



LIMOUSIN

Notice to *Members.*

September 2026



Breed Smarter.

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Welcome.

to the September 2026 Notice to Members

In the month since our last Notice, we have seen fantastic success at the Northern Ireland Ladies In Red Club Sale and at the Forefront Sale at Carlisle, which was consigned by the Goldies, Glenrock and Haltcliffe herds. Congratulations to all involved.

Demand for females continues to be strong, which bodes well as we head into the autumn bull sale season.

September also saw the Society hold its 55th Annual General Meeting at the Leamington Spa office. I would like to extend a warm welcome to the Society's new Honorary President, Jim Quail (Lynderg), and express our sincere thanks to outgoing President Aled Edwards (Dyfri) for his support and wise counsel over the past two years.

Jim is no stranger to the Council table, having served six terms between 1999 and 2015. His wealth of experience as a breeder and a beef retailer, together with his wide connections within the breed and beyond, will be invaluable to the Board over the next two years.

I would also like to welcome two new Board members and one returning member. Steven Wilson (Impulsive herd) and Robin Whittle (Wellhouse herd) will represent the Northwest and South Wales/Mid-West regions respectively, while Matthew Jordon (Longhirst herd) rejoins the Board as a National member, having previously served between 2021 and 2024.

On the Society's behalf, sincere thanks to outgoing board members whose terms have ended; Alan Myerscough (Northwest region), Margaret Penny (Scottish region) and Craig Ridley (National representative).

At the AGM, a number of important changes were adopted to the Society's Memorandum and Articles of Association. These changes will enable future Council elections to be conducted electronically, completing the transition to digital communications. A new regional Council seat for Northern Ireland has also been created and will become available for the first time in 2027, while the number of National seats has been reduced from five to four. The election process under which Council



Please Note: 01 May 2027 - New Sale Rules Come Into Effect

Important changes have been made to the Society's sale rules.

These changes apply to EVERY SOCIETY SALE — including Club Sales — held from 1 May 2027 onwards.

Members are strongly encouraged to read the updated rules on pages 8 & 9 and contact the Society office with any questions.

Further reminders will be issued.

select its Chairman has also been refined to reflect current practice. Full details of these changes were outlined in the August edition of Notice to Members. A copy of the Memorandum and Articles of Association is available on the Society website [here](#). A printed copy can also be provided upon request.

Looking ahead to the coming month, entries for the October sales are now closed. Across the Carlisle, Stirling, Ballymena and Melton sales, more than 300 animals have been entered. A sincere thank you to all members for your continued support. A series of promotional activity across our social media channels is planned in the weeks and days leading up to each sale, so please keep an eye out for this.

Also in October, the breed will be represented at Agri Expo on Friday 30 October at Borderway Mart, through the Northwest Limousin Cattle Breeders' Association. Please do make a point of visiting the stand within the pedigree section.

The event will also host the inaugural National Limousin Calf Show, featuring nine calf classes and two young handler classes. Keep an eye on our social media channels for coverage and announcements throughout the event.

Within the office, we will be completing our move to the new premises. There is further information on this in this newsletter. There will be some disruption in the week commencing 5th October and I thank you in advance for your patience whilst we get settled in.

Finally, I would like to draw your attention to the important updates to the Society's rules, and in relation to sales in particular. Please refer to pages 6 to 10 and get in touch with the Society office if you have any queries regarding these changes.

The new sale rules will come into effect from 1 May 2027 and will apply to **all Society sales, including Club Sales, taking place after this date.**

Paul Rainey

Chief Executive Officer

Email: paul@limousin.co.uk

Mobile: 07742 071021



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I would like to extend a warm welcome to the Society's new Honorary President, Jim Quail (Lynderg), and express our sincere thanks to outgoing President Aled Edwards (Dyfri) for his support and wise counsel over the past two years.

New Council 2026/2027.

