

Characteristics of the Connemara Pony

HEIGHT: 12 hands to 14.2 hands high.

COLOUR: Grey, dun, brown, bay and black with occasional roan and chestnuts. The predominant colour is grey, though many years ago, the dun was quite common, unfortunately this is not so today.

TYPE: The body should be compact and deep, standing on short legs.

SHOULDER: Well laid back showing good length of rein.

HEAD: Well balanced head and neck.

ACTION: Free, easy and true movement.

BONE: Clean, hard and flat, measuring approximately 7 to 8 inches below the knee.

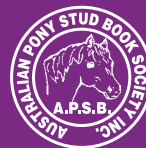


AUSTRALIAN PONY STUD BOOK SOCIETY Inc.

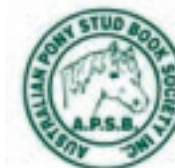
For Particulars of registration and membership contact the Registrar:

P.O. Box 57
GEEBUNG, QLD 4034

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The Australian Pony Stud Book Society Inc.



Established: 1931

The Connemara Pony



The Connemara Pony

One of the nine pony breeds registered under the umbrella of the Australian Pony Stud Book Society Inc. There is been a separate section for Connemara Pony within the Australian Pony Stud Book. They are allotted the suffix 'C' following their registered number. The height limit is 14.2hh.

History in Australia

The first Connemara to arrive in Australia from Ireland was the grey stallion, 'Island King' in 1963. He was followed in 1965 by the mare 'Arden' and her filly foal, 'Easter Mask'.

These three ponies were registered with the Australian Pony Stud Book Society and were the foundation stock for Connemara Park, the first Connemara Pony stud in Australia. The stud provided purebred and foundation stock for many other newly established studs and with further importations of purebred stock to several states the Connemara Pony became a firmly established breed in Australia.

The Connemara Pony

The Connemara Pony is indigenous to Ireland. It was developed in the Connemara district of Ireland, from which the breed takes its name. For centuries the breed has survived on the harsh terrain of that district and is of necessity extremely hardy.

History reveals the breed is well known as a multi-purpose animal, capable of many different types of activities in one day, both for work and pleasure. Its native terrain making for inborn jumping ability.

It is a breed that has had to survive on what fodder was available, unaccustomed to the addition of supplementary feed.



The Connemara Pony cont.

The strict breeding regulations and classification carried out by the Connemara Society in Ireland has been responsible for maintaining the true characteristics of the breed.

In Ireland the original height limit was set at 14 hands, but later the English Connemara Society recognized a height limit of 14.2hh.

The Connemara Pony is not a breed to be just paraded around in the showing. They are a breed to be used, equally at home either ridden or driven, they have achieved a reputation as a versatile and sensible breed. As with the other native ponies of Britain, they have special qualities that are invaluable and should be never lost. They are hardy, of sound constitution and sensible temperament. They can live out all year round in most climates, it is said they retain their type better if not stable fed.

Because Native ponies such as the Connemara are quiet and friendly, it is often tempting to skimp on their breaking. They require equally as much education as any other breed in order to produce really keen, well balanced and active ride and drive ponies.

Confidence and trust cannot be learnt too early and whenever possible the youngster should be handled from birth even if only for a few minutes.

