

Exhibition Rules and Regulations

The following rules concern the trade in rare species, venomous species, the humane handling of livestock, Health and Safety regulations and security issues. Some are national or international laws; others are regulations imposed by the Society and/or The Jockey Club. The Society particularly wishes to point out that acceptance of these terms and conditions is implied by the application for trading space; dealers who contravene these rules will not be allowed to continue trading, may be asked to leave the premises and may not be invited to future Exhibitions. Queries regarding these Rules and Regulations should be addressed to exhibition@amentsoc.org.

Bookings

1. All bookings for the event must be paid in advance. Email addresses supplied may be used as contact details for visitors in the Exhibition guide. Please ensure the email address that you supply is current and used for general enquiries.

Trading Restrictions & Welfare

1. Under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, the European Habitats Directive and CITES, it is against the law to sell wild-caught specimens or livestock of certain species without a licence or other relevant permit. It is entirely the responsibility of the dealer to know in full which species are covered by current laws and which type of licence or permit is needed. If you wish to sell such species at the Exhibition, your licence or other legal documentation **MUST** be clearly displayed on your stand at all times. Genuine captive-bred¹ specimens of CITES Appendix II species may be sold without a formal DEFRA certificate but must be clearly labelled captive bred. Anyone found selling specimens illegally (i.e. without the necessary type of licence or other permit) will cease trading and may be asked to leave. If considered appropriate the relevant authorities will be informed. Traders wishing to sell livestock or deadstock requiring a certificate must indicate the species on the booking form or on the Trading Certificate provided at the time of booking.
2. Livestock dealers **MUST** provide free 'care sheets' describing how to look after all species on sale. These must be viewable via a web address or QR code which is clearly displayed on or near the livestock container.
3. It is essential that all livestock be housed in appropriate containers. These should not be cramped and should not cause the specimens undue stress. The sale of livestock in plastic bags is prohibited. Should a Steward deem that a trader is selling livestock in inappropriate containers the trader shall cease trading in livestock at the Exhibition.
4. Trading shall be limited to invertebrates. **Under no circumstances will the sale of live vertebrates or any part(s) of dead vertebrates including vertebrate fossils be allowed.**
5. Under no circumstances may tables, spaces or any parts thereof be sub-let.

Health and Safety

1. Living specimens of highly venomous species (e.g. Black Widow spiders, certain buthid scorpions) are forbidden from sale or exhibition. **It is the dealer's responsibility to comply with the law on venomous or dangerous invertebrates.**
2. All electrical equipment is subject to an electrical inspection by The Jockey Club. Any equipment found to be unsafe must not be used.
3. Table spacing complies with 1997 Health and Safety regulations. These demand unobstructed 2 metre gangways between table blocks, and 1 metre 'escape holes' in table rings. Traders may not move tables once the hall has been set up.

Setting up and security

1. The Society does not accept liability for any loss or damage of property at the event. It is the responsibility of traders to ensure that their property is secure.
2. There shall be no admittance to the Exhibition Halls to anyone other than authorised personnel until 8.30am. Traders **MUST NOT** enter the exhibition halls until they have been declared open. This is a Health and Safety issue as well as a security issue.
3. During the setup period (8.30am – 10.30am) all traders must report to the main gate upon arrival. Your name(s) will be checked against the names on your trading application and you will be issued with a wristband pass. This must be worn at all times. Anyone not in possession of a pass will be required to leave the premises. Any trader arriving too late to set up their stand before the opening time will not be allowed entry. Traders are allowed to park near to their stand in order to unpack only.
4. Traders must move their vehicles to the grandstand or public car park as soon as they have unpacked. Vehicles left outside the hall doors will be removed by Jockey Club staff.
5. Traders **MUST NOT** move their vehicles from the grandstand car park once the exhibition has opened. If a trader wishes to move their vehicle during the day it must be parked in the public car park. Traders **MUST NOT** move or load their vehicles until after the exhibition has closed - an announcement will be made to this effect. This is a Security and Health and Safety issue.
6. We ask that traders refrain from trading until the exhibition is opened. We understand that the setup period is when traders have most free time and that this is an opportunity for traders to exchange stock. We ask that transactions are undertaken discreetly.
7. All traders should be clear of the halls by 6pm and all vehicles must be removed from all car parks by 10:30pm to avoid being locked in.

