

ISH Young Breeders National Competition 2016

- developing the skills of breeders and producers of the future



The Young Breeders Competition is jointly organised by Teagasc and Horse Sport Ireland. It is not a requirement to be a breeder to partake in the programme or the competition.

The ISH Young Breeders National Competition takes place at **Teagasc Kildalton Agricultural College** on Thursday **November 3rd 2016**.

The aims of the Young Breeders Competition are to:

- Encourage young people to become actively involved in assessing mares and young horses and recognising the desirable traits in horses to produce and compete at the top level
- Improve young people's knowledge of horse breeding and build their knowledge and skill to enable them make informed decisions when developing their own breeding enterprise
- Opportunity for participants of the programme to work with leading industry experts
- Give young breeders an opportunity to meet other young people with similar interests

The results of the 2016 National Competition will be used to select a panel from which the teams will be selected to represent the Irish Sport Horse Studbook in the World Breeding Federation for Sport Horses (WBFSH) Young Breeders World Championship 2017* to be held in **Calgary Canada from the 20th to 22nd July 2017**. Eight individuals will be selected in the Junior (15 to 18 years on 1/1/16) age category and a further eight in the Senior (19 to 24 years on 1/1/16) age category to go forward for further training and selection. A team of three in both age categories will be chosen to travel to Canada*. There is no category for Youth (13 /14 years on 1/1/16) age category at international level so this age group is confined to national competition only.

* *Subject to securing sufficient funding/sponsorship*

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Terms and Conditions Young Breeders National Competition November 3rd 2016

Participants

Young people interested in the breeding, producing, presentation, and judging of horses conformation and athleticism traits are invited to participate in this competition.

The competition will consist of three age groups, two of which are eligible for selection to qualify for the WBFSH International Young Breeders Competition 2017:

- Persons aged 13/14yrs on the 1st of January 2016 – eligible for National Competition only
- Persons aged 15-18 yrs on the 1st of January 2016 – eligible for National Competition and World Championships
- Persons aged 19-24 yrs on the 1st of January 2016 – eligible for National Competition and World Championships

Entry fee and Booking

The entry fee for this competition will be €20. Booking must be made in advance at

<https://www.teagasc.ie/animals/equine/ish-young-breeders-programme/events/> . **Closing date for entries is Thursday October 27th.**

Venue

The competition venue is Kildalton Agricultural College, Piltown, Co. Kilkenny. Kildalton College is situated in the village of Piltown, Co Kilkenny, located just off the main Waterford to Limerick road, approximately eight kilometres from Carrick-on-Suir and 20 kilometres from Waterford city. GPS coordinates: Lat: 52:21:30N (52.35827); Lon: 7:19:45W (-7.32912)

Timetable

| Time | Activity | Time | Activity |
|---------|-------------------------|----------------|----------------------|
| 9.30am | Registration | 1.15pm | Lunch |
| 10am | Theory Paper | 2pm | In Hand Presentation |
| 10.30am | Loose Assessment | 5pm approx. | Supper |
| 11.30am | Conformation Assessment | 5.30pm approx. | Prize Giving |

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Attire

For presenting a horse in hand participants may wear dark uniform coloured slacks with long or short sleeved white shirt only with a dark block coloured jumper. If weather conditions are inclement then clearly appropriate rain gear is permissible. Riding hats (standard PAS015) and gloves must be worn for this discipline by both the handler and the assistant handler person.

Horses

Competitors will be provided with horses for the competition. For the in-hand section of the competition horses will be randomly assigned to each participant.

Prizes

There will be prizes for the overall first, second and third in all three age groups. Prizes will also be provided for first, second and third in the individual discipline areas of assessing conformation; assessing athleticism; and presenting a horse in hand within each age group.

Disciplines

The Young Breeders competition will consist of the following four disciplines:

1. Theory test
2. Judging the gaits of horses loose in the arena and loose jumping
3. Judging mares on conformation
4. Presenting a horse in hand (two elements)
 - a. Handler
 - b. Assistant Handler

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1. Theory test

Each participant will answer 20 multiple choice questions on breeding, stable management, feeding, health, and sport. The questions will be taken from a prepared bank of questions available in advance on the Teagasc website.

Each question carries one point. The final mark will be multiplied by 5 to give the score out of 100. Participants can reach 100 points if all the questions are answered correctly.

https://www.teagasc.ie/media/website/animals/equine/2016-Theory_incl_Answers-ISH-National-Comp-2016.pdf

2. Judging horses for loose movement and loose jumping

Three horses will be judged loose in the arena. A fourth horse will be judged by the judges beforehand to give the participants an idea of the score level.

Scores are given for the following criteria:

1. Trot
2. Canter
3. Technique
4. Ability/Scope

Scores range from 10 (= excellent) to 3 (= very bad) using the following scale. Half points can be given.

| SCALE | |
|-----------|----|
| Excellent | 10 |
| Very Good | 9 |
| Good | 8 |
| Average | 7 |

| | |
|------------|---|
| Sufficient | 6 |
| Fairly Bad | 5 |
| Bad | 4 |
| Very Bad | 3 |

In the judging of gaits of loose mares 100 points are reached when a participant gives exactly the same scores as the judges. Each deviation is subtracted from 100.

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Ability/Scope

Scores are given for each horse's potential ability as a show jumper. Ability is defined as talent, capacity, and potential as a show jumper. Importance is attached to the courage of the horse as well.

Technique

Technique is defined as the ability of the horse to accurately assess the oncoming fence including the correct stride pattern within conventional distances while exhibiting appropriate leg and back reflexes. The horse should jump fluently and naturally, demonstrating the ability to measure his stride and show innate talent for leg folding and bascule over the jump.

