

High Performance Stallion X-Ray Scheme 2025

Horse Sport Ireland (HSI) are delighted to launch an x-ray screening scheme for breeders/owners of performance stallions aged 5 years old and older. This scheme is funded by the Department of Agriculture, Food, and the Marine (DAFM) by National Breeding Services. The scheme is open to stallions who are registered/endorsed in a DAFM approved studbook and meet specific performance requirements. Breeders/owners will have the opportunity to apply to participate in the x-ray screening scheme by completing an online application. Following receipt of a valid application which is subsequently approved, HSI will cover the cost of the screening (up to €350 total ex vat) and notify the selected HSI approved veterinarian.

Ponies are also eligible to receive funding under the scheme but must also meet the performance criteria and be registered/endorsed in a DAFM Approved Pony Studbook.

This scheme has three objectives:

1. Provide breeders with an accessible x-ray screening programme for their own personal use such as benchmarking their breeding herd.
2. Document the prevalence osteo-abnormalities the degree of bony changes in the breeding herd of actively covering stallions.
3. Use the data as a benchmark for bony changes in the Irish herd and disseminate this information in a scientific journal/scientific conference(s)

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Opening	Closing	X-rays returned
25/03/2025	25/08/2025	01/10/2025

- Stallions must meet all of the following eligibility criteria:
 - Be at least 5 years of age.
 - Be registered/endorsed in a DAFM approved studbook.
 - Provide verified results demonstrating the Showjumping performance criteria outlined below or equivalent in eventing or dressage:

Performance Horses:

Two double clear rounds at 1.40m CSI2* or higher.

OR

2 x Top 10 placings in FEI Table A 1.40m classes at a fence height of at least 1.40m at CSI2* or higher.

OR

Four double clear rounds in 1.40m National Grand Prix classes.

OR



The appropriate age-related performance equivalent.

Ponies*:

Four double clear rounds at 1.05m or higher (148cms).

Four double clear rounds at 95cm or higher (138cms).

Four double clear rounds at 85cm or higher (128cms).

Where a sport horse or pony sire does not meet the performance criteria record of their own, they must have sired **two** progeny who have achieved the performance outlined above.

- Traditional Irish Sport Horse (ISH)[TIH] stallions applying for the scheme must not have submitted x-rays to HSI in the past.
- Irish Draught, Connemara Pony or Kerry Bog Pony stallions applying for the scheme must achieve the following:
 - Be the offspring of a Class 1 sire AND dam.
- The sires of applicant stallions must have an Approved/Preliminary Approved or Recognised/Preliminary Recognised classification or equivalent in a WBFSH member/DAFM-Approved studbook.

Prior to completion of x-rays the applicant is required to provide:

- Evidence of WBFSH/DAFM stallion classification.
- Evidence of verified performance where necessary.
- Evidence of ownership of the animal
- Irish Draught, Connemara ponies and Kerry Bog Ponies are not required to meet any level of performance.
- Stallions must be standing in Ireland and available to cover in 2025.
- Applicants must be resident on the island of Ireland (inc. Northern Ireland).
- Applicants must be the registered owner of the animal at the point of application.
- Where the applicant is not owner, it must be the authorised keeper of the animal.
 - Written permission must be received from the owner in this case
 - For inclusion of equines registered in dual ownership/breed partnership permission in written or email correspondence must be received by HSI from the non-applicant owner. Scheme approval will not occur in the absence of this written or email permission.
- Applicants may apply for up to two stallions.
- **Applicants must have completed the 2024 Equine Census. Proof of same must be submitted with the application. Applications are not valid without proof.**
- This scheme operates on a first come first served basis up to the maximum allocation facilitated by the existing budget allocation. Horse Sport Ireland reserves the right to close the scheme ahead of the advertised deadline.
- Horse Sport Ireland reserve the right to change, amend or update scheme terms and conditions. In the event of same, existing applicants will be notified.



- Horse Sport Ireland reserves the right to use performance equivalents and will consider breeding values from other studbooks on a case-by-case basis.
- Horse Sport Ireland reserves the right to reject any application. Incomplete applications will not be assessed, the onus is on the applicant to provide HSI with all of the required detail and evidence of verified performance/classification.
- HSI will pay the approved veterinarian directly and receive each animals' x-rays directly from the clinic.
- The veterinarian will not provide any 'live' interpretation of the x-rays to the applicant on the day of screening.
- X-rays will be interpreted by HSI expert x-ray panel.
- Applicants will receive a digital copy of the X-rays & interpretation directly from HSI.
- All x-ray images will be retained by HSI for research purposes. This research will not publish any identifiable features of the animals/owners/breeders who participated in the scheme.
- Horse Sport Ireland will provide the results of this scheme, where relevant, to the studbook of origin of the equine in question.
- X-rays will not be used for studbook classification.
- This screening is solely for the purpose of documenting the incidence of a variety of orthopaedic conditions; these x-rays do not provide recommendation for subsequent suitability for sale.
- I confirm that I have reviewed Horse Sport Ireland's Data Protection and Privacy policies (available at www.horsesportireland.ie or on request) and I note that HSI only process personal data for legitimate business purposes and/or where required by law. All processing will have due regard to the DPA 2018 and GDPR 2016. I note that this personal data may include sensitive personal data, as defined within the DPA and GDPR, the processing of which requires my explicit consent. I note that HSI and selected/approved veterinary clinics will honour the rights and freedoms of the data subjects at all times, as long as there is no other overriding law which limits those privileges.

