



Rules & Conditions

For Premium Sheep and Goat Health Schemes

SCRAPIE MONITORING SCHEME

Operated by SAC

Contents

	Page No
Glossary	3
INTRODUCTION	4
Background	4
THE RULES	5
1. Membership and certification	5
2. Animal movement and ownership change	8
3. Testing fallen stock	10
4. Record keeping and records required at initial and annual inspections	11
5. ARR/ARR Exemption	13
6. Withdrawal from SMS or loss of status	14
7. General legal matters	15
Annex 1: Show, Sale & AI Centre Requirements	16
Annex 2: Checklist for Official Veterinarians	20

Glossary

The following words and phrases have the following meanings when used in these Rules and Conditions;

“**Animal**” means sheep or goat;

“**Animal Health**” means the Animal Health Agency or an equivalent government body designated to oversee all animal health matters in the territory within Great Britain where the Animal is situated;

“**AHDO**” means a Divisional Office of the Animal Health Agency;

“**Annex VIII**” means Annex VIII, Chapter A, 1 (a) (ii) of Regulation EC 999/2001 as amended;

“**Application Date**” means the date on which you apply to join the SMS;

“**DEFRA**” means the Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs or any successor body;

“**EU Regulations**” means European Commission Regulation (EC) No.999/2001 or any other European Regulations or Directives applicable to Flocks or Animals which may be in force from time to time;

“**Flock**” means a flock of sheep or a herd of goats;

“**Holding**” means any place in which Animals are held, kept, bred, handled or shown to the public;

“**Monitored**” means any Flock or Animal which is monitored in accordance with the Rules of the SMS and issued with an SMS Monitoring Certificate pursuant to Rule 1.3; this also includes a Holding which has been certified as providing evidence of compliance with Annex VIII by other means (eg current membership of the Defra operated SMS (this is now closed to new applicants / renewals on 31 December 2008) or private certification by an OV for the purposes of export of animals for intra-community trade);

“**National Scrapie Plan**” means the strategic long term plan for Great Britain to increase the number of sheep that are naturally resistant to Scrapie;

“**NFS Survey**” means the National Fallen Stock Survey;

“**Non-monitored**” means Animals and Flocks which are not part of the SMS or animals from holdings which have been certified as providing evidence of compliance with Annex VIII by other means (eg private certification by an OV for the purposes of export of animals for intra-community trade);

“**Northern Ireland scrapie monitored flocks scheme**” means the scrapie monitoring scheme for demonstrating compliance with the EU Regulation as operated in Northern Ireland;

“**OV**” means Official Veterinarian appointed by Animal Health;

“**Rules**” means these rules and conditions relating to the SMS;

“**SAC**” means The Scottish Agricultural College;

“**Scrapie**” means classical or atypical scrapie;

“**SMS**” means the Scrapie Monitoring Scheme;

“**SMS Monitoring Certificate**” means a Certificate issued in respect of an Animal confirming that it is part of a Monitored Flock in accordance with the Rules of the SMS;

“**VLA**” means Veterinary Laboratories Agency; and

“**you**” means an owner of Animals or any agent or other person employed by that owner.

INTRODUCTION

This section does not form part of the Rules and is provided for background purposes only.

Background

What is ‘scrapie’?

Scrapie is an infectious wasting disease affecting the nervous system of sheep and goats which can be transmitted between Flocks.

- **Test:** At present there is no practical test which allows confirmation of diagnosis in the individual live Animal.
- **Cure:** At present, there is no vaccine, no cure and the disease is always fatal.

Purpose of the scheme

- The Scrapie Monitoring Scheme (SMS) allows you to demonstrate when exporting sheep, goats, semen or embryos for breeding to other EU Member States that the animals originate from Holdings that have been monitored for the last three years for Scrapie in accordance with Annex VIII.
- If you are exporting Animals for breeding to other EU Member States, unless the sheep are ARR/ARR genotype (see Rule 5), you must meet the scrapie monitoring requirements of Annex VIII. Membership of SMS and compliance with these Rules enables you to demonstrate compliance with the scrapie monitoring requirements of the EU Regulations (see also the interpretation of “Monitored” in the glossary). If you are exporting sheep or goats you will also need to comply with other animal health certification requirements; details are available from Animal Health.
- If you want to become a part of the SMS, you must have your Flock monitored under the conditions laid down by these Rules for three years.

