

The British Blue Cattle Society

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INSPECTION CRITERIA AT SOCIETY SPONSORED SALES JAN 2020

MINIMUM HEIGHT WEIGHT AND SCROTUM DIMENSIONS

This document is published to help members select cattle of the right type and specification, for entry into prestigious sales, held under the auspices of the Society. It also sets out criteria for the Society's Volunteer Inspectors to work to, which in turn, facilitates uniformity across all Society sales. Apart from meeting the minimum standards stated below, pedigree cattle should also conform to the Society's Bylaws, number 1.1 of which states: -

"The definition of the breed's characteristics is as follows: -

A long, large bodied beef animal with fine bones, double muscle, sloping rump and hidden hips, strong legs and correct mouth. Coat colour can be black, white, blue, or any combination of these colours that is acceptable to the Council."

1. The ear tattoo should be clearly legible and the letters and numbers agree with the pedigrees. Animals born after 1 January 1998 require no tattoo, on condition that they have been double tagged, as per Ministry regulations
2. Animals must conform to minimum heights and weights specified by the Society's Council. See over for the detailed charts
3. Teeth and jaws should be correct in terms of position and bone structure. A degree of latitude shall be allowed where an animal is cutting teeth. The Chief Inspectors decision is final, with regard to acceptable jaw and teeth configurations. Animals with mildly defective teeth or jaws will be marked in yellow and allowed to be sold through the ring, in catalogue order, with an accompanying rostrum announcement; *'This animal has not fulfilled the Society inspection criteria in respect of jaws and teeth'*. Where it is a veterinary decision that the animal be rejected then the animal shall be rejected in the normal way, with no appeal, marked in red and not be permitted to be sold through the ring.
4. The testicles and sheath shall be checked for correctness. Testicles should be of good conformation and consistency, with the Epididymis showing definition. The minimum circumference of the scrotum between 10 and 24 months is shown overleaf. Animals over 24 months must have a minimum scrotal circumference of 33cm.
5. All animals must be in good, healthy condition and free from signs of infectious diseases, such as Viral Warts, Live Ring Worm etc. (A *Veterinary certificate must accompany animals if previously treated, this treatment must have been carried out at least 14 days prior to the sale*), Mange, New Forest Disease, Lice.
6. All animals should be able to walk correctly, on the day of inspection, with no genetic defects. The general mobility of the animal should be acceptable for practical use and not be detrimental to the breed's reputation. Bulls with an exceptional conformation will be allowed a degree of latitude with regard to mobility

The Council of the British Blue Cattle Society would urge all potential vendors to adhere strictly to these notes when entering cattle into official sales and to seek advice, prior to the sale, if they are uncertain as to whether an animal will pass. This will avoid the disappointment of any of their cattle being rejected by the Inspectors.

Should any cattle be rejected, it is the vendor's responsibility to ensure that the Lot Number is sprayed in red at the time of inspection. Such cattle may be sold privately from the pens, the sale going through the auctioneer's books.

Rejected animals **may not** be sold through the pedigree or commercial ring at a Society sale

SAFETY

A Vendor must not enter for sale, any animal with a potentially dangerous temperament. The Society's Inspectors have the right to demand the immediate removal, from the sale and the sale premises, of any animal, which, in their opinion, demonstrates a temperament, which could be dangerous to the public

- All Animals Must Be Halter Trained No Animal Shall Have Horns
- It is a statutory requirement that any bull over the age of 12 months, sold through a public auction, shall have a ring in its nose
- The objective of the Official Society Inspection is primarily in place to raise the breed standard and the inspection panel's decision is intended as a purchasers guide only. Prospective purchasers should satisfy themselves as to the suitability of an animal for their particular requirements. By bidding for an animal the intended purchaser accepts the Societies and Auctioneers conditions of sale, the animal being theirs at the fall of the hammer.
- 3 Month Rule – No calf, whether pedigree or commercial, under the age of 3 months will be accepted for either the show, or sale

WEIGHT FOR AGE			
Months	Days	Min Weight in Kgs	
		Bulls	Heifers
3	90	139	110
	100	139	110
	110	139	110
4	120	172	137
	130	172	137
	140	172	137
5	150	205	166
	160	205	166
	170	205	166
6	180	238	191
	190	238	191
	200	238	191
7	210	271	218
	220	271	218
	230	271	218
8	240	284	245
	250	284	245
	260	284	245
9	270	304	272
	280	304	272
	290	304	272
10	300	370	299
	310	382	308
	320	393	318
11	330	404	327
	340	415	337
	350	426	346
12	360	436	356
	370	446	365
	380	456	375
13	390	465	384
	400	474	394
	410	483	400
14	420	492	406
	430	500	412
	440	509	419
15	450	517	424
	460	525	429
	470	533	437
16	480	540	443
	490	548	449
	500	555	455
17	510	562	462
	520	569	469
	530	576	475
18	540	583	482
	550	590	489
	560	596	495
19	570	603	502
	580	609	509
	590	615	515
20	600	621	523
	610	627	531
	620	633	538
21	630	639	547
	640	645	552
	650	650	563
22	660	656	570
	670	661	578
	680	667	586
23	690	672	594
	700	677	601
	710	682	609
24	720	687	617
	730	692	622
	740	697	627
25	750	702	632
	760	707	637
	770	712	642
26	780	717	647
	790	722	652
	800	727	657
27	810	732	662
	820	737	667
	830	742	672
28	840	747	677
	850	752	682
	860	757	687
29	870	762	692
	880	767	697
	890	772	702
900	777	707	

For Data Collection Purposes only

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Bulls over 24 months of age will pass inspection, provided that they are over 687 kg in weight.
Heifers over 24 months of age will pass inspection, provided that they are over 617 kg in weight.

HEIGHT FOR AGE			
Months	Days	Min Height in cms	
		Bulls	Heifers
3	90	104	101
	120	106	105
	150	108	103
4	180	110	107
	210	112	109
	240	114	111
5	270	116	113
	300	118	115
	330	119	116
6	360	120	117
	390	121	118
	420	123	120
7	450	124	121
	480	125	122
	510	127	124
8	540	128	125
	570	129	126
	600	130	127
9	630	131	128
	660	132	129
	690	133	130
10	720	134	131
	750	135	132
	780	136	133
11	810	137	134
	840	138	135
	870	139	136
12	900	140	137

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Bulls over 24 months of age will pass the inspection provided that they are 134cms or over

Heifers over 24 months of age will pass the inspection provided that they are 131cms or over

MINIMUM SCROTAL CIRCUMFERENCE			
Months	Days	cms	
10	300	29	In addition to Circumference, both testicles should be of good conformation and consistency, with the Epididymis showing definition.
11	330	29	
12	360	30	
13	390	30	
14	420	30	
15	450	31	
16	480	31	
17	510	31	Bulls over 24 months must have a minimum circumference of 33cms
18	540	32	
19	570	32	
20	600	32	
21	630	33	
22	660	33	
23	690	33	
24	720	33	

GENERAL POINT

Notwithstanding the above minimum heights, weights for age and Scrotal acceptability, animals should also conform to breed type and be of good overall shape.