Evacuation Procedure

1. In the event of the exhibition halls requiring an emergency evacuation, traders must secure all valuable items as quickly as possible and leave the halls as directed by the stewards. Traders will be asked to leave as the area is cleared of members of the public - please help us and leave the halls as quickly as possible. When the all-clear has been given traders will be asked to return to their stands before members of the public are allowed to return to the exhibition halls.
Please familiarise yourselves with these regulations. If you have any queries regarding these rules and regulations, please contact exhibition@amentsoc.org. The Society reserves the right to refuse an application to trade at its Annual Exhibition.

¹ FOR EXAMPLE, *BRACHYPHELMA* SPP. (RED-KNEE TARANTULAS) ARE OFTEN OFFERED FOR SALE. IF THEY ARE CAPTIVE-BRED, THEY MUST BE LABELLED AS SUCH.

AES Trading Policy

The following is the Society's policy for providing facilities for trade in biological specimens as first drafted at March 1997 and subsequently amended (July 2007, March 2009 and May 2010).

The Society provides facilities through its [Newsletter](#) and its [Exhibitions](#). It does so to fulfil its overall aim of furthering the study of insects, which can only be pursued effectively through the observation of dead and living specimens, together with the aid of books and equipment.

The Society does not believe that trade in invertebrates is generally detrimental to populations in the wild but recognises that it might occasionally have harmful consequences; for example, where species are already in serious decline for other reasons, or where they are being over-exploited. The Society further believes that it is preferable for traders to obtain their specimens through captive breeding or *bona fide* ranching schemes rather than through capture from the wild, as an assurance that natural populations and habitats are not being harmed.

Regarding animal welfare, the Society believes that living specimens on sale should be protected from injury, overcrowding and other stress and that buyers should be made aware of the requirements for their care. In accord with the above, the Society's policy regarding trade through its newsletter and at its exhibitions is as follows:

1. The Society will at all times uphold its responsibility for ensuring full legal compliance by anyone wishing to use its facilities (i.e. the Society's exhibitions or advertisements) to sell or offer to sell any species for which trading is controlled or prohibited by law. In particular, the Society will seek to ensure that its facilities are never used for trade in living specimens of non-native species which, under UK law, are scheduled as plant pests¹ or as dangerous wild animals².
2. The Society allows the use of its facilities for legally permitted trade in living or dead specimens of protected species provided that, in each instance and in accord with the Society's terms and conditions, documentary proof has been provided that the necessary licence(s), certificate(s) or exemption(s)³ are possessed.
3. Trade will be restricted only in respect of species identified in the current version of the AES trading certificate. Traders must provide their customers with information on the origins of all live and dead specimens offered for sale. **The Society suggests that this information should be based on one of the following categories:**
 - a) **Captive bred, from self-sustaining stock**
 - b) **Reared from wild-caught immature stages or gravid females**
 - c) **Wild-caught (in whatever stage is offered for sale)**
 - d) **Bred from a bona fide ranching scheme**
 - e) **Specimens from old collections**

If the specimens are derived from categories **(d)** or **(e)**, the following details must be provided:

- **for Category (d)** - the address of the ranch or ranching agency
 - **for Category (e)** - the origin of the collection and (if known) the year in which the specimen was collected
4. The Society will require traders at its Exhibitions to display and supply all living specimens in suitable containers and to provide relevant care sheets, QR codes or web links to care sheets. This information must be clearly displayed on or near the livestock container.

¹ The Plant Health (England) Order 2005 (No. 2530), lists plant pests which "shall not be landed or spread within England". Similar laws apply in other parts of the UK.

² The Dangerous Wild Animals Act 1976 (as amended) lists certain venomous spiders and scorpions, which cannot legally be possessed except in secure conditions under licence.

³ In the UK, trade in legally protected invertebrate species is controlled under the following:

- Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) [WCA] and its equivalents in Scotland and Northern Ireland;
- European Union Habitats Directive, as incorporated into UK legislation;
- Control of Trade in Endangered Species (Enforcement Regulation (1997)) [COTES]. COTES covers internal UK trade in species listed under CITES.