

The timetable for the elections is as follows.

- 22<sup>nd</sup> June– Nominations open
- 23<sup>rd</sup> July – Nominations close
- 2<sup>nd</sup> August – Ballot papers issued
- 31<sup>st</sup> August – Ballot closes
- 19<sup>h</sup> September – Council meeting
- 13<sup>th</sup> October - Initial Committee set up meetings
- 31<sup>st</sup> October - AGM and Annual Breed Reps Meeting

### What is the difference between Breed Representatives and Regional Co-ordinators

Breed Reps are elected to look after the interests of members who keep that breed. Regional Co-ordinators are elected to look after the interests of members in their region that are not breed specific

### Why did you make these changes

We felt that a more general approach to regional support was called for rather than trying to have specialists for each sector in every region.

### Why are the nomination procedures different

The two jobs are different and have different job descriptions. We want the Regional Co-ordinators to form the nucleus of Regional Support Groups

### What is an Active Pedigree Breeder

A member who has notified 10 litters during a three year period. The three year qualifying period is determined by the Council

### Can there be more than one Active Pedigree Breeder from one herd.

No. Although many members choose to list their herds under joint names only one person can be the Active Pedigree Breeder associated with that herd and that membership. Each person standing for election must have their own membership and qualify as an Active Pedigree Breeder in their own right.

### What do Breed Representatives do

We would like Breed Reps to be the first point of contact for new members keeping their breed so that they can offer support, advice and encouragement to new members.

### Can I stand as a Breed Representative and a Regional Co-ordinator

Yes. If a member has the time and the skills to do both jobs then they can put their name forward for both roles but we also don't want to put off members who feel that they would prefer to concentrate only on being a Breed Rep or a Regional Sector Rep.



*Why are some seats on the Sector Committees reserved*

We want to encourage the Regional Co-ordinators by guaranteeing a minimum number of seats on the committees. This process is designed to help build a regional support structure for pedigree breeders. We also want to ensure that there is a balance between Breed Reps and Regional Co-ordinators

*What happens if there are more nominees than places on a Sector Committee*

Each committee will have a maximum of 14 members with a minimum of 4 seats reserved for Breed Reps and four seats reserved for Regional Co-ordinators. If there are more than 14 elected members who have selected a Committee as their first choice the next step will be to see how many Breed Reps and Regional Co-ordinators there are. If there are 11 Breed Reps and 4 Regional Co-ordinators then the 4 Regional Co-ordinators go straight on and all the elected breed reps hold a ballot to select 10 from 11. If there are 11 Breed Reps and 5 Regional Co-ordinators then the Breed Reps vote for 4 out of 11 and the Regional Co-ordinators vote for 4 out of 5. The remaining candidates go into a combined ballot for the 6 seats in which all the elected Breed Reps and Regional Co-ordinators vote for 6 out of 8 candidates.

*Can I just be a Breed Representative and not sit on any other committees*

Yes. We recognise that we are asking a lot from our Breed Reps and that this a serious and demanding position.

*Can I stand for more than one Sector Committee*

Yes. If a member has the time and the skills to serve on more than one Committee then we would welcome that but members may only serve on a maximum of two committees and must prioritise their preferred committees (equal first choice is not acceptable). We want to ensure that committees are made up of those whose put them as their first choice.

*When do Committees meet*

The BPA is a professional organisation and so formal meetings of Committees and Council are held during the working week. The Committees are also working committees and so less formal meetings may be held by phone or outside normal office hours.

*Why don't Breed Representatives have their own Committee.*

We expect to have 24 breed representatives which is too many for a working committee. Breed Reps have authority to represent the interests of their breed. They do not need permission from a committee to take decisions that only affect their breed as long as they consult with their breeders.

*When do Breed Reps meet*

There will be an Annual Breed Reps meeting which may be held after the Annual General Meeting

*What happens if I miss a meeting*

The Council may decide to replace members who miss three consecutive meetings.



### Does the BPA pay expenses

The BPA pays limited travelling expenses for official meetings.

### How is the Council elected

Each of the three Committees elects four representatives to Council.

### What are the responsibilities of Council members

Council members are Directors of the Limited Company and Trustees of the Charity. They are responsible for the overall policies and strategies of the Association. The Council also makes the rules of Association. It is the duty of Council members to exercise their independent judgement in the best interest of the Association and its members as a whole.

### How are Sector Committee Chairmen elected

Each Sector Committee elects its own Chairman.

### What are the responsibilities of the Sector Committee Chairmen

The Chairman of a Sector Committee is responsible for the implementation of the Sector plan devised by the committee. Committee Chairmen serve on the Council as Deputy Chairmen of the Council. They also serve on the Executive Management Committee.

### How is the Chairman of the Association elected

The Chairman of the Association is elected by the Council.

### What are the responsibilities of the Chairman

The Chairman presides at Council meetings and has a casting vote. The Chairman of Council is also Chairman of the Executive Management Committee

### What is the Executive Management Committee

The Executive Management Committee is made up of the Chairman of Council and the Chairmen of the Sector Committees along with two other members appointed by Council. The Executive Management Committee is responsible for administration of the Association and its finances.

### Does every breed have a Breed Representative.

In order to elect a Breed Representative a breed must have at least three Active Pedigree Breeders.

### What happens if a breed does not have three Active Pedigree Members.

In this case the Council will appoint someone to represent the interests of that breed. In the past we have usually been able to find an elected Breed Rep who also has some connection with the new breed.



## BPA Elections Questions and Answers



### Does every breed hold a ballot.

No. A ballot is only required if there are more nominations for the position of Breed Rep or Regional Sector Rep than there are places available.

### How many Elected Representatives are there.

All the breeds have two Breed Representatives except the Duroc, Pietrain, Hampshire and Mangalitza breeds which only have one. The Council keeps these allocations under review.

### Who gets to vote in a Breed Reps election.

Only members who own herdbook registered breeding stock shown as alive on the BPA computer system will automatically be sent a ballot paper for a Breed Reps election in their breed.

### What if I don't have any live registered pigs at the time of the election.

Members who have retired and have no live registered pigs of any breed may apply in writing to be associated with a single breed and vote in an election for that breed. They should have some connection with the breed and can only be associated with a single breed. A member with live pigs in one breed cannot apply to be associated with another breed even if the breed that they own is not holding an election

### Who gets to vote in a Regional Co-ordinators election

Any member with live pedigree pigs in that region can vote in a Regional Co-ordinators election