



# The Poultry Club

Patron: His Majesty King Charles II

## **The Poultry Club's Guidance for the Standardisation of New Breeds, Feather Types, Colour Varieties and an Amendment/Clarification to an existing Standard**

**April 2022**



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## Introduction

The Poultry Club is the guardian of *The British Poultry Standards* which are created by the affiliated breed clubs, or by the originator of a new breed or variety.

The following guidance has been accepted as the standard procedure for the inclusion of new breeds, colour varieties or amendments/clarification of existing standards, in The Poultry Club's Standards of perfection.

Breeds of poultry are occasionally created or imported and as such protocols to assess their long-term viability for standardisation are required.

This document details The Poultry Club's procedures and provides guidance for establishing the following:

1. Breeds of poultry already standardised in other countries wishing to apply to be admitted to the Poultry Club's British Poultry Standards.
2. Newly created breeds wishing to apply to be admitted to the Poultry Club's British Poultry Standards.
3. Non-standard colour varieties or feather types of British standardised breeds.
4. A clarification or amendment to an existing British Poultry Standard.



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## 1. Guidance on the Standardisation of a Breed Standardised in Other Countries

These breeds are often imported from continental Europe, or further afield and already have accepted standards in their country of origin. It is important that breeds proposed for British standardisation have a successful, dedicated, and long-term following with breeders prepared to develop the breed for a substantial time frame in Great Britain & Northern Ireland.

### Requirements:

- A minimum of **five independent breeders** will be required to provide details on their breeding programmes for a minimum period of **five years** from the date of application for standardisation. (In addition, an indication of the total number of breeders and their broad geographical/regional locations will serve to strengthen the application).
- All individual birds from these breeding programmes, from the past five years **must be Poultry Club leg rung** (or wing tagged or tattooed where permitted) and records to identify such birds should be provided at the time of application.
- Breeds should also have been **entered at the National Championship Poultry and Egg Show** (National Show) for a **minimum of two years** from a minimum of **five independent** exhibitors, with:
  - **Total entry numbers at, or above 20 individual birds** each year for breeds existing in both sizes of fowl.
  - **Or, entry numbers at, or above 20 individual birds for a single size/colour of fowl.**

*Please Note:*



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The Poultry Club's National Show entries remain the minimum quantitative requirement. However, information on entries at other UK shows may also be provided to demonstrate further support to the application.

Fowl (chickens) breeds standardised in other countries, should be **entered in the Rare: Non-standard classes** at the National Show. The Rare Poultry Society will provide assistance to the breeders in developing an application for standardisation.

For Turkeys, these should be entered in non-standard classes within the Turkey section.

For non-standard waterfowl (excluding ornamental waterfowl), these should follow the same guidance as above, but be entered in non-standard classes for the respective breed/species.

## Requirements Table: Breed Already Standardised in Other Countries

Type	Minimum number of Years breeding records required	Minimum number of Breeders in Great Britain & Northern Ireland	Minimum number of years birds shown at National Show	Minimum number of breeders exhibiting at the National Show	Minimum number of Birds shown at the National Show
Breeds Standardised in Other Countries	5	5	2	5	20

## Application Procedure:

- Once the requirements have been demonstrated, the breed club should petition its own membership through written ballot to ascertain their interest



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in accepting the standard. This should be sent to all current members of the breed club and offer positive and negative responses, as well as comments.

- The breed club should then collate these results.
- Should the result be positive, the breed club should send the completed application form (see Appendix A for completed example and Appendix B for the template), as well as all relevant records to The Poultry Club's Administration and Operations Manager, detailing the reasons for standardisation, evidence and rationale.
- The Poultry Club's Administration and Operations Manager will acknowledge receipt of the application and forward it to the Poultry & Eggs Committee for consideration. If more information is required, the Committee may contact the breed club.
- The Poultry Club's Poultry & Eggs Committee will then present the application with their recommendation for acceptance or refusal to The Poultry Club's Board of Trustees for their consideration and vote. The breed club will thereafter be advised of the outcome of their application.



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## 2. Newly Created Breeds

Newly created breeds, created for specific purposes, or to fulfil agricultural niches will be considered for British standardisation and the requirements are detailed in this section. The newly created breed must be distinctive.

### Requirements:

- A minimum of **five independent breeders** will be required to provide details of their breeding programmes for a minimum period of **seven years** from the date of their application for standardisation, to help demonstrate the necessary time and dedication required to create a new breed. (In addition, an indication of the total number of breeders and their broad geographical/regional locations will serve to strengthen the application).
- All individual birds from these breeding programmes, from the past seven years **must be Poultry Club leg rung** (or wing tagged or tattooed where permitted) - with each generation being appropriately identified. Records to identify such birds should be provided at the time of the application.
- Breeds should also have been **entered at the National Championship Poultry and Egg Show** (National Show) for a **minimum of five years**, from a minimum of **five exhibitors, with:**
  - **Total entry numbers at, or above 20 individual birds** each year for breeds existing in both sizes of fowl.
  - **Or, entry numbers at, or above 20 individual birds for a single size/colour of fowl.**

*Please Note:*



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The Poultry Club's National Show entries remain the minimum quantitative requirement. However, information on entries at other UK shows may also be provided to demonstrate further support to the application.

