



MEMBER WELCOME PACKAGE



WELSH PONY AND COB
ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO

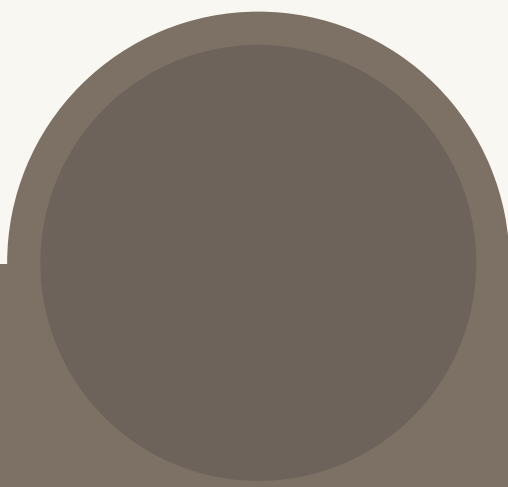
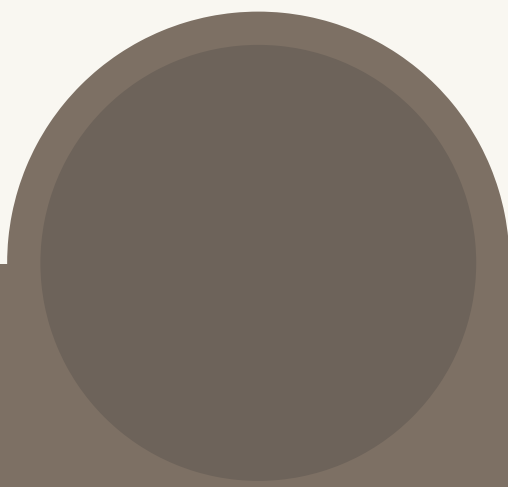
WELCOME



Welcome to the Welsh Pony and Cob Association of Ontario!

**THIS LITTLE PACKAGE IS INTENDED TO HELP YOU
PREPARE FOR SHOWING WELSH IN ONTARIO AND ALL
THE BENEFITS THAT THE WPCAO OFFERS!**

Your first step is to make sure that you have bought your membership! Membership begins January 1st of the calendar year, but you can purchase a membership any time during the year! Most members renew their membership at the year-end Annual General Meeting.



BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP

- ✓ **CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS, HIGH POINT, OPEN AWARDS, AWARDS OF MERIT**
Eligibility of the Welsh Champion of Champions Program, the WPCAO High Point Awards, the WPCAO Open Awards and other Special Awards of Merit.
- ✓ **EXCLUSIVE SHOWS**
Two exclusive shows only for WPCAO members: The Welsh Summer Classic and the Canadian All Welsh Championship.
- ✓ **CLINICS / SCHOOLING DAYS**
Invitations to clinics and schooling days for members wanting to learn more about the breed and showing, or the opportunity to practice before the shows season begins.
- ✓ **DIRECTORIES**
Inclusion in the various WPCAO Directories.
- ✓ **VOTING RIGHTS**
Voting rights at our Annual General Meeting.

FURTHER MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Membership is \$70 for a Family Membership (comprised of 2 adults and related children under the age of 18), \$35 for an Individual Membership, and \$20 for a Junior Membership. Please note that the WPCAO has an administration fee of \$10 per membership if received after May 31st (this does not include Juniors or first-time members).

You must purchase a membership prior to showing in order for your Welsh to be eligible for our high point program. If you compete at a show prior to purchasing a membership, your points for that show will not be counted.

Owners or Lessors of Welsh who qualify for Champion of Champions, or wish to participate in the High Points must be members. Rider/Drivers/Handlers do not need a membership unless they wish to collect points for showmanship, equitation or junior to drive classes. All animals shown must be registered in the name of the current owner/lease as listed on CLRC.


WELSH PONY, COB AND HALF WELSH REGISTRATION

All Welsh Ponies, Cobs and Half Welsh need to be registered with the Canadian Welsh Pony and Cob Stud Book in order to show at Welsh Shows in Ontario. Animals registered with the Welsh Pony and Cob Society of America or the Welsh Pony and Cob Society (UK) are recognized but must be registered in Canada within 6 months of arrival, if owned by a Canadian.

The registration of Welsh Ponies, Cobs and Half Welsh is governed by the Welsh Pony and Cob Society of Canada through the Canadian Livestock Records Corporation. To find out more about registration, please visit <https://welshponyandcob.org/>.