Following the 55th AGM held on Wednesday 16th September 2026, it is with much pleasure that we welcome new board members for 2026/27:



Left to right: Jim Gammie (second term, Scottish region), Steven Wilson (new, Northwest region), Robin Whittle (new, South Wales and Midwest region), Matthew Jordon (second term, National representative). Pictured with Keith Redpath, BLCS Chairman.

The Society also welcomed new Honorary President Jim Quail, who brings a wealth of experience, and is pictured here alongside the new appointed office bearers within the Council of Management:



Left to right: Andrew Clark, Joint Vice Chairman. Guy Green, Honorary Treasurer. Keith Redpath, Chairman. Jim Quail, Honorary President. Brian McAuley, Joint Vice Chairman. Pictured with Paul Rainey, BLCS CEO.

For a full list of Council members, including those that represent your area, please go to: <https://limousin.co.uk/the-society/present-officials/>. Contact details are provided.

New Committee Members 2026/2027.

At the September 2026 Council meeting, Council appointed new Committee members for 2026/27 as follows:

BLCS Review Committee

Andrew Clark

Michael Cursiter

Mark Dent

Will Forrester

Jonathan Stacey

BLCS Technical Committee

Chris Eddy

Guy Green

Matthew Jordon

Keith Redpath

Trevor Shields

Robin Whittle

BLCS Appeal Panel

Vince Corbett

Walter Cruikshank

Nigel Darling

Lee Enefer

John Mason

Michael Massie

Robert Neill

Chris Pennie

John Penny

Mary Tuckett

IMPORTANT:

Change of Postal Address.

The herdbook office will be moving to its new office next week i.e. the week commencing 5th October 2026. Email and phone contact details will remain unchanged.

The new postal address will be:

**British Limousin Cattle Society Ltd,
17 Waterloo Place,
Warwick Street,
Leamington Spa CV32 5LA.**

Please be aware of this in relation to the submission of DNA samples in particular.

A postal redirection has been set up in the event mail, including DNA samples, are sent to the old (Concorde House) address, but this will lead to delays and should not be relied upon.

Important:

Change of postal address effective **05 October 2026.**

Please take note in relation to DNA samples in particular.

Please note that there will be some disruption to our normal office service whilst the move is in progress next week. We will endeavor to keep it to a minimum and will appreciate your patience and understanding until it is completed.

IMPORTANT:

Update to Office Hours.

The BLCS office is open Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm.

Members are advised however, that from 14th October until the end of 2026, on **Wednesday** in each week:

- All phone calls will divert to answerphone, and will be responded to within 24 hours.
- Email inboxes will not be monitored for a period of 24 hours. All emails received in this time will be responded to as soon as practically possible.

The purpose of this is to enable more efficient work flow within the herdbook office whilst the team head to the final stages of delivering the new Taurus platform. It will also support the training of our two new office staff members.

Thank you in advance for your patience and understanding.

IMPORTANT:

DNA Byelaw Updates Effective 01 September 2026.

Members are reminded that updates to the byelaws in relation to DNA testing were put in place on 01 September 2026.

1. New Service Costs

- The price for DNA Sire & Dam Verification plus Myostatin using TISSUE TAGS has been REDUCED from £26+VAT to £15+VAT per sample
- The price for DNA Sire & Dam Verification plus Myostatin using HAIR SAMPLES has been increased from £26 +VAT to £30+VAT per sample

why?

Tissue tagging is more accurate, with less errors made, and provides a better quality sample for the lab to process, resulting in less requests for repeated samples. If sufficient volumes are received, it provides opportunity to pass further lab cost reductions on to members.

IMPORTANT: *(continued)*
DNA Byelaw Updates
Effective 01 September 2026.

