

CASPIAN HORSE SOCIETY Current legal responsibilities for owners in relation to equine passports:

- All horses must have a passport, but a horse may not have more than one EU compliant passport. Passports must be issued by EU approved organisations. It should be available for inspection at all times.
- A fine of up to £5000 may be imposed for not having a passport for a horse.
- The passport is an identification document for the horse: it is not proof of ownership, and it is the property of the Passport Issuing Organisation.
- It is required to ensure that certain medications do not enter the human food chain, to stop the possible spread of certain diseases, and to prevent the sale of stolen horses. It is illegal to sell a horse without a passport.

Eligible horses should be registered and have their passports issued by the appropriate breed society.

NEW

All horses must have a microchip by 1st October 2020.

All horses born after 30 June 2009 are required to have a microchip inserted by a veterinary surgeon and a passport applied for by the time they are 6 months old or **NOVEMBER 30** of the year they were born, whichever is the later.

Older horses without passports will be required to have a microchip inserted before a passport can be issued. The horse will be irreversibly signed out of the human food chain in Section II if the passport is issued outside the timeframe described above. The passport will be marked 'duplicate', as it will if replacing a lost or stolen passport.

- Passports are to remain with the horse at all times with few exceptions – with keeper or livery yard owner where relevant. The owner may not travel the horse, sell, or in some cases compete, without the passport being present.
- The passport must be made available to the veterinary surgeon examining or treating the horse.
- The horse must be signed out of the human food chain when certain medicines are administered, and the Passport Issuing Organisation should be informed.
- Transfer of ownership must be made with the issuing Passport Issuing Organisation by the new owner within 30 days of acquiring the animal.
- The passport must be returned to the Passport Issuing Organisation for amendment in the case of change of colour, acquired markings, castration.
- If the passport binding is damaged, a duplicate passport must be applied for. (Unless it can be rebound, if the rest of the passport is intact)
- If a passport is lost, the Passport Issuing Organisation must be informed immediately and a duplicate passport applied for. If the original passport is subsequently found, it must be returned to the PIO.
- The passport is to be returned to the Passport Issuing Organisation for invalidation within 30 days of the animal's death. It may then be returned if the owner requests it.

Passport data, including personal data, is entered on the Central Equine Database. See Data Protection Policy.

Passport Issuing Organisations are required to report breaches of these regulations to enforcement officers, usually Trading Standards Officers.