3. Judging mares on conformation

Three mares will be judged on their conformation, with a fourth mare prejudged to give an idea of the score level.

Scores are given for the following 10 criteria:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| 1) Gender and breed type | 7) Hindlegs |
| 2) Head | 8) Correctness of gaits – front and rear views |
| 3) Neck | 9) Walk – side view |
| 4) Shoulder and Saddle Position | 10) Trot – side view |
| 5) Body | 11) Overall impression and development |
| 6) Forelegs | |

Scores range from 10 (= excellent) to 3 (= very bad).

In the judging of mares 100 points are reached when a participant gives exactly the same scores as the judges. Each deviation is subtracted from 100.

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4. Presenting a horse in hand

Before this section of the competition begins there will be a demonstration to show participants the way the judges expect a horse to be presented.

Every young breeder will be allocated a horse by draw to present it in hand. Part of the presentation is the introduction of the young breeder and the horse in the following way:

"I am (name), I present a (age) years old (breed)(sex) by (sire) out of (dam) by (dams sire)!"

Dimensions of the triangle: short sides at least 15-20 meters, long side 25-30 meters

Purpose

The overall purpose of the in-hand discipline is to present the horse in a way that makes the horse look and act in the best possible way both standing still and moving. The horse will be shown in a bridle and reins.

The handler must behave discreetly in order to let the attention be concentrated on the horse. An 'assistant handler' will assist in following the horse. Assistant handler persons to accompany each competitor will be chosen by a draw in the same way as horses are drawn. The assistant handler persons will also be scored out of 10 for their effectiveness in reading the situation and assisting to produce a harmonious presentation and a further 10 marks for being in the right place at the right time. This mark will be multiplied by 2 to give a score out of 40.

Please be aware that unnecessary punishment or use of the whip may lead to disqualification in this discipline.

Please see details on how to prepare for this aspect of the competition on

<https://www.teagasc.ie/media/website/animals/equine/in-presentation---what-is-it-about.pdf>

The judges want the handler to present the horse to best advantage. In the walk as well as in the trot the horse should be given the opportunity to show its movements as freely as possible. On the turns the handler may reduce speed without the horse losing rhythm. In the standing position the mare should look its best. The judges want a harmonious total impression of the presentation.

The scores

A maximum of 10 marks will be given for each position (see marking sheet). The six in hand phases are averaged (rounded to one decimal place) and multiplied by 100 to give a final score out of 100.

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Score Sheet for Presenting a Horse In hand

| | | | |
|---------------------------|--|-------------|--|
| Competition number | | Name | |
|---------------------------|--|-------------|--|

Mark scale 1- 10 for each phase (half points can be given)

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| Phase 1: Entering the arena/triangle | |
| Phase 2: First presentation | |
| Phase 3: Walk | |
| Phase 4: Trot | |
| Phase 5: Second presentation | |
| Overall Impression | |
| Total score | |

Mark scale 1- 10 for each (half points can be given)

| | | |
|--|----------------------|--|
| Assistant Handler Person Number | Name: | |
| | Positioning | |
| | Effectiveness | |
| | Total Mark | |

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CODE OF CONDUCT

This code of conduct applies to all young breeders and any other support personnel.

National Rules

Each young breeder, and his or her parent or guardian where applicable, is responsible for reading the rules of the National Competition and is obligated to comply with and be bound by them.

Cooperation with the Organisers

Each young breeder, and his or her parent or guardian where applicable, and any other support personnel is required to cooperate with the organisers in carrying out its functions. This includes the requirement to treat all organisers with respect and courtesy and to follow all instructions issued by, and respond in reasonable time to requests from, any Horse Sport Ireland or Teagasc personnel.

Appeals

If a young breeder, and his or her parent or guardian where applicable, or any support personnel has a complaint to make about any aspect of the competition or selection procedure, including the training regime, he or she must first address the complaint to Team Managers Wendy Conlon and/or Declan McArdle. If he or she is unhappy with the response, he or she can raise the matter with Breeding Director of Horse Sport Ireland Alison Corbally. Complaints can be made in writing within seven days of the event and posted to Antonette Doran at Horse Sport Ireland; or forwarded by email to wendy.conlon@teagasc.ie/ declan.mcardle@teagasc.ie/ dharty@horsesportireland.ie (Deirdre Harty) . Any young breeder, and his or her parent or guardian where applicable, or any support personnel who does not follow this procedure by raising issues with other parties will be in breach of these terms and conditions.

Cheating

Cheating will not be tolerated. When participating in the various aspects of the competition including theory test, assessment of conformation, and assessment of athleticism traits each participant should keep their eyes on their own answer sheets only. Anybody found to be cheating in any way including accessing phones during the theory test; having brought answers into the theory test; looking at another competitors answer sheets at any time; or conversing with another competitor during these phases of the competition will be given a verbal warning. If the competitor is found to be cheating on a second occasion they will be disqualified from the competition.

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INFORMATION NOTE FOR PANELLISTS QUALIFYING FOR SELECTION FOR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS 2017

Panel members must be prepared to attend compulsory training sessions in 2017 prior to the World Championships. Panellists must also be prepared to fund accommodation, food and contribute towards transportation transfers in Canada*.

Panel members will be expected to attend a **minimum of three out of four** training sessions to take place in Feb/ Mar/ Apr 2017. Training dates and venues will be informed by mid Jan 2017 and panellists will have a defined period of time to inform of ability to attend these training dates.

Panellists must inform Wendy Conlon, Teagasc **by November 17th 2016** of their availability to travel to Canada in 2017, should they be selected. If a panellist is not available either for training (minimum three dates) or the competition itself then the place will be deferred to the next best candidate from the national competition results.

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