

New Zealand Gypsy Cob Association Breed standards

1. Purebred Gypsy Cob
2. Partbred Gypsy Cob
3. Drum Horse
4. Partbred Drum Horse



Breed Standard for the Purebred Gypsy Cob	
HEIGHT:	Any height is acceptable.
COLOUR & MARKINGS:	All colours, markings and patterns are acceptable.
HEAD:	The Gypsy Cob should have a noble, expressive sweet head by Gypsy definition, without coarseness and in proportion to overall size of pony. Forehead is broad. The ideal head presents a straight profile. Roman nosed is allowed but not desirable. Dished is frowned upon. Bite should be even but allowances to be made in youngstock.
EYES:	Prominent, bright, mild and intelligent. All eye colour acceptable.
NOSTRILS:	Large and expanding with a good width between each nostril.
EARS:	Neatly set, well-formed short to medium in size and shapely.
THROAT & JAW:	Throat latch slightly deeper than lighter breeds. Should be refined enough to allow proper flexion of the poll.
NECK:	Of proportionate length, giving good length of rein, strong and not too heavy. Should be in proportion to overall size of pony. Stallions should display a well arched crest.
SHOULDERS:	The shoulders should be deep, well laid back and sloping, powerful with good length, muscles well-developed. Not too fine at the withers, nor loaded at the points.
BODY:	Good strong back with a strong topline, muscular loins, deep body, thick through heart, broad across the chest, round well sprung ribs from shoulders to flank, short and well coupled, hind quarters square and strong with tail well set on. Ribs should not be visible. Barrel should tie in strongly to the loin, appearing compact and powerful.
FEET, LEGS AND JOINTS:	Feet of good size should be hard and strong, round and well formed, open at the heels. Pastern angle should be well matched with shoulder angle and not too long. Forelegs should be straight, well placed not tied at elbows, flat well-formed knees. Short cannon bone carrying flinty flat bone below the knee, great muscularity of arm with heavy bone in proportion to the size of the horse.
HIND LEGS:	Good thighs and second thighs, very muscular, hocks well let down, large and well developed and clean cut, plenty of bone below joint, hocks should not be sickle nor cow hocked.
HINDQUARTERS:	Hindquarters are muscular, powerful, and well-rounded giving the appearance of an 'apple shape'. Good length from the point of the hip through the haunch; should balance the shoulders.
MANE, TAIL, FEATHER:	A NATURAL abundance of flowing mane, forelock and tail hair. Feather (leg hair) should start from the back of the knee and hock joints and cover the entire hoof. Hair should be straight and silky, curly hair is less desirable and coarse hair is not desirable. Tail well set on, carried naturally while at rest and in action.

ACTION:	Walk, smart and true, active and powerful showing great pace and endurance. Trot well balanced all round. Showing great strength and impulsion from the hocks and hindquarters, not going too wide nor near behind. Some have higher knee action than others.
GENERAL CHARACTER:	The Gypsy should be constitutionally as hard as iron showing great bone and have a calm but alert demeanour but above all else should be a strong and kind. They are mannerly and manageable, eager to please, confident, courageous, alert, and loyal with a genuine sociable outlook. The Gypsy is renowned for its gentle, tractable nature and sensible disposition very intelligent partner that works willingly and harmoniously with its handler.

Breed Standard for Partbred Gypsy Cob

HEIGHT:	Any Height is acceptable.
COLOUR & MARKINGS:	All colours, markings and patterns are acceptable.
HEAD:	Neat, and is in proportion to overall size of horse or pony. The ideal head presents a fairly straight profile. Bite should be even but allowances to be made in youngstock.
EYES:	Prominent, bright, mild and intelligent. All eye colour acceptable.
NOSTRILS:	Large and expanding with a good width between each nostril.
EARS:	Neatly set and well formed.
THROAT & JAW:	Throat latch should be refined enough to allow proper flexion of the poll.
NECK:	Of proportionate length, giving good length of rein, strong and not too heavy. Should be in proportion to overall size of horse or pony.
SHOULDERS:	The shoulders well laid back and sloping, with good length, muscles well developed.
BODY:	Ribs should not be visible. Barrel should tie in strongly to the loin, appearing compact and powerful.
FEET, LEGS AND JOINTS:	Pastern angle should be well matched with shoulder angle and not too long. Forelegs should be straight, well placed not tied at elbows, flat well-formed knees.
HIND LEGS:	Good thighs muscular, hocks well let down, well developed and clean cut, good bone below joint, hocks should not be sickle nor cow hocked.
HINDQUARTERS:	Hindquarters should be well-rounded giving the appearance of an 'apple shape'. Good length from the point of the hip through the haunch; should balance the shoulders.
MANE, TAIL, FEATHER:	Mane, forelock, and tail should be ample when showing in breed classes. Double manes are common, but not required. Some feathering on the legs should be visible unless clipped. Tail well set on, carried naturally while at rest and in action. In showing classes it is permissible for partbreds to be hogged, clipped and/or plaited.