By signing this form, I declare that:

- **I understand and agree to the terms and conditions of this scheme in their totality**
- **I provide my informed consent to participate in this scheme**
- **I understand HSI retain ownership of all images taken under this scheme**
- **I understand and provide consent for my equines' anonymised data to be used for research purposes, including but not limited to scientific publication**
- **I understand that HSI will publish a list of awardees (forename, surname, county and equine name) on the HSI website**
- **I understand that drawdown of funding is subject to the completion of scheme feedback**



X-Ray Panel

The following practices based in Ireland are approved to take x-rays of stallions on behalf of Horse Sport Ireland.

Practice:

Hugh Suffern,	Tullyraine Equine Clinic, 37 Quarry Road, Banbridge, Co. Down.	T. 00 44 28 40624566
Inge D'haese	Tullyraine Equine Clinic, 37 Quarry Road, Banbridge, Co. Down.	T. 00 44 28 40624566
Gillian Maddock,	Clinic na gCapall, Regent Street, Bagenalstown, Co Carlow.	T. 059-9722677
Sean O'Sullivan,	Corrin Veterinary Centre, Corrin, Fermoy, Co. Cork.	T. 025-32766
John Hyde,	Tower Equine Hospital, Caherlag, Glanmire, Co. Cork.	T. 021-4353358
Jürgen Bodamer,	West Coast Equine, Old Church Street, Athenry, Co. Galway.	M. 086-1040658
Felim MacEoin,	Galway Equine Clinic, Kilcolgan, Co. Galway.	M. 087-3976292
Ned O'Flynn,	Rinnwood House, Oranmore, Co. Galway.	T. 091-794836
Tom Austin,	Anglesea Lodge Equine Hospital, Anglesea Lodge, The Curragh, Co. Kildare.	T. 045-521373
Heinrich Zeig,	Somerton Equine Hospital, Friarstown, Kildare.	T. 045-521757
Ernan O'Donnell,	Sycamore Lodge Equine Clinic, Waterford Lodge, Curragh, Co. Kildare.	T. 045-441562
Hugh Dillon,	Troytown Equine Hospital, Green Rd., Co. Kildare.	T. 045-521686
Tim Brennan,	Gowran Castle Stud, Gowran Castle, Gowran, Co Kilkenny.	T. 056-7726836
Edwina Farrell,	Clontubrid, Freshford, Co Kilkenny.	M. 087-2446362
John Noonan,	Gortnagrour, Adare, Co. Limerick	T. 061-396775, M. 087-2594057
Liam Flynn,	Ballybrown Equine Clinic, Ballybrown, Clarina, Co Limerick.	T. 061-353296
Donncha Houlihan,	Dundalk Equine Vet Clinic, Dundalk Racecourse, Co. Louth.	M. 086-7719777
Liam Sharp,	Lisadell Equine Hospital, Follistown, Navan, Co. Meath.	T. 046-9059040
Katy Murphy,	Kilcock Veterinary Hospital, Summerhill Road, Kilcock, Co. Meath.	M. 086-2522665
Con Kennedy,	Ratoath Veterinary Clinic, Ratoath, Co. Meath.	T. 01-8256213
Jim Tempany,	Tireragh Veterinary Clinic, Dromore West, Co. Sligo.	T. 096-47455
William Lalor	Annsfort, Lisronagh, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary	M. 087-9959 118
Pat Meagher,	Kedrah House Stud, Cahir, Co. Tipperary.	T. 052-7441790
Shane Ryan,	Kilcash Equine Clinic, Kilcash, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary.	M. 087-8255705
John Halley,	O'Byrne & Halley, Fethard Equine Hospital, Fethard, Co. Tipperary.	T. 052-6130795
Mark Fagan,	Derravarra Equine Clinic, Gartlandstown, Crookedwood, Co. Westmeath.	T. 044-9372555
J E Browne,	Borovalley Veterinary Clinic, Ballybrennan, Clonroche, Co. Wexford.	T. 05392-47849
John O'Doherty,	O'Doherty and Merrigan Veterinary Clinic, Gorey, Co. Wexford.	T. 0539421724
Patrick Merrigan,	O'Doherty and Merrigan Veterinary Clinic, Gorey, Co. Wexford.	T. 0539421724