Who governs the scheme

The SMS is operated as follows:

- **Statutory responsibility:** DEFRA in conjunction with the *Scottish Government* and the *Welsh Assembly Government* have overall responsibility for export certification in Great Britain.
- **Organisation & supervision:** As part of its Premium Sheep & Goat Health Schemes, SAC Veterinary Services (a team within SAC) is appointed to organise and supervise the SMS.
- **Administration of Export certification:** Animal Health administer export certification.
- **Inspections and certification of compliance with the Rules:** Practising Veterinary Surgeons who are also OVs appointed by Animal Health to an export certification and notifiable disease panel carry out Flock inspections and checks on compliance with the Rules.
- **Testing:** TSE testing must be carried out by the Veterinary Laboratories Agency (VLA). Checks on this testing are carried out by OVs.

1 Membership and certification

1.1 Eligibility to join

Your Flocks can join SMS provided that:

- the Flock is situated in Great Britain;
- your Flock meets the SMS requirements detailed at Rule 7.1; and
- you strictly adhere to the Rules of the SMS. Failure to do so will result in penalties as detailed in Rule 6.3.

1.2 Application process

- In order to join SMS, the official application form available on request from SAC at its PSGHS Office, PO Box 5557, Inverness, IV2 4YT, must be completed by you and an Official Veterinarian (OV) and returned to that office. The form can also be downloaded from www.sac.ac.uk/sghs.
- New members have applicant status until the full requirements under the SMS are met;
- If, during the 3 years following the Application Date, you want to move your Flock on to another Holding on which Animals have been present during the previous three years (prior to moving your flock onto that holding), the Official Veterinarian (OV) must also check and examine the Flock movement records and (if appropriate) the SMS Monitoring Certificate(s) for that Holding. The Holding needs to either have the same status as the one on which the Flock is held at present or the Holding must be fully compliant with the requirements of Annex VIII of EC either by current full membership of SAC SMS or other means (see the interpretation of "Monitored" in the glossary).
- If, during the 3 years following the Application Date, you want to move your Flock on to another Holding on which Animals have **not** been present during the previous three years (prior to moving your flock onto that holding), an OV will check and examine any Animal movement records for that Holding.

1.3 Certification

- Only Flocks with valid SMS Monitoring Certificates are deemed Monitored in accordance with the Rules (see also the definition of 'Monitored' in the glossary);
- SAC Veterinary Services have overall responsibility for issuing SMS Monitoring Certificates;
- Each SMS Monitoring Certificate is valid for ONE YEAR from its date of issue. Existing members will be sent renewal forms to renew their membership certificates 6 weeks before expiry. If you do not receive your form as indicated, you should contact the SAC who will issue the form to you;
- SAC Veterinary Services will provide you with details of Scrapie testing under the NFS Survey, You must provide them to the certifying OV;
- The OV will check that your Flock and Holding comply with these rules (see also the checklist for OVs in Annex 2);

- The SMS Monitoring application / renewal form must be signed and stamped by an OV and contain a declaration signed by you to be valid;
- You must return the completed application form and checklist to SAC.
- A certificate of Scrapie monitoring will be issued by the SAC once the correctly completed application / renewal form has been received at SAC and SAC have obtained authorisation from the VLA that the Holding has been free from Scrapie for 3 years.

1.4 Reporting suspected infection

- If any of your Animals are showing clinical signs or behavioural changes consistent with Scrapie such as nervous disorder/aggression or skin irritation such as itching and if you or the OV suspect that an Animal is affected with Scrapie, this must be reported to the local AHDO. This is a legal requirement. If you have not already done so you must also immediately inform the OV. You must also inform the AHDO that the suspect animal is from an SMS Flock.
- If tests carried out on the suspect Animal confirm the presence of Scrapie, the AHDO will notify the OV to withdraw and cancel the current SMS Monitoring Certificate, if this has already been issued. The AHDO will also inform SAC.