ACTION:	Walk, true and straight showing good pace and endurance. Trot well balanced all round. Showing good strength and impulsion from the hocks and hindquarters, not going too wide nor near behind. Some have higher knee action than others.
GENERAL CHARACTER:	The Partbred Gypsy should be alert with good bone. The Partbred Gypsy, above all else should be kind, mannerly and manageable, eager to please, confident, courageous, alert, and loyal with a genuine sociable outlook. Should show some characteristics of the Gypsy Cob.

Breed Standard for the Drum Horse	
HEIGHT:	The Drum horse is expected to carry height and are awarded Premium Status once they reach 16hh or over – although any height is accepted, breeders are encouraged to maintain this height expectation.
COLOUR & MARKINGS:	Drum Horses may have any base colour and may be solid or coloured. There is no preference given to coloured horses over solid-coloured horses.
HEAD:	The head should be attractive and in proportion to the body. The forehead and poll should be wide, but not so wide as to lose the appearance of overall proportion to the length of the head. Both convex and straight profiles (Roman) are acceptable, given they are appropriate for the horse's body type.
EYES:	The eyes should appear expressive and kind and should be an appropriate size in relation to the horse's head. Eyes may be any colour.
MUZZLE & JAW:	Muzzle and jaw should be square and tie in cleanly to the rest of the head. The upper and lower lip should meet, and the horse's bite should be even.
EARS:	The ears should be attractive and in proportion with the head.
NECK & CHEST:	The neck should be long, well-muscled, and in proportion to the horse's frame. Throat latch should be clean, allowing for good flexion at the poll. The length of the neck should be well proportioned in comparison to the length of the back and should tie in smoothly at the shoulder and wither. Withers should be average in height (not too high or low) and well-defined, with a generous layer of muscle. They should be sloping, and preferably lie further back than the elbow, to allow for greater scope of motion in the forelimbs. The chest should be deep and as broad as the shoulders, balanced in appearance compared to the rest of the body.
SHOULDERS:	The shoulders should be set far enough apart to allow for each front leg to be centred under each point of the shoulder. Shoulders should be level and in balance with each other. The slope of the shoulder and the slope of the pastern should ideally be the same angle (as close to a 45–50 degree angle as possible).
BODY:	The barrel (or the body) should be well-rounded with long, well set ribs. It should be broad and deep, giving a round appearance. The back should be strong and in proportion with the horse's overall frame and build. The back should be half the length of the underline and should tie in well with the loins, which should be wide and strong on the mature horse.

FEET, LEGS AND JOINTS:	When viewed from the front, front legs should be set parallel to each other and far enough apart to allow one hoof width in between. legs should be straight to the fetlock joint. The knee should be slightly wider than the leg itself, and “flat,” as opposed to “round,” in appearance. The cannon bone should be half of the length of the forearm. Pasterns should ideally be the same angle as the shoulders. Hooves should be large enough for soundness, stability and weight-bearing, but not exaggerated in proportion to the horse’s build. Heels should be open, and hooves should be well shaped to provide long years of sound use.
HIND LEGS:	When viewed from behind, the back legs should display a “draft horse hock set,” where the toes can be slightly turned out, but should not be cow hocked or sickle hocked when viewed from the side. When the horse is standing square and viewed from the side, the hind legs should be set directly under the hindquarters, with the point of the hock directly beneath the point of the buttock. The hock should be flat in appearance with tendons clearly defined, and ideally a little higher than the front knee. The cannon bone in the rear leg should be slightly longer than in the front legs.
HINDQUARTERS:	The loins should lead fluently into the croup, which should have a slight downward slope. The croup should not be short or steep/pointed, nor overly round.
MANE, TAIL, FEATHER:	Mane and tail should be natural and abundant. Feather is a required characteristic of a Drum Horse. Feathering should preferably begin above the fetlock joints and start at the back of the knee and hocks, as well as run down the leg to cover the entire hoof. Feather should be silky and soft and can be either straight or curly. Clipping or trimming of bridle paths, belly hair, jaw and ear hair is permissible and up to each individual owner/breeder. Docking of tails is not permitted.
ACTION:	The ideal Drum Horse should move naturally, with forward impulsion and presence, during all three gaits: Walk: Horse should walk flat with a straight four-beat, ground-covering gait. Stride should be consistent and balanced. Trot: The trot should be coordinated, straight, and balanced. There should be two distinct beats in which front and hind legs are moving diagonally. Action at the knees may be snappy and naturally animated, or regular and extended. The Drum Horse should use his hind end well, and hocks should be powerful and work close together. Canter: The canter should be a fluid three-beat gait, exhibiting balance, cadence and strong use of the horse’s hindquarters.
GENERAL CHARACTER:	The Drum Horse should be a large, athletic animal capable of excelling in a variety of equine disciplines. The Drum should be a large, well-muscled horse of medium to heavy weight, with good quality bone, an athletic body, a kind expression, and abundant hair (including heavy “feather” on the legs). The Drum Horse should display good character and be a willing and sensible partner. The overall impression of the Drum Horse should be one of an elegant heavy horse of great strength and agility and therefore display the athleticism to allow for competitiveness in all ridden and driven disciplines.