All members are encouraged to take advantage of the reduced fees and incorporate tissue tagging and DNA testing in to their routine herd management practices

The full fee schedule is as follows:

<i>Test type</i>	<i>Cost per tag sample at submission</i>	<i>Cost per hair sample at submission</i>	<i>Cost per sample post submission</i>
Profile plus Myostatin plus Sire & Dam Verification (up to three possible parents analysed)	£15.00	£30.00	0
Additional Sire/Dam (where there are more than three possible parents in the order or where an animal has had a parentage exclusion and the new sire/dam was not included in the original order)	£10.00	£10.00	£10.00
Repeat Sample	£30.00	£30.00	n/a
Myostatin	n/a		£5.00
Horn/Polled	£1.50		£5.00
Coat Colour	£1.50		£5.00
Protoporphyrria	£5.00		£5.00
Parentage Search (where parent is unknown)	n/a		£15.00
Import Profile (usually for an animal which has been imported to the UK)	£4.00		n/a
Export Profile (usually for an animal which is being exported	n/a		£4.00

All prices exclusive of VAT

All genotypes are included within the genomic evaluation to produce GEBVs (genomic estimated breeding values).

IMPORTANT: *(continued)*

DNA Byelaw Updates Effective 01 September 2026.

2. Sample and Genotype Management

A summary of the changes implemented is as follows:

- Registered owners only can request DNA testing. Owning semen or embryos does not entitle members the right to test.
- The Society can carry out DNA testing if it is needed for matters such as checking parentage, research & development and/or herd inspection work.
- Submitted DNA samples become part of the breed archive.
- DNA results and genetic information are retained by the Society, but animal owners have full rights to them and to share them in keeping with publication standards.
- When animals are sold, the rights are transferred to the new owner. The new owner can request further testing if they are a Society member.

why?

To reflect current practice and give members clearer ownership rights over testing requests, as well as continued access to the genetic information from their animals.

Full details of all changes under 1) and 2) above can be found in the Society's byelaws here:

<https://limousin.co.uk/the-society/byelaws/> and a printed version can be provided on request.

IMPORTANT:

Sale Byelaw Updates

All Society Sales - Effective 01 May 2027.

All members are encouraged to read the following important information:

The Council of Management has agreed updates to the byelaws in relation to Society sales as indicated below. The changed rules are highlighted in green; all others shown are already in place.

THE CHANGES ARE EFFECTIVE FOR ALL SOCIETY SALES TAKING PLACE BEYOND 01 MAY 2027 (ie applicable to all ENTRIES for sales taking place beyond this date)

If you wish to enter any sales taking place after this date, please ensure you have read and understood the rules that apply.

The byelaws can be found here: <https://limousin.co.uk/the-society/byelaws/> and a printed version can be provided on request.

why?

These changes will standardise the requirements and procedures of all sales held under the auspices of the Society. This will improve the management of the sales and make it easier for vendors selling at different sale types. Importantly, it will also make it easier for buyers to understand and benefit from purchasing their animals through Society-affiliated sales.

	Premier	Collective	Breeders	Weaned Calves	Club*
	<p>Carlisle – bulls in February, May & October</p> <p>Carlisle - Red Ladies only in December</p> <p>Stirling – bulls in February, May, & October</p> <p>Brecon - bulls in May & November</p>	<p>Carlisle – females in February, May, June & October</p> <p>Carlisle – bulls in June</p> <p>Stirling – females in February, May & October</p> <p>Ballymena – bulls & females in February, May & October</p> <p>Thainstone Multibreed – bulls and females in February</p> <p>Brecon – females in May & November</p>	<p>Dispersal sales, production sales and, at the Society's discretion, any other sale (other than a Club sale) not open to all members</p>	<p>Carlisle - December</p>	<p>Melton Mowbray – April & October</p> <p>Exeter – April</p> <p>Welshpool – May & November</p> <p>Darlington – May</p> <p>Skipton - May</p> <p>Holsworthy – May</p>
Herd Health Dec required	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Must be in a CHeCS health scheme	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Must be Johnes Risk Level 1 – 4 at time of sale entry	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Must be BVD Accredited or Virus Free at time of sale entry	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
If over 3 months of age, must have DNA Parentage Verification & Myostatin prior to catalogue going to print	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Must be Registered or Birth Notified within 28 Days if born after 01 Jan 21	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Subject to Upset Price	✓	✓	n/a	n/a	✓
Inspection Type	Veterinary (all)	Veterinary (bulls) Tag (female)	Tag	Tag	Tag

* Individual Club Sale rules may vary, these are the minimum requirements for all Club sales

IMPORTANT:

Update to Annual Subscription Fee.

