



Unmarked Pony Service

(Last updated April 2021)

<p>Purpose</p>	<p>The Dartmoor Hill Pony Association Unmarked Pony Service aims to support Commoners' Associations manage unmarked ponies drifted-in on their commons. This will help Commoners Associations maintain the headcount of cattle, sheep and ponies desired for the conservation grazing aims of the common.</p>
<p>Procedure</p>	<p>Commoners Associations are invited to bring all Unmarked ponies drifted from their common to a central pound. The DHPA pound is at Corndonford Farm, Poundsgate TQ13 &PP.</p>
	<p><u><i>Steps Taken to Identify the Pony's Owner:</i></u></p> <p>Ponies held at the DHPA pound are thoroughly checked for visible marks (brand) and microchip to identify the owner.</p> <p>Ponies held at the DHPA pound are advertised on social media, such as the DHPA Facebook Group and Twitter account.</p> <p>If an owner comes forward to collect the pony, a weekly charge must be paid to the DHPA pound to cover keep.</p>
	<p><u><i>Unclaimed Ponies</i></u></p> <p>Unclaimed ponies are genetically tested to check rarity of genetics and Mean Kinship. If of particular genetic rarity, the DHPA will contact the Commoners' Association to discuss if the pony can be returned to the common and join a herd leared there. If not, an alternative solution will be sought.</p> <p>Unclaimed ponies will be sold by the DHPA pound.</p>
<p>Surplus Funds</p>	<p>DHPA Pound costs will be recouped from funds raised by sales. After DHPA pound costs have been covered, surplus funds raised will go to the DHPA central fund, to fund projects run by the DHPA for the benefit of member pony-keepers on the commons of Dartmoor.</p>