEMENTARY 1 (SSB<sub>1</sub>) & 2 (SSB<sub>2</sub>)
- MAIN (MSB)

Breed Identity is the entry level, moving up through Supplementary 2 to Supplementary 1 and then finally the top level MAIN Stud Book.

Horses registered at any level are entitled to enter TGCA classes and competitions (note any stallions must hold their show license in addition.)

# TGCA LTD Studbook Outline

## 3.1) MOTHER STUDBOOK REGISTRATIONS

TGCs may initially apply for registration directly onto entry levels BIR, SSB2 or SSB1. They may, at a later time, upgrade between these levels should additional records become available.

Choice of registration at BIR, SSB2 or SSB1 is reflective of the owner's breeding intentions or any available pedigree (refer to below registration criteria). It is **not** our endorsement of the quality of the TGC, other than it meeting the Breed Standard.

TGCs registered at SSB2 or SSB1 may apply for acceptance onto the elite MAIN Studbook once they reach the age of 4, subject to meeting the criteria and passing the evaluation.

If any TGC registered at the BIR level wishes to apply for the MAIN Studbook, it will first have to upgrade to either SSB2 or SSB1.

## 3.2) MOTHER STUDBOOK REGISTRATION CRITERIA

Criteria for each of the entry studbook levels are as follows. These are equitable across stallions, mares, geldings, fillies and colts.

### Breed Identity (BIR)

<i>BREED STANDARD</i>	<i>MUST meet the TGCA breed standard. This assessment will be made from images submitted with the registration paperwork. In the case of any doubt a physical inspection may be required.</i>
<i>PARENTAGE</i>	<i>NOT required. Note NOT recorded even if available.</i>
<i>DNA of TGC</i>	<i>NOT required.</i>

This entry level is suitable for TGCs with no verified breeding but that meet the breed standard. Horses are entitled to enter TGCA classes and competitions (nb stallions require a show licence in addition.)

### Supplementary 2 (SSB<sub>2</sub>)

<i>BREED STANDARD</i>	<i>As Breed Identity.</i>
<i>PARENTAGE</i>	<i>NOT required. Up to two generations of verified pedigree WILL be recorded.</i>
<i>DNA of TGC</i>	<i>REQUIRED</i>

Suitable for TGCs with limited verified breeding for recording OR that are being held as potential breeding animals. These TGCs may apply for evaluation for Main Studbook Status.

# TGCA Ltd Studbook Structure

## Supplementary 1 (SSB1)

<i>BREED STANDARD</i>	<i>As Breed Identity.</i>
<i>PARENTAGE</i>	<b>REQUIRED:</b> <i>A minimum of 4 sets of verified DNA, including both parents. Full verified pedigree WILL be recorded.</i>
<i>DNA of TGC</i>	<b>REQUIRED</b>

Suitable for TGCS with fuller verified pedigree for recording and that may be held as potential breeding animals. These TGCs may apply for evaluation for Main Studbook Status.

## 4) THE MAIN STUDBOOK

The MAIN Studbook is our kite mark of quality of a TGC, which may only be obtained after passing the full evaluation focusing on a myriad of health and quality factors.

*Please refer to the 'Evaluation Rules & Guidelines'.*

**There are 'Two Books' within the Main studbook:**

**'BEST OF BREED'** – For Breeding Mares and Stallions

**'TOP PERFORMERS'** - For Performance Mares, Stallions and Geldings

TGCs granted Elite MAIN Studbook status are those the TGCA is endorsing as true quality breeding TGCs (or lines in the case of Top Performers) for the betterment of the breed ongoing.

MAIN Studbook TGCs and their offspring (i.e. BOTH sire AND dam are on the Main studbook) will have access to elite TGCA Breed Association advertising on the TGCA Website and Official Facebook Page. Only Main Studbook Horses will be publicised by the TGCA.

### 4.9) MAIN STUDBOOK STAR RANKINGS

MAIN Studbook TGCs will receive a disc to display on their bridle that identifies them as being on the main stud book and shows the stars awarded them.

#### **BEST OF BREED BOOK**

- \* ATTAINED EVALUATION
- \* BLOODLINES AND PARENTAGE
- \* BREED SHOW PERFORMANCE
- \* QUALITY AND SHOW PERFORMANCE OF OFFSPRING
- \* CONSISTENCY OF QUALITY OFFSPRING

# TGCA LTD Studbook Outline

## TOP PERFORMERS BOOK

- \* ATTAINED EVALUATION
- \* BLOODLINES AND PARENTAGE
- \* PERFORMANCE AT DISCIPLINE 1
- \* PERFORMANCE AT DISCIPLINE 2
- \* PERFORMANCE AT DISCIPLINE 3

Stars will be initially awarded on passing the evaluation after which supplementary stars may be applied for from TGCA Head Office at the prevailing rate.

A TGC holding 5 stars may apply for SUPREME status and the ultimate BLACK BOOK. *NB Some horses may apply with only 4 stars at the discretion of the TGCA elite committee who will take show records into account.*

### 5) Historic Stallions/Mares on the Studbook

Historic Stallions/Mares are those recognised at the discretion of the TGCA to be or to have been major contributors to the evolution and refinement of this breed. Historic Stallions/Mares will be eligible for entry into the TGCA main studbook. Where a Historic Stallion/Mare is deceased the TGCA may award the Historic Stallion/mare status to a direct descendant to record the bloodlines and recognise their importance in the breeding gene pool.

### 6) Transitional Arrangements

Horses registered with the TGCA under the 2012 and prior system (i.e. before DEFRA Breed Association approval) remain as FSB or AUX. These are no longer available.

Horses registered on the main studbook since 2012 but pre August 2015 will remain on the Main Studbook.

The new Main Stud Book supersedes the previous stallion breed licensing scheme. Any stallions holding their old 'breed license' may apply for the main stud book at a reduced rate of £100.

### 7) Verified Pedigree Explained

Pedigree information must be supported by DNA records if it is to be recorded in the TGCA studbook and subsequently printed as verified pedigree in passports or certificates.

The only exception to this is for deceased Historic Stallions/Mares (and their widely accepted historic lineage (see 5) with no available DNA. These may be named in the pedigree of progeny at the absolute discretion of the TGCA and following the review of all supporting information. In this event it will be highlighted as 'Historic'.

Where the DNA proven pedigree does not relate to horses already registered, or in the process of being registered, with the TGCA it MUST be shown to trace back to traditional gypsy cobs originating from the British Isles and be supported by supplementary paperwork/images/information.

No Traditional Gypsy Cob will be entered directly onto Supplementary Stud Book 1, or have pedigree recorded unless proven to the satisfaction of and at the discretion of the TGCA.

## 8) PART BRED REGISTER

A Part Bred Register (PBR) will be maintained for Part Bred TGCs applying for a passport or to be over stamped with the TGCA. First and subsequent generations of TGCs on the Mother Studbook may enter the Part Bred Register.

Any non TGC element of a pedigree which has been verified by a current DEFRA registered breed society may be included in the TGCA passport or pedigree certificate. These horses must reside in the UK.

## 9) IDENTITY REGISTER

An Identity Register (IR) will be maintained for **non** TGCs who apply for a passport with the TGCA. These horses must reside in the UK.