At the September 2026 meeting, the Council of Management agreed that the full membership subscription should be increased to £65 per annum, effective from 01 January 2027.

This is an increase of £5 per annum and will help the Society:

- maintain the quality and accuracy of the herdbook and associated registration services;
- continue investment in digital systems and web-enabled herdbook facilities;
- support breed improvement and genetic programmes;
- promote the Limousin breed to both pedigree breeders and the wider commercial beef industry;
- support member communications, events and regional activities;
- maintain the infrastructure and staffing required to provide the core services; and
- provide a more sustainable financial base for the Society's future activities.

EBV Fees & Diary Dates.

The forthcoming genetic evaluation deadline dates to produce updated EBVs (Estimated Breeding Values) in 2027 are as follows:

	<i>Deadline for Available Weights/ Scan Data to be submitted via Taurus website</i>	<i>Results Target Publication Date</i>
Run 1 of 4	Noon on 10/12/2026	06/01/2027
Run 2 of 4	Noon on 18/03/2027	31/03/2027
Run 3 of 4	Noon on 17/06/2027	30/06/2027
Run 4 of 4	Noon on 02/09/2027	16/09/2027

Please note the deadline for data on the stated days is absolute; late data cannot be accepted since all records are exported to SRUC during the afternoon of each day to prepare for the evaluation.

IMPORTANT:

Semen Royalty Scheme.

Members are reminded that registration of calves bred by some AI sires are subject to a semen royalty fee, collected by the Society on behalf of the royalty owner at the time of registration.

The list of Semen Royalty sires is kept up to date on the Society's website and can be found here: <https://limousin.co.uk/the-breed/semen-royalty-scheme/semen-royalty-bull-register/>

A printed copy is available upon request



Porencephaly *Update.*

Further to the information issued in April regarding Porencephaly in Limousin cattle, we can update that work to introduce the DNA test is still underway, along with a new DNA test for a further condition, Cleft Palate. Details will be issued as soon as they are available.

For further information on Porencephaly in the meantime, please see the factsheet on the Taurus website here:

[https://taurusdata.co.uk/files/FAQ_](https://taurusdata.co.uk/files/FAQ_Porencephaly_09Apr26_ISSUED_69d7920be3850.pdf)

[Porencephaly_09Apr26_ISSUED_69d7920be3850.pdf](https://taurusdata.co.uk/files/FAQ_Porencephaly_09Apr26_ISSUED_69d7920be3850.pdf)



Scan QR



Alternatively:

Login to

www.taurusdata.co.uk

Go to

'My Page'

Navigate to

'Notice to Members Publications'

From the drop-down list, select

**'Frequently Asked Questions –
Porencephaly – April 2026'**

Click **'Go'** to open the file.



Three Ways to get yourself in the 2027 Limousin Journal!

Got a success story, a sale to shout about or a herd to promote? Here are three ways to feature in the 2027 Limousin Journal.

1. Share your success

Awards. Achievements. Milestones.

Have you got something to celebrate? Whether it's cattle-related or not, we want to hear about it!

Send a photo & short caption to jen@limousin.co.uk for your chance to be featured.

2. Shout about your sales

Sold pedigree or commercial stock off-farm in 2026?

Tell us about it! Our 'Sales Off Farm' feature will showcase members' successes in the 2027 Annual Journal.

Send a photo & brief description to jen@limousin.co.uk.

3. Advertise your herd

Put your herd in the spotlight in 2027.

With 3,000+ printed copies distributed to members, commercial producers and industry representatives, plus a digital edition reaching 40,000+ online followers, the Limousin Journal is the perfect place to promote your herd.

Member advertising rates available — book early to secure your space.