1.5 Discretion of SAC and Animal Health

SAC's decisions are deemed to be final and SAC shall have sole discretion to determine the following:

- Whether certain forms should be withdrawn under the SMS.
- Interpretation of the Rules.
- The type/breed of Animals to be included in a Monitored Flock.

SAC with Animal Health as appropriate will decide whether to accept, retain or remove Flocks, Holdings or individual Animals from the SMS.

It is the responsibility of Animal Health to decide whether an Animal is suspected of being infected with Scrapie. It is also the responsibility of DEFRA and Animal Health to decide if an Animal is confirmed to be infected with Scrapie.

1.6 Official Veterinarian

- Your Flock must be regularly checked by an OV to ensure your Animals are not affected with, and to ensure that your animals are not likely to be exposed to, infection with Scrapie agent.
- The OV will also carry out checks to ensure that your Flock and the Holding(s) (or part thereof) comply with the Rules.

1.7 Semen and embryos

If you are exporting semen and embryos to other EU Member States the conditions of Annex VIII must be met:

- The donor Animals must have been held on Holdings as part of a Monitored Flock since birth or for the 3 years prior to donation of semen or embryos.

- The donor Animals must meet all the requirements of the Rules at the time of collection of the semen/embryos.
- In the case of ovine semen these Rules do not apply to donor animals with the ARR/ARR prion protein genotype. In the case of ovine embryos, these Rules do not apply to embryos of the ARR/ARR prion protein genotype.

Security

1.8 Farm boundaries

- Monitored Flocks must not be allowed to come into contact with Non-monitored Animals, except in approved circumstances (see Annex 1);
- Farm boundaries must be adequate to prevent Flocks from straying onto or off the Monitored Holdings and to prevent nose to nose contact between Animals on other Holdings.

1.9 Using and sharing unmonitored stock facilities

- If Monitored and Non-monitored Flocks are kept on the same Holding(s) they must be kept as far apart as possible, ideally, at least 2 metres apart. Keeping Monitored and Non-monitored Flocks on the same premises increases the risks of spreading scrapie infection to the Monitored Flock.
- Under no circumstances can Monitored and Non-monitored Flocks be housed together.
- Under no circumstances can the same premises or accommodation be used for lambing /kidding Animals from both Monitored and non-Monitored Flocks even if the lambing or kidding takes place at separate times.
- Monitored Flocks must not be kept on Holdings or parts of Holding(s) previously occupied by Non-monitored Animals for 3 years from when the Non-monitored Animals were removed.
- Equipment such as ear tattooing forceps, drenching guns, hypodermic needles, medicines, etc must not be shared between Monitored and Non-monitored Flocks.
- Handling facilities and livestock trailers must be cleaned and disinfected using DEFRA approved disinfectants (at the 'General Orders' concentration) after use between non-Monitored and Monitored Flocks.

1.10 Notice of security threats

You must notify SAC of changes which could affect security of Flock(s).

1.11 Identification

All Animals exhibited or sold must be individually identified and all rules and regulations regarding identification of Animals must be complied with.

2 Animal movement and ownership change

2.1 Moving Animals

Any Animal which moves from one location to another will automatically lose its Monitored status unless you ensure that all of the following conditions are met:

Transport:

- The Animal(s) must only travel directly from one permitted location to another permitted location (as listed below);
- The Animal(s) must be segregated from any Animals which are not part of a Monitored Flock.
- Vehicles previously used for transporting Animals must be cleaned and disinfected using DEFRA approved disinfectants (at the 'General Orders' concentration) between use for Non-monitored and Monitored Flocks.

Permitted locations: The locations to and from which the Animal moves must be either:

- a Monitored Holding;
- a Holding which is (and which has been for the previous three years) free from Animals;
- a show, sale or artificial insemination centre which complies with the requirements detailed in Annex 1 to these Rules;
- a qualified UK veterinary surgeon's business premises; or
- such other location as may be expressly approved in writing by an authorised SAC official from time to time.