The NZGCA is using the Drum Standard and Breeding guidelines set forth by the International Drum Horse Association with full IDHA permission.

The Drum Horse is a combination of any of the following breeds: Shire, Clydesdale, and Gypsy Horse, where the Gypsy horse does not exceed 50% of the total make-up or fall below 6.25%. Horses with greater than 50% Gypsy or less than 6.25% Gypsy will be placed in the Foundation Drum Book.

The IDHA maintains three separate Stud Books:

- Foundation Horse Book: A purebred (registered) Clydesdale, Shire or Gypsy Horse or a cross of a (registered) Clydesdale and (registered) Shire.
- Foundation Drum Book: A horse that contains Clydesdale and/or Shire and where the Gypsy percentage is greater than 50% or less than 6.25%.
- Drum Horse Book: A horse that contains Clydesdale and /or Shire with a minimum of 6.25% Gypsy, but not to exceed 50% Gypsy.

Classifications:

- F1 Drum Horse: A horse that is Clydesdale and/or Shire and exactly 50% Gypsy.
- F2 Drum Horse: A horse that is Clydesdale and/or Shire and 25% to 49% Gypsy.
- F3 Drum Horse: A horse that is Clydesdale and/or Shire and 6.25% to 24% Gypsy.
- Premium Drum. This horse can be an F1, F2, or F3 Drum Horse. It is a horse that by his/her 7th birthday is 16hh or greater and is height certified through the provision of an RAS Height Certificate.

Breed Standard for the Partbred Drum Horse	
HEIGHT:	The Partbred Drum horse should be a substantial horse with height and presence, although any height is acceptable.
COLOUR & MARKINGS:	Any colour or pattern is acceptable.
HEAD:	The head should be attractive and in proportion to the body. The forehead and poll should be wide, but not so wide as to lose the appearance of overall proportion to the length of the head. Any profile is acceptable, as long as it is appropriate for the horse's body type.
EYES:	The eyes should appear expressive and kind and should be an appropriate size in relation to the horse's head. Eyes may be any colour.
MUZZLE & JAW:	Muzzle and jaw should be square and tie in cleanly to the rest of the head. The upper and lower lip should meet, and the horse's bite should be even.
EARS:	The ears should be attractive and in proportion with the head.
NECK	The neck should be long, well-muscled, and in proportion to the horse's frame. Throat latch should be clean, allowing for good flexion at the poll. The length of the neck should be well proportioned in comparison to the length of the back and should tie in smoothly at the shoulder and wither.
SHOULDERS:	The shoulders should be well laid back and sloping, with good length, muscles well developed.
BODY AND HINDQUARTERS:	The barrel (or the body) should be well-rounded with long, well set ribs. It should be broad and deep, giving a round appearance. The back should be strong and in proportion with the horse's overall frame and build. The loins should lead fluently into the croup, which should have a slight downward slope. The croup should not be short or steep/pointed, nor overly round.
ACTION:	The Partbred Drum Horse should move naturally, with forward impulsion and presence, during all three gaits.
GENERAL CHARACTER:	The Partbred Drum Horse should be a large, athletic animal capable of excelling in a variety of equine disciplines. The partbred Drum Horse should have a kind expression, and display good character and be a willing and sensible partner.

MANE, TAIL, FEATHER:	Mane and tail should be natural and abundant. Mane, forelock, and tail should be ample when showing in breed classes. Some feathering on the legs should be visible unless clipped. Tail well set on, carried naturally while at rest and in action. In showing classes it is permissible for partbreds to be hogged, clipped and/or plaited. Clipping or trimming of bridle paths, belly hair, jaw and ear hair is permissible and up to each individual owner/breeder. Docking of tails is not permitted.