FINDING WELSH SHOWS AND CHAMPION OF CHAMPION QUALIFIERS

Every year, the WPCAO lists on their website all Ontario shows holding Welsh classes, including the eligible high point shows and Champion of Champion Qualifiers: <https://www.wpcao.ca/show-schedule>. Don't forget to check out our social medias as well for updates!





HIGH POINTS

The WPCAO High Point Coordinator is responsible for keeping track of show placings and awarding points. Your top five best placed shows will be calculated at the end of the year. For more information about the High Point system, please visit: <https://www.wpcao.ca/high-point>.

OPEN AWARDS

The WPCAO recognizes that the Welsh is a versatile breed and celebrates the many accomplishments of Welsh Ponies, Cobs and Half Welsh that compete outside of Welsh shows. Members with Welsh Ponies, Cobs and Half Welsh are encouraged to submit their achievements to the WPCAO for our Open Awards. Members are responsible for recording and submitting Open Awards. Please visit <https://www.wpcao.ca/high-point> to print out the nomination form. Members are required to fill out a show secretary contact for each show. An animal may be nominated for more than one level with a different rider. Submissions must be received prior to the deadline before to the AGM. Please contact the WPCAO at welshponyandcobontario@gmail.com for this year's deadline.

THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL WINTER FAIR

Welsh Ponies, Cobs and Half Welsh have been a Royal tradition for many years! Please note that you do not have to qualify in order to compete in the Welsh Pony, Cob and Half Welsh classes! Only Champion of Champions qualifiers need to have met the qualifying criteria. All members of the WPCAO are invited to the Royal Aisle Party after the show! More details about this get together will be released closer to the RAWF.



CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS

The Welsh Pony and Cob Association of Ontario hold a special class, the Welsh Champion of Champions, at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair each year. Ponies and Cobs qualify throughout the show season to compete for the title. There are three categories to qualify in: Youngstock – Two Years & Under, Mares – Three Years & Over, and Stallions/Geldings – Three Years & Over. The shows that have qualifying classes hold them right after the regular breeding classes. Only Purebred Registered Welsh Ponies and Cobs may compete in the qualifying class. The owner of the pony or cob must be a member of their regional Welsh Pony & Cob Association to compete in the Welsh Champion of Champions at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair.

Once an animal has qualified for the finals of the WELSH CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS, it is no longer eligible to compete for a berth in the final qualifying class. In the regular line classes, if the first-place animal has previously qualified for the WELSH CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS, the second-place animal is eligible to move to the qualifying class at that show. If both the first and second place animal have qualified, then no other animals from the regular line class will go forward into the qualifier.

The WELSH CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS winner will be presented with the PERPETUAL CHALLENGE TROPHY from Blackwood Acres (to remain with the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair), a CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS ribbon and a cooler.

All Ponies and Cobs must be registered. Foals of the current year must be eligible for registration. Qualifying Welsh Ponies and Cobs may be drug tested at the discretion of the shows. Handlers in all qualifier classes must be appropriately dressed. For the final presentation, semi formal attire is appropriate. This event will be judged immediately after the Welsh classes in The Horse Palace Ring. The presentation to the winner will be made at the Evening Performance in the Ricoh Coliseum.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & YEAR END AWARDS

Once a year at the end of November, the WPCAO meet for their Annual General Meeting and Year End Awards. This allows for directors and members to reflect on the past year, discuss new plans for the following year and celebrate the high point awards! This is also the time for members to help participate on keeping our association moving forward into the future! This is when the new Board of Directors will be nominated and voted upon by the current membership. Members are responsible for voting in the President and Vice President every year. The notice of the Annual General Meeting will be announced at least 21 days in advance to all membership. Quorum of the Annual General Meeting is 10.

Remember, if you have any questions, or even positive new suggestions for the association, please feel free to reach out to the Board of Directors at welshponyandcobontario@gmail.com!

HOW TO REACH US

 Email	welshponyandcobontario@gmail.com
 Facebook	Welsh Pony & Cob Association of Ontario
 Website	www.wpcao.ca



THANK YOU!

We greatly appreciate your support of our association and the Welsh Breed! We are thrilled to have you with us. Your membership helps us preserve and promote the Welsh throughout not only Ontario, but all of Canada. We look forward to your active participation in our events and activities.

WWW.WPCAO.CA