Segregation at temporary locations: While at any 'temporary location' (meaning any location other than a Holding), the Animal must be kept segregated from physical contact with any Animals not belonging to its Flock, except for:

- any male Animals (provided that the Animal you have taken to the temporary location is also a male and only male Animals are present at the location); and
- any Animals which are also Monitored.

2.2 Adding or returning Animals to a Holding

If you add (or return) an Animal to your Monitored Flock's Holding during either the 3 years prior to the Application Date or at any time thereafter, the Flock(s) situated at that Holding will lose their SMS Monitoring Certificate unless both of the following requirements are met:

- Origin:** The Flock from which the Animal came must be SMS Monitored or provide sufficient evidence of compliance with Annex VIII by other means (eg private certification by an OV).
- Still certified:** The Animal must not have lost its Monitored status through non-compliance with Rule 2.1 (*moving Animals*) or otherwise.

Note: These requirements do not apply to Animals exempt under Rule 5.

If you are unsure of an Animal's status, you are strongly advised to seek advice from your private veterinary surgeon (or your local AHDO) before acquiring Animals, as non-compliance may result in loss of Flock / Holding status. Note: When your Flock is next inspected by an OV you will be required to provide documentary evidence (such as a copy of a certificate of SMS membership from the previous owner, or a certificate of ARR/ARR genotype (see Rule 5)) for Animals moved onto your Holding.

2.3 Change of ownership of an SMS Flock

If you acquire ownership of a Monitored Flock and wish to retain the Flock's Monitored status (rather than restarting the 3 year SMS application process), then you must meet all of the following requirements:

- Register:** Promptly following acquisition of the Flock, you must write to the SAC seeking re-registration of the Flock in your name and on your Holding(s).
- Rules:** You must comply with the Rules of the SMS (and any special conditions specified by SAC from time to time).
- No mixing:** You must ensure that the Flock either:
 - remains a separate entity on the existing registered Holding(s); or
 - is moved to another Holding in accordance with Rule 2.1 (*moving Animals*).

3 Testing fallen stock

3.1 Animals which must be tested

You must ensure that any Animal (whether male or female) which is culled or otherwise dies is submitted for Scrapie testing if it meets all of the following conditions:

- It was part of your Monitored Flock at the time of its death
- It was over 18 months of age when it died.
- It was not culled as part of an official disease eradication campaign.
- It was not culled solely for reasons of physical injury (e.g. a broken leg).
- It was not culled for the purpose of human consumption.

Note: Testing requires TSE testing of a sample of each animal's brain. As such the head of the animal (or the whole animal) must be submitted for testing.

3.2 Testing procedure

You must ensure that testing of fallen stock for Scrapie is carried out either:

- **Nationally:** by the VLA under the provisions of the NFS Survey (as defined in Rule 4.1), this is currently funded by Defra; or
- **Privately:** provided that samples are forwarded to the VLA (either by submitting the carcasses to VLA Regional Laboratories in England and Wales or to Veterinary Laboratories of the SAC in Scotland). VLA will carry out all TSE testing. **Note:** You will be charged for private testing.

3.3 Explaining few or no test results

If the number of Animals from your Monitored Flock which you have had tested in accordance with Rule 3.2 in any year (*being a 12 month period which starts on the (Application Date) or its anniversary*) is:

- low (*as defined below*) you must provide information to the OV to verify that there is a legitimate explanation (for example exceptionally low mortality);

and if the number you have tested in that year is:

- zero then you must also complete Section D of the '*Application for Registration/Renewal*' form before submitting it (whether for initial membership or renewal purposes).

To determine whether the number tested is '*low*':

- (i) *Calculate Total:* You must calculate the total number of Animals which both:
 - were part of the applicable Flock at any time during the year in question; and
 - were aged over 18 months by the end of that year.
- (ii) *Calculate Percentage:* If in the year in question you have tested less than 1% of that total, then the number you have tested is '*low*' for the purposes of these Rules.

