



CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME UPDATED AUGUST 2008

Hello Everyone,

2008 has seen the UKA take an important step forward with it's recognition by DEFRA as the UK Studbook holder for Knabstruppers in the UK and as a Passport Issuing Organisation (PIO).

Promotion and support for this rare breed was the raison d'être for the formation of the UKA back in 2006 and this acknowledgement by DEFRA will enable us to continue our work and help make more people aware of the wonderful qualities of these lovely horses and that there is so much more to them than their spotted colouring.

The granting of PIO status mean that you can now get a UKA passport for your British bred Knabstrupper - for full details please visit the passport pages. As well as the studbook for Knabstruppers we are also running two other registries – Part-Bred Knabstruppers and Spotted Horse and Pony. Full details of these registries and how to apply for UKA passports can be found at: www.ukknabstrupperassociation.co.uk/passports__registration

In 2008 the UKA are again working with the ZfdP of Germany in organising a 2nd UK ZfdP grading day. This will be at Moulton College on 30th August and is open to any of the breeds for which the renowned ZfdP holds a studbook. This event is open to spectators and a warm welcome is offered to anyone with an interest in the day even if you don't have a horse to present.

2008 has also seen another group following in the footsteps of the UKA and forming a new Knabstrupper society in the UK. There is an old saying that imitation is the sincerest form of flattery so we accept the compliment and are pleased that there is so much interest in this rare breed. Unfortunately the chairman of this new group has recently indulged in an unprovoked and unpleasant attack on the UKA which has even been carried onto public forums.

The UKA finds this behaviour deplorable and we have lodged a formal complaint with the KNN pointing out the inaccuracies and misleading information contained in the postings. We are sad to see this type of action being taken as there is a danger that it will reflect badly on the breed. The UKA will not be dragged into public bickering and will continue to offer a warm welcome to anyone interested in this lovely breed of horse and continue in our efforts to work cooperatively with all groups.