

The Gloucestershire Old Spots Pigs of America (GOSA) Bylaws

Article 1. Association Objective

This association shall be known as The Gloucestershire Old Spots Pigs of America Association

The objects of this association are:

- To conserve and propagate the Gloucestershire Old Spots Pigs
- To assist breeders of Gloucestershire Old Spots Pigs to secure breeding stock
- To help new breeders to obtain information
- To educate our membership and the public of the advantages of the breed
 - ie; temperament, mothering ability, foraging ability, leanness of carcass,
- To provide documentation of pedigreed animals

Article 2. Board Directors

This association shall be governed by a Board of Directors consisting of four officers: President, Vice President, Secretary, and Registrar/Treasurer

- Officers will be members in good standing who are elected by the majority vote of members present at the annual meeting with the exception of the Registrar/Treasurer who will be appointed by the Board members for a renewable 3 year term.
- The officers shall be elected to serve three (3) year terms, alternating the years of election so not more than two new officers are elected annually.
 - To initiate this rotation, the association shall begin by electing two officers, Secretary and Vice President for a three (3) year term, and the President for a four (4) year term; thereafter, officers shall be elected for a three year term, as their terms expire.
- Any Officer may resign at any time by giving two (2) months written notice to the President of the Board of Directors. Officers can be removed from office for behavior detrimental to the association or for involvement in dishonest dealing. Removal is by majority vote of the Board of Directors. Vote may be conducted by special meeting, mailed ballot, email ballot etc.

- The Board of Directors shall have the authority to deviate from any of these Bylaws if by unanimous vote such action is deemed advisable.

Article 3. Duties of Officers

- President: It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all meetings of the society, to act as chairperson of the board of directors. This person shall appoint committees to carry out special duties as may be designated by the officers and directors.
- Vice-President: This person shall assist the President and shall preside at meeting where the President is unable to do so. This person shall be chairperson of any membership committees as well as assume additional group responsibilities as deemed necessary.
- Secretary: This person shall keep all records of the society and shall make an annual report.
- Register/Treasurer: This person shall maintain registration and membership records and provide registrations for GOS pigs that are offspring from a GOS registered Sire and Dam. This person shall also keep all records of the moneys received and expended and provide, timely reports to the Board of Directors, when requested, as well as an annual report to be presented at the annual meeting.

Article 4. Meetings

Meetings of the officers shall be held at least once a year. There will also be an annual membership meeting. Members will be advised thirty (30) days in advance so that they can participate in the annual meeting. The meeting may be held in person, by way of teleconferencing or web based conferencing.

Additional meetings may be called as necessary.

The Board of Directors may establish a schedule for regular meetings.

Special Meetings of the Board of Directors may be called by the President.

Article 5. Membership

Anyone may become a member by presenting an application with required dues to the Treasurer. Membership runs for the calendar year. People may join after January 1st, membership expires December 31 of each year.

Anyone who joins during the last quarter of the year will automatically have their membership renewed for the following year. There will be a 30 day grace period before membership is discontinued. The association reserves

the right to cancel or refuse privileges in the association upon the request of three members in good standing and with the approval of the officers. Reasons for dismissal would include detrimental conduct and dishonest dealing.

Article 6. Breed Standards

- Head: Medium length with a slightly dished nose. The ears should be well set apart, dropping forward to the nose.
- Body: The shoulders should be fine but not raised. A long level back with well sprung ribs and a broad loin are desirable. Deep sides, with a thick, full belly and flank from the ribs to hams are standard.
- Hams: Large and well filled to the hocks.
- Legs: Straight and strong.
- Skin and Coat: Skin should not show coarseness or wrinkles. The hair should be silky and straight.
- Teats: There should be at least fourteen well placed teats.
- Objections: Heavy jowl, short elevated ears, a mane of bristles, crooked legs, and serious wrinkles.

Article 7. Registration Application Instructions

1. Pigs may only be registered by the Breeder.
2. Fill in Litter Number – you may start with any number, but may not use that number more than once.
3. Date of Birth – Farrow Date.
4. Total Pigs Born – Number of pigs farrowed by the sow
5. Total Born Alive – Number of pigs born alive to the sow
6. Total Pigs Raised – Number of pigs raised to weaning.
7. Select your registration payment – you may apply/renew membership along with litter registration; please enclose additional annual membership fee.
8. Owner – please list your Name, Farm Name (if applicable), Mailing address and a contact phone number in case something is not clear with your litter registration application.
9. Breeder – please list your Name, Farm Name (if applicable), Mailing address and a contact phone number in case something is not clear with your litter registration application.

10. Pedigree Information: Names and Registration numbers of the SIRE and DAM MUST be listed on the application. Grand-Sire and Grand-Dam is required to be listed. If Grand-Sire and Grand-Dam is not known, please attach a detailed explanation of where and when the Sire and Dam were acquired by the Owner or Breeder.
11. Service Certificate for Bred Sow Only – If you are not the owner of the Boar; have the Owner of the Service Boar fill out the certification and sign.
12. Individual Pigs in Litter - all pigs must be listed individually.

**ALL BOARS AND GILTS MUST BE PERMANENTLY IDENTIFIED
– EAR NOTCHING, TATOO OR PERMANENT EAR TAGS ARE
ALL ACCEPTABLE METHODS OF PERMANENT
IDENTIFICATION.**

13. Four photos of each pig must accompany the litter registration application. It is best if the pig is standing by itself, not held.
 - The right side of the pig.
 - The left side of the pig.
 - The front of the pig showing ear notch, tattoo or permanent ear tag.
 - The rear of the pig showing the full hind legs and over the back to see if spots cross over.
14. Please identify each photo of each pig with the following
 - Pig Name
 - ID
15. Photos may be sent electronically to registrar
16. Sign and Date your application
17. Mail the completed application along with your check, payable to:
GOSA

Article 8. Artificial Insemination (AI)

Only registered GOS boars may be used for semen collection and insemination. Sows must be registered in accordance with the Bylaws prior to insemination with domestic or imported semen in order for their offspring to be eligible for registration.

Article 9. Amendments

Amendments to the Gloucestershire Old Spot Pigs of America governing documents may be made by a majority vote of voting members at any regular meeting or a majority vote of the Board of Directors at a Board meeting, provided such amendment has been requested and is put up for vote.