4 Record keeping and records required at initial and annual inspections

4.1 Specific records you must keep and disclose

For each of your Monitored Flocks / Holdings, you must maintain records of the following. These records must be provided to an OV when the Flock and Holding are inspected by an OV. The records must also be made available on request at any other reasonable time to an OV (or an AH or DEFRA inspector under the Animal Health Act 1981).

▪ MOVEMENT & TRANSFERS

- Certification:** An SMS Monitoring Certificate for each individual Animal added to the Flock for the three years prior to the Application Date.
- Movement records:** Any individual movement record for each Animal added to the Flock for the three years prior to the Application Date (giving details of all transit to and from the registered Holding). This requirement is additional to the requirements of the national rules on sheep and goat ID and movement records.
- Show/sale approval:** SMS Monitoring Certificates (where required (see Annex 1)) for all shows and sales which are attended by any Animal from the Flock in the previous three years.

▪ FALLEN STOCK

- Fallen stock numbers:** A record of all Animals over 18 months of age which have died in the last 3 years which were part of the Flock at the time of their death. This is in addition to your obligations for recording disposal of carcasses as animal by-products under the Animal By-Products Regulations 2005.
- Private testing report:** A copy of the laboratory reports relating to fallen stock which have died in the last 3 years and were subsequently tested for Scrapie privately (SAC will record test results you disclose to the OV on its '*Premium Sheep & Goat Health Schemes*' database); and
- NFS survey:** A record of each Animal from the Flock which has been submitted into the NFS Survey (including details of the Animal, the date submitted and the official reference number provided for each Animal submitted.)

Members of SMS do not need to obtain results of each TSE test under the National fallen stock survey for their flock/herd as the results of TSE testing of fallen stock under the fallen stock survey for the previous three years will be obtained by SAC from VLA and these results will be sent to SMS clients with the registration/renewal form for completion at the annual inspection which is undertaken by the OV. Members should however note that it is their responsibility to present the results of private TSE testing for the previous three years to the OV at the time of the annual inspection.

4.2 General records that you must disclose

You must also promptly make the following records available to the OV on request:

- Census:** A copy of the return for the national annual livestock census as carried out by DEFRA, Irish, Welsh and Scottish governments/assemblies of all farmed livestock.

- ABPR Record:** Animal By-Product Regulation record of disposal of carcasses as animal by-products under the Animal By-Products Regulations 2005.
- Farm Records:** Such other relevant farm records as the OV may reasonably request such as medicines records and records of use of semen and embryos.

5 ARR/ARR Exemption

5.1 Genotype exemption

You are not required to comply with Rules 1 to 4 to the extent that they relate to any sheep which have the '*ARR/ARR prion protein genotype*', provided that both of the following requirements are met:

- Certification:** You must be able to provide certification verifying that the sheep is '*ARR/ARR prion protein genotype*' and the certification issued by a laboratory which tested the sheep and, at the time of testing, was either:
 - a UK Government laboratory (such as the VLA); or
 - a laboratory authorised by the UK Government under either the *National Scrapie Plan, which is now closed*, or the *Northern Ireland Scrapie Plan*. The laboratories approved to test under these schemes are Cellmark, PO Box 265, Abingdon, Oxfordshire, OX14 1YX.(and up until 1st October 2006 the Laboratory of the Government Chemist, Queens Road, Teddington, Middlesex TW11 0LY) ; or
 - a laboratory authorised by the UK Government to carry out prion protein genotyping for the purposes of certification for intra-community trade. These laboratories are currently Cellmark (address above) and SAC Veterinary Service, Allan Watt Building, Bush Estate, Penicuik, EH26 0QL.

When submitting samples for genotyping for this purpose, you should first check with the laboratory that such authorisation is still current at that time.

- OV check:** The Animal must be individually identified and an OV must be satisfied that the sheep in question is the sheep referred to in the genotyping certification you provide.

Intra-community trade: Sheep with the ARR/ARR genotype may be certified for intra-community trade without any Scrapie monitoring requirement from the European Union member state of origin and regardless of the Scrapie Monitored status of the Holding(s) of origin.