Key dates:

Book your advertising space by:
Friday 23rd October 2026

Artwork deadline
Friday 6th November 2026

Advert Size & Specification

Price
(Ex. VAT)

Half Page
185 x 128mm

£200

Full Page
210 x 297mm (+3mm Bleed)

£350

Double Page Spread
420 x 297mm (+3mm Bleed)

£550

Need an **advert designed or updated?**
We can help — just let us know!



Please get in touch with
Jen Tyson through the
main office on:

02476 696 500

or email:
jen@limousin.co.uk

Recent Council *Decisions*.

Main decisions taken by Council since July 2026 are as follows:

Updates to the byelaws in relation to DNA testing were agreed. This is referred to earlier in this newsletter. The amended byelaws are available here: <https://limousin.co.uk/the-society/byelaws/> or by request to the office.

The vacant Council seat in the Scottish region shall remain vacant in 2026/27. It shall become available again at the 2027 AGM, nominations shall be invited from all Scottish members in June 2027.

Nominated members have been invited to join the Society's Appeal Panel to maintain its number in keeping with the byelaw requirements.

Furniture & items from the office and stores are to be sold to facilitate the move to the new office premises.

£1000 sponsorship has been allocated to each of the English, Welsh and Scottish Winter Fairs in 2026. This is to include any special award for Limousin-bred champions.

A semen royalty scheme application where a derogation applies has been considered and accepted.

Review of veterinary inspection. All Society vets shall wear gloves when mouths are handled, with disinfection between animals.

The BLCS chairman, office bearers and committee members were appointed for the coming year 2026/27. Notification of the appointments is above.

Show and sale judge suggestions for 2027 have been agreed. Invitations shall be issued in due course.

Media coverage of shows and sales for 2027 has been agreed

Opportunities to share stand resources at the summer shows are to be progressed

An amendment to the schedule of classes at the Royal Highland Show is to be submitted to the Show Committee. It will introduce an additional heifer class and remove a cow class that has been poorly supported in recent times.

Provision shall be made within the office to focus on delivery of Taurus project work. This will include and adjustment to member service which will see closure of the phone line and email on each Wednesday until the end of 2026. Further details are above.

The byelaw changes supporting the new sale rules referred to above were approved for implementation

An invitation to host a national open day in 2027 is to be issued, and early plan for itinerary to be brought to next meeting.

Council meeting dates in 2027 were agreed: 19/20 January, 20/21 April, 14/15 September 2027. The 56th AGM will be held on 14th September 2027

Issues relating to insurance of breeding bulls to be taken to the forthcoming meeting of the Pedigree Breed Society Group to find a way of curtailing the cost of these.

Forthcoming Sale Dates 2026.

Sale	Entries Close	Sale Date
Carlisle Bull and Female Sale, Borderway Mart	Closed	16th – 17th October
Stirling Bull and Female Sale, United Auctions	Closed	18th – 19th October
Ballymena Bull and Female Sale, Ballymena Mart	Closed	23rd October
East Midlands Club Bull and Female Sale, Melton Mowbray	Closed	24th October
Brecon Bull and Female Sale, Brecon Mart	Closed	14th November
North West Mids & North Wales Club Bull and Female Sale, Welshpool	21st October	19th November
Red Ladies and Weaned Calf Sale, Borderway Mart	18th October	10th – 11th December

Shadow Judging!

If you would like the opportunity to shadow judge at a Premier sale, please get in touch via email to jen@limousin.co.uk. Shadow judges must be over 16 years of age, but are no longer restricted to young breeders. It is never too late to start!

Society Contacts.

BLCS Office	T: 02476 696500 E: info@limousin.co.uk
BLCS Website	www.limousin.co.uk
Taurusdata Website (online herdbook)	www.taurusdata.co.uk
Regional Limousin Clubs	https://limousin.co.uk/the-society/associated-clubs/
Socials	 British Limousin Cattle Society  @britishlimousincattlesociety

The Regional Clubs are a fantastic way to meet & socialise with Limousin breeders in your area. Contact details are on the website (link above), and we encourage all members to get involved.



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