



HORSE SPORT

IRELAND

BREEDING PROGRAMME FOR THE IRISH SPORT PONY STUDBOOK

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SECTION 1 OVERVIEW OF BREEDING PROGRAMME

1.1 INTRODUCTION

The Irish Sport Pony Studbook is the Studbook of origin for the **Irish Sport Pony** breed. Horse Sport Ireland is recognised by the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine as a breed society and approved to operate a breeding programme for the improvement of the Irish Sport Pony in Ireland and is approved as a Delegated Body/Passport Issuing Organisation. The Irish Sport Pony Studbook was established by Horse Sport Ireland in 2013. The breeding programme shall operate in the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland.

1.2 DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of this breeding programme, the following definitions will apply:

‘Agent’ A person who has been appointed by an owner giving full authority to act on behalf of the owner and who can be in all respects treated as the owner for the purpose of dealing with the studbook. The agent shall normally be appointed to act for the duration of a breeding season. The appointment of an agent by an owner requires a written instruction of the owner and must be transmitted by post or email to the studbook.

‘AIM’ The Animal Identification and Movement database maintained by the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine.

‘Biothermo microchip’ these microchips contain a patented built-in temperature biosensor which can measure a horse’s temperature at the implantation site. These are radio-frequency

Identification (RFID) systems which offer unique and unalterable identification for horses. The microchip is a passive transponder, with a unique 15-digit identification number compatible with ISO Standards 11784 and 11785.

‘Breeder’ A person(s) or entity which is recorded in the studbook as the owner of a mare at the time of foaling, shall be recorded as the breeder of the foal. This may be varied in certain circumstances when a signed agreement has been submitted to and accepted by the studbook confirming that another arrangement has been agreed regarding the registration of the breeder of a foal. In circumstances where the owner of a mare at the time of foaling is in doubt, the keeper of the mare shall be recorded as the breeder of the foal.

‘Breeding and Production Equine’ An equine identified in line with all legislative provisions but that has not been entered in a studbook

‘CEM’ Contagious equine metritis (CEM) is an acute, highly contagious venereal disease of horses and ponies (and experimentally of donkeys) characterized by a profuse, mucopurulent vaginal discharge and early return to oestrus in most affected mares. Infected stallions and chronically infected mares show no clinical signs.

‘Classification’ The class within a section of the Studbook in which a pony is entered and the process by which this is determined.

‘Competent Authority’ The Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine are the current recognised competent Authority.

‘Covering Certificate’ Certification provided in writing or in electronic format by the owner (or agent) of a stallion which confirms that the named stallion mated with an identified mare. The certificate must also show the mare owner details, the first and last date that the stallion and mare were mated and identify if the mating is through AI.

‘DNA Laboratory’ The HSI-appointed DNA analysis and storage laboratory, currently Weatherbys Scientific, Unit F1, M7 Business Park, Newhall, Naas, Co. Kildare, Ireland. W91 VX86.

‘Duplicate Identification Document’ An identification document issued where the original identification document is lost, and the identity of the animal can be established, through the microchip or alternative reliable method of identity verification; or the animal has not been identified within the time limits, provided that the covering certificate is available