5.2 Exemption limitations

The exemption provided under Rule 5.1 (*genotype exemption*) does not apply to:

- ✗ Goats (including caprine semen and embryos).
- ✗ Sheep that do not have the ARR/ARR prion protein genotype (e.g. heterozygous ARR sheep, which have only one ARR allele).
- ✗ Embryos from sheep (unless the embryo itself meets the conditions laid down for exempt sheep in Rule 5.1).
- ✗ Semen from sheep (unless it was from a sheep which is exempt under Rule 5.1).

6 Withdrawal from SMS or Loss of Status

6.1 Loss of Status

Your Flock will immediately lose its Monitored status if any of the following events occur:

- Scrapie is confirmed in the Flock or on the Holding or part of a Holding where the Flock is kept.
- Scrapie is confirmed by Animal Health in an Animal which left the Flock within the last 3 years.
- You do not comply with Rules (for example, an Animal is added or returned to your Flock but you fail to meet the requirements under Rule 2.2 (*Adding or returning Animals to a Holding*)).
- You do not carry out TSE testing as required under Rule 3.
- You tell SAC in writing that you wish your Flock to be withdrawn from the SMS. In this case you must also surrender your current certificate of SMS membership.

6.2 Regaining SMS status

You can be re-admitted to the SMS at the discretion of the SAC (and Animal Health) providing your Flock and Holding have complied with the rules of the Scheme for the last three years. All aspects of the health and management of the Flock will have to be of a standard acceptable to SAC and as necessary to the local AHDO.

6.3 Penalties

- If you breach or fail to comply with these Rules, your Flock may be suspended or removed from the SMS.
- If the SAC propose to suspend or remove a Flock from the SMS, you will be informed of their decision in writing and given an opportunity to make any objections within 14 days.
- Non compliance of the Rules or a confirmation of Scrapie will result in loss of Monitored status under the SMS and your SMS Monitoring Certificate may be cancelled or withdrawn.

7 General legal matters

7.1 Notification

7.1.1 The SMS rules provide that you must:-

- ensure that your Flock and Holdings are subject to checks by an OV;
- ensure that all Animals exhibited for sale or sold are individually and uniquely identified;
- keep records of all dead Animals over 18 months old moved from your Holding(s);
- keep records of all fallen stock over 18 months old in your SMS flock for the previous 3 years;
- ensure that all fallen stock over 18 months of age are TSE tested (see rule 3);
- ensure that movement of Animals to and from Holdings is individually recorded, including movement for shows, sales, etc (as detailed in Annex 1);
- ensure that Animals are only introduced onto Monitored Holdings from similarly Monitored Holdings. Sheep of the ARR/ARR prion protein genotype are exempt from this requirement (see Rule 5). Certification of genotype must be provided;
- ensure that natural breeding only occurs between Animals of equivalent SMS Monitored status. Sheep of the ARR/ARR prion protein genotype are exempt from this requirement (see Rule 5); certification of genotype must be provided. SMS monitored females may be artificially bred using artificial insemination and embryo transfer using semen and embryos which do not necessarily have to be derived from SMS Monitored donors, but it is recommended that the embryos are in-vivo derived and processed (including use of trypsin) in accordance with the requirements of the International Embryo Transfer Society (IETS).
- ensure that you obtain all SMS Monitoring Certificates for all brought-in Animals.
- ensure that no case of Scrapie has been confirmed on the holding in the last 3 years.

7.1.2 If you do not strictly comply with these Rules, you shall incur penalties as set out in Rule 6.3

7.2 Liability

SAC is not liable for any losses incurred by a member or any other person as a result of a Flock's loss of status or the imposition of any penalties under the SMS.

Annex 1:

Show, Sale & AI Centre Requirements

- This annex deals with the movement of Animals from Flocks/Herds to shows, sales and other places such as artificial insemination centres.
- The rules detailed below do not supersede other national or EU legislation or the requirements of the Animal Health Agency relating to animal health and welfare (for example rules relating to transport of animals).