Newly created breeds should **not be shown in rare breed classes** (these rare nonstandard classes are reserved for breeds standardised in other countries, or for nonstandard colour/feather type-recognised British rare breeds), which are overseen by the Rare Poultry Society. Instead, newly created breeds **must be shown in general non-standard classes**, which should be offered at each level of Poultry Club affiliated show. Newly created breeds should be shown in these classes for a period of **not less than five years**.

**Requirements Table: Newly Created Breeds**

Type	Minimum number of Years breeding records required	Minimum number of Breeders in Great Britain & Northern Ireland	Minimum number of years birds shown at the National Show	Minimum number of breeders exhibiting at the National Show	Minimum number of Birds shown at the National Show
Newly Created Breeds	7	5	5	5	20

## **Application Procedure:**

- Once the requirements have been demonstrated, the breed club should petition its own membership through written ballot to ascertain their interest in accepting the standard. This should be sent to all current members and offer positive and negative options, as well as an option to offer comments.
- The breed club should then collate these results.



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- Should the result be positive, the breed club should send the completed form (see Appendices A and B for completed example & template), as well as all relevant records to The Poultry Club's Administration and Operations Manager, detailing the reasons for standardisation, evidence and their rationale.
- The Poultry Club's Administration and Operations Manager will acknowledge receipt of the application and forward it to the Poultry & Eggs Committee who will consider the application. Should more information be required, the Committee may contact the breed club.
- The Poultry Club's Poultry & Eggs Committee will then present the application with their recommendation for acceptance or refusal to The Poultry Club Board of Trustees for their consideration and vote. The breed club will thereafter be advised of the outcome.

### 3. Non-Standard Colour Varieties or Feather Types of Standardised Breeds

Breeds already standardised by The Poultry Club and that feature in *The British Poultry Standards* may see an interest from breeders leading to the development of, or introduction of new a colour variety and feather type.

The following procedure should be adhered to, should breeders of additional colour or feather type, wish to apply for British standardisation.

#### Requirements:

- A new colour variety or feather type of a standardised breed should be developed according to a stringent breeding programme, by multiple breeders. A minimum of **five breeders** will be required.





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- The Poultry Club will require **five years of breeding records** from the minimum number of independent breeders, as well as an indication of the total number of breeders and their broad geographical/regional locations to assess and monitor the progress of the suggested addition.
- All individual birds from these breeding programmes, from the past five years **must be Poultry Club leg rung** (or wing tagged or tattooed where permitted) - with each generation being appropriately identified. Records to identify such birds should be provided at the time of the application.
- At the National Show, the new colour variety or feather type birds must have been shown in non-standard classes of their respective breed club for a period of **not less than five years** with entries to be **equal or above 20 individual birds** each year. This is to ensure sufficient long-term interest is demonstrated.

*Please Note:*

- The non-standard colour variety or feather type birds should be shown in specific **non-standard classes under the class listing for their respective breed club** to which the new colour or feather type applies. For example, should Pekin breeders choose to develop a pile variant, this should be shown in nonstandard Pekin classes within the Pekin breed club section (not in the general non-standard or rare non-standard classes).

**Requirements Table: Non-Standard Colour Varieties, or Feather types**

Type	Minimum number of Years breeding records required	Minimum number of Breeders in Great Britain & Northern Ireland	Minimum number of years birds shown at National Show	Minimum number of breeders exhibiting at the National Show	Minimum number of Birds shown at the National Show



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Breeds Standardised in Other Countries	5	5	5	5	20
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## Application Procedure:

- Once the requirements have been demonstrated, the breed club should petition its own membership through written ballot to ascertain their interest in accepting the standard. This should be sent to all current members and offer positive and negative options, as well as an option to offer comments.
- The breed club should then collate these results.
- Should the result be positive, the breed club should send the completed form (see completed example in Appendix A, and template in Appendix B), as well as all relevant records to The Poultry Club's Administration and Operations Manager, detailing the reasons for standardisation, evidence and their rationale.
- The Poultry Club Administration and Operations Manager will acknowledge receipt of the application and forward it to the Poultry & Eggs Committee who will consider the application. Should more information be required the Committee may contact the breed club.
- The Poultry Club's Poultry & Eggs Committee will then present the application with their recommendation for acceptance or refusal to The Poultry Club Board of Trustees for their consideration and vote. The breed club will thereafter be advised of the outcome.



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## **4. A Clarification/Amendment to an existing British Poultry Standard.**

Breeds already standardised by The Poultry Club. The affiliated breed club may decide to clarify a point in the standard or make a minor change if so, the following Procedure should be adhered to.

