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### The ACPS Inspection Criteria- Based on the ICCPS Standard

Optimum age for stallions is 3 years, minimum age for mares and geldings is 2 years. Participation of mature Connemaras is encouraged. Inspected ponies will receive a Written Report, private audience with the Inspection Team, and if approved, endorsement on Registration Papers. CN\* In remote areas, because of the infrequency of Inspections, rising 3-year-old colts may be presented.

Height: The minimum height at inspection is 128 cms (12.2 ½ hands) and the maximum height at inspection is 148 cms (14.2 ¼ hands). CN\* Allowances will be made for mature Connemaras, however, any pony measuring 15 hands or over should be presented with a signed veterinarian statement indicating the under maximum height of the pony at age two.

Colors: Grey, black, bay, brown, dun with occasional roan, chestnut and palomino.

Type: Rugged and sturdy, body compact and deep through the heart, with well sprung rib cage and broad chest. Well balanced riding type with good depth and substance and good heart room, standing on short legs, covering a lot of ground. Well balanced overall appearance.

Head: Balanced in proportion to the body, with good width between large kindly eyes. Pony ears, well-defined cheekbones, jaw relatively deep but not coarse.

Front: Head well set onto neck. Chest should not be overdeveloped. Neck not set on too low. Good length of rein. Well-defined withers, good sloping shoulder; forelegs straight, with no deviation of cannon bones.

Body: Should be deep, with strong back, some length permissible but should be well-ribbed up with strong loins.

Limbs: Good length and strength in forearm, well-defined knees and short cannons, with dense, flat bone measuring 18 cms (7.08 inches) to over 21 cms (8.26 inches); pasterns of good slope and medium length, feet hard, strong and well formed.

Hindquarters: Strong and muscular with some length, well-developed second thigh (gaskin) and strong low-set hocks, properly aligned.

Movement: Straight and true, free shoulder, of a quality that is free, light and elastic, with no winging, paddling or other deviations.

Inspection criteria on the ACPS website from at least 2008 to 2013 requires a cannon bone circumference of 7.08 to 8.26 inches.

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### The Connemara Breed Standard

Type and Conformation:	Connemaras in North America range from 13 to over 15 hands. Their colors are gray, bay, brown, and dun, with some roans, an occasional black, chestnut, or palomino. Piebalds and skewbalds are not acceptable for registration. Connemaras are the product of their original environment, the rugged mountain coast of West Ireland. Sure-footed, hardy and agile, they possess powers of great stamina, staying power and adaptability. They are renowned for their versatility and their gentle, tractable, sensible and willing dispositions.
Temperament:	Mannerly and manageable, kind, responsive, possessing good sense and basic intelligence.
Type:	Rugged and sturdy; body compact and deep through the heart; with well sprung rib cage and broad chest.
Action:	Straight and true both front and rear with free movement in the shoulders. Connemaras should move underneath themselves and should be sure-footed, athletic, and clever, covering a lot of ground.
Head:	Kind eye, head well shaped and balanced in proportion to the rest of the body, neck of good length and definition, meeting the shoulder smoothly.
Shoulders:	Laid-back with good slope.
Back:	Strong and muscular; some length of back is normal in Connemaras, especially in mares.
Hindquarters:	Well rounded and deep with good length from the point of the hip through the haunch; should balance the shoulders.
Bone:	Clean, hard, flat, measuring 7- 8 inches below the knee for ponies, more for horses; forearms and gaskins long and muscular, cannons short and very dense.
Joints:	Large and well defined.
Feet:	Hard, strong.

Connemara breed standards on the same ACPS website from at least 2008 to 2013 say the cannon bone should be 7 to 8 inches.