Briefing Note of the 36th Board Meeting of Horse Sport Ireland held on the 31st March 2011

The Chairman conveyed the sympathies of the Board on the recent passing of John Reid's wife Julie and James Kernan's father Frank.

The Chairman welcomed to the Board Harold McGahern, who replaces Bernie Brennan as the RDS representative. The Chairman acknowledged Bernie Brennan's voluntary work on the HSI Board and the HSI Finance Committee saying her experience was immensely valuable.

Minutes of the 35th Board Meeting and Matters Arising

On matters arising, the Chief Executive said he and the Director of Finance had been invited to address the Irish Long Distance Riding Association (ILDRA) at their recent EGM held on Thursday 24th March at the City North Hotel. A vote was taken at the conclusion of that meeting regarding affiliation to HSI, in which an overwhelming majority of members voted for re-affiliation. A formal letter from ILDRA confirming this decision was expected in due course.

The Director of Finance said that a HSI representative could be available to attend Affiliate AGMs to answer questions and encouraged Board members to pass on this message to the affiliate organisations they represented.

Finance Report

The Director of Finance and Operations circulated the 2011 draft budget which had been recommended for adoption by the HSI Finance Committee.

The Director of Finance and Operations presented an overview of the 2010 year end management accounts. He informed the Board that the audit of the accounts would be undertaken in April and that following the audit, the year end audited financial statements would be presented to the Board for its consideration.

Breeding Sub Board Report

The Director of Breeding and Programmes presented the Breeding Sub Board report which was circulated to the Board. This included an update on the HSI 2011 Stallion Book and the launch of the CapallOir Trial. With regards to sponsorship, she drew attention to Appendix A of the report, a detailed breakdown of the sponsorship proposal for 2011.

Sport Sub Board Report

The Chief Executive presented the Sport Sub Board report which was circulated to the Board. He commented that very positive feedback had been received on the Introduction to Horse Riding Schools Pilot Programme. Regarding funding allocations for 2011 he said a detailed breakdown of the allocation to international hosting grants would be brought to the next meeting.

A.O.B

FEI Officials Forum:

Charles Powell commended those involved in the organisation of the FEI Officals Forum on Saturday 19th February at the Keadeen Hotel Newbridge which he said was a very successful event.

Reining & Western Riding:

The Chief Executive acknowledged the recent appointment of Declan McArdle as voluntary chairman for the HSI Reining & Western Riding Committee. He thanked Teagasc for enabling Declan to take up this voluntary position and recognised the work of Declan throughout the HSI Stallion Inspections.

Finance Committee:

The Chairman noted the stepping down of Bernie Brennan from the HSI Finance Committee and proposed Norman Storey as a replacement for Bernie. This was agreed by the Board.

Iris Kellet:

Harold McGahern requested that the passing of Iris Kellet should be acknowledged.

Next Meeting:

The Chairman thanked the Board members for this meeting and the date for the next meeting was confirmed for Thursday 19th May at 2.00pm