### **Requirements:**

- Once a Clarification/ Amendment has been demonstrated, the breed club should petition its own membership through a written ballot to ascertain their interest in accepting the change. This should be sent to all current members and offer positive and negative options, as well as an option to offer comments. If more than one change, a vote will be required for each.
- The breed club should then collate the results.
- Should the result be positive, the breed club should send the completed form (See Appendix C) with ballot papers which will be returned, to The Poultry Club's Administration and Operations Manager
- The Poultry Club will acknowledge receipt of the application and forward it to the Poultry & Eggs Committee who will consider the application. Should more information be required the Committee may contact the breed club.
- The Poultry Club's Poultry & Egg Committee will then present the application with their recommendation for acceptance or refusal to The Poultry Club Board of Trustees for their consideration and vote. The breed club will thereafter be advised of the outcome.



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## Appendix A – Example of completed application form for Great Britain and Northern Ireland standardisation of:

- Breeds standardised in other countries.
- Newly created breeds.
- Non-standard colour varieties or feather types of standardised breeds.

<b>Name of Breed, Species, Colour and Feather Type if required</b>	<i>My New Blue Chicken</i>
<b>Type of application</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Breed standardised in another country</b></li><li>• <b>Newly created breed</b></li><li>• <b>Non-standard colour/feather type</b></li></ul>	<i>Newly Created Breed</i>



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<b>Number of breeders within programme across:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Past 5 years (breed standardised in another county &amp; nonstandard colour/feather type)</li> <li>- Past 7 years (newly created breed)</li> </ul>	2014: 10 2015: 12 2016: 12 2017: 21 2018: 25 2019: 26
<b>Number of breeders exhibiting at the National Show over past two years for breed standardised in other country,</b>  <b>or five years for newly created breed or non-standard colour/feather type of standardised breed - include further annual data if available</b>	2014: 2 2015: 5 2016: 5 2017: 11 2018: 11 2019: 20
<b>Number of entries at the National Show over the past two years for breed standardised in other country,</b>	2014: 10 2015: 20
<b>or, five years for newly created breed or non-standard colour/feather type of standardised breed - include further annual data if available</b>	2016: 21 2017: 30 2018: 29 2019: 32



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<b>Number of breeders per geographical region of Great Britain in current year</b>	Scotland: 2 Northern Ireland: 1 Wales: 2 North East: 1 North West: 3 Midlands: 4 South West: 10 Other: 0
<b>A POSTAL BALLOT HAS TAKEN PLACE AND THE RESULT IS:</b> <b>Total papers circulated:</b> <b>Voting in favour:</b> <b>Voting Against:</b> <b>Note: Ballot papers may be requested for confirmation</b>	100 70 30
<b>Name of Breed Club Secretary</b>	
<b>Email address and telephone number</b>	
<b>Signature of Breed Club Secretary</b>	

Please also supply:



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- A copy of standard translated from country of origin for applications for breeds standardised in other country, or the standard accepted by the breed club.
- Breeding records of all leg-rung generations applicable to standard application type.

**Return completed form and supplementary information to:**



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## Appendix B – Template Application Form for Great Britain and Northern Ireland standardisation of:

- Breeds already standardised in other countries.
- Newly created breeds.
- Non-standard colour variety or feather type of standardised breed.

<b>Name of Breed, Species, Colour and Feather Type if applicable</b>	
<b>Type of application:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Breed standardised in another country</li><li>• Newly created breed</li><li>• Non-standard colour variety or feather type.</li></ul>	





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<p><b>Number of breeders within programme across:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Past 5 years (breed standardised in another country &amp; nonstandard colour/feather type)</li> <li>- Past 7 years (newly created breed)</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Number of breeders exhibiting at the National Show over past two years for breed standardised in other country,</b></p> <p><b>Or, five years for newly created breed or non-standard colour/feather type of</b></p>	
<p><b>standardised breed - include further annual data if available</b></p>	
<p><b>Number of entries at the National Show over the past two years for breed standardised in other country,</b></p> <p><b>or, five years for newly created breed or non-standard colour/feather type of standardised breed - include further annual data if available</b></p>	



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<b>Number of breeders per geographical region of Great Britain in current year</b>	
<b>A POSTAL BALLOT HAS TAKEN PLACE AND THE RESULT IS:</b> <b>Total papers circulated:</b>  <b>Voting in favour:</b>  <b>Voting Against:</b>  <b>Note: Ballot papers to be sent with application which will be returned.</b>	
<b>Name of Breed Club Secretary</b>	
<b>Email address and telephone number</b>	
<b>Signature of Breed Club Secretary</b>	

**Please also supply:**

- A copy of standard translated from country of origin for applications for breeds standardised in other country, or the standard accepted by the breed club.



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- Breeding records of all leg-rung generations applicable to standard application type.

**Return completed form and supplementary information to:**

**Jo Hall, Sedbury Home Farm, Gilling West, Richmond, DL10 5LF.**



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## **APPENDIX C - Template Application Form for a Minor Change/Clarification/Amendment a British Poultry Club standard:**

**Name of Breed**

**Proposed Change**

**A POSTAL BALLOT HAS TAKEN PLACE AND THE RESULT IS:**

**Total papers circulated:**

**Voting in favour:**

**Voting Against:**

**Note: Ballot papers to be sent with application which will be returned.**



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**Name of Breed Club Secretary**

**Email address and telephone number**

**Signature of Breed Club Secretary**