(A) Shows and Sales (General)

- Animal Health may approve the following types of shows/sales where SMS animals are segregated from non-SMS animals:-
 - (a) Dedicated shows/sales where only animals from SMS holdings can attend.
 - (b) Segregated show/sale where SMS and non-SMS animals are kept separate.
- SMS animals may attend unsegregated shows during a seasonal window from May 1st to August 31st. The risk of exposure to scrapie agent at an unsegregated show between these dates is considered to be low, but there could possibly be an incident which could lead to loss of SMS status. To avoid this, you must take care to follow the rules of the show or sale, especially the requirement that animals must not mix with non-SMS animals in holding pens.
- SMS animals must be transported separately from non-SMS animals at all times. Vehicles previously used for transporting non-SMS animals must be adequately cleansed and disinfected (with a DEFRA approved disinfectant at the 'General Orders' dilution) before carrying SMS animals.
- Monitored sheep or goats (SMS animals) must generally be managed separately from those which are not members of the SMS. This is especially important at times of year when non-monitored stock may lamb or abort and hence may heavily contaminate SMS animals with the scrapie agent.
- You are required to comply with the general rules for the shows and sales.
- You can find out which shows and sales are approved by contacting your local Animal Health Office.
- Organisers of shows/sales should apply to Animal Health a minimum of 6 weeks before the event takes place for the premises to be inspected, approved and registered.

(B) Dedicated shows/sales

At dedicated shows/sales only animals from SMS holdings can attend. Requirements relating to these shows/sales are listed in (C) below.

(C) Requirements for Segregated Shows/Sales

The risk of exposure to the scrapie agent at a dedicated or segregated show is considered to be very low.

However the following requirements must be observed at and in relation to dedicated and segregated shows or sales:-

- Ideally, the whole area used by SMS animals will be paved. Unpaved areas must not have been used by non-SMS animals in the previous 27 days and not used for lambing or kidding of non-SMS animals for a period of 3 years.
- Paved areas which have been used in the previous 27 days (or for lambing/kidding of non-SMS animals in the last 3 years) must be adequately cleansed and disinfected (with a DEFRA approved disinfectant at the 'General Orders' dilution) before being used by SMS animals.
- Accommodation for the SMS animals must be separated from that of non-SMS animals by a solid division or a fixed 2 metre stock free zone (which may contain other species such as cattle or pigs). Drainage from the area used by non-SMS stock must not flow into SMS area.
- There must be separate loading and unloading areas for SMS animals and non-SMS sheep and goats.
- There must be separate rings and entrance walkways for the exhibition/judging/sale of SMS animals and non-SMS sheep and goats. Alternatively, the SMS animals must be handled through the ring before any non-SMS sheep or goats.
- SMS animals must not come into close contact (2m distance) with non-SMS sheep or goats when being moved from the segregated accommodation to and from the ring.

After the show/sale, the show/sale secretary must notify Animal Health on the same day or on the next working day if a lambing/kidding or abortion occurred at the event.

D) Requirements for non-segregated Sheep or Goat Shows/Sales

Attendance at non-segregated Shows and sales held in the 'window'

- Animals from Monitored flocks can attend non-segregated shows / sales which must be held during the 'window' **[May 1st to August 31st]**.
- SMS animals must not be kept in the same pen or transported in the same vehicle as non-SMS animals.

During this period most animals will be non-pregnant and the risk of spread of scrapie infection is considered to be low. If your animal/s comes into contact with animals which give birth or abort your SMS status could be threatened. Attendance is at your own risk and vigilance must be high at all times.

Attendance at non-segregated shows and sales held outside the 'window'

- Animals from Monitored flocks must **NOT** be shown at non-segregated shows / sales outside the period of **September 1st to April 30th**.
- SMS animals will lose their status if moved to such a sale or show.

- If returned to holding of origin the holding will lose its status.

(E) Attendance at Non-Approved Shows or Sales

If Animals from Monitored Flocks are moved to a non-approved show or sale and return to the Holdings of origin, the Monitored status of those Holdings will be affected (see Rule 6) and no Animal from the Holdings can be exported to a Member State for a three year period.

(F) Attendance of male sheep and goats at shows and sales

- If the only sheep or goats at a sale or show are male, there is no requirement to maintain separation between SMS and non-SMS animals.
- If Monitored male and female animals are presented together at a segregated show or sale, they must be penned separately and kept separate from Non-monitored animals (see A above).

(G) Export of Animals to a Member State

- If Animals are to be directly exported from a show/sale to another Member State, the premises must be approved as an EU Assembly Centre. Organisers of the show/sale should apply to the local office of Animal Health a minimum of 6 weeks before the event takes place for the premises to be inspected, approved and registered.

(H) Other places such as Artificial Insemination Centres:

- Male and female animals from Monitored Flocks must be kept separate from females from Non-monitored flocks.
- Monitored males do not need to be kept separate from Non-monitored males.
- Where separation is required, there must be physical separation by means of a solid barrier or physical separation. This does not necessarily require separate buildings.
- Separation from indirect contact (e.g. via aerosols) is not required.

(I) ARR/ARR Exemption

- The above conditions described in paragraphs A-H imposed upon Animals attending shows/sales do not apply to sheep for which you can provide a certificate verifying that the sheep has/have the ARR/ARR prion protein genotype in accordance with Rule 5.

Annex 2: Checklist For Official Veterinarian

OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN CHECKLIST/SUPPORT DOCUMENT FOR COMPLETION OF AN APPLICATION FORM FOR MEMBERSHIP / RENEWAL OF THE SCRAPIE MONITORING SCHEME

This checklist/support document should be completed by the Official Veterinarian (OV) before s/he completes Section C (and if appropriate Section D) of the application form.

Name of the owner and address of the holding/collection centre to which the application refers:

<p>Name:</p> <p>Address of owner:</p> <p>Address of (proposed) SMS holding (if different):</p>
--

I hereby certify that I have made due enquiries and that the answers to the following questions are as follows (please tick):

	YES	NO
1 Has the applicant been a member of the SMS in the last 12 months? Do they have a certificate of previous membership? (In which case the applicant will have complied with the conditions of membership for the three years prior to the current application). Either way, you must have evidence that the Flock and Holding have complied with the conditions of the scheme for the last three years.		
2 Has the applicant completed the owner's declarations on page two (and four if appropriate) of the application form? The owner's declarations must be completed before the OV can complete the form.		
3 Has the applicant provided you with the results of all private TSE tests or results of TSE tests under the National Fallen Stock (NFS) Survey in the last three years? Results of TSE tests under the NFS would have been provided to the applicant by SAC. Have you checked the dates of these tests and that the animals originated from the applicant's Flock and that the animals were fallen stock over 18 months of age as explained in the scheme rules?		
4 Have you checked that the number of TSE tests in each of the last three years is consistent with the size of the Flock? Have you checked the farm records for disposal of carcasses under the Animal By-Products Regulation?		

	YES	NO
5 If the number of TSE tests in the last three years is not consistent with the size of the Flock has the owner provided information to explain this?		
6 Have all the animals in the Flock been inspected by an OV for clinical evidence of scrapie at least once every year in each of the last three years?		
7 Are you aware of any reports of confirmed scrapie in any Animals in this Flock or Animals originating from this Flock in the last three years?		
8 Are all Animals individually identified and have they been individually identified for the last three years?		
9 Are the movements of all individual animals on and off the Holding in the last three years recorded and have you checked the movement records?		
10 Has the applicant provided evidence that Animals moved onto the Holding in the last three years have complied with the rules of the scheme?		
11 If the Animals moved onto the Holding in the last three years included any that had been at shows or sales, has the owner provided evidence that those shows or sales complied with the rules of the scheme?		
Comments:		

OV Stamp

Signed.....RCVS

.....
Name in block letters

Date

Address.....

Before signing the application form the OV must ensure that s/he has duly completed this checklist. This checklist MUST be sent to SAC with the completed application form. The OV must keep a copy for record keeping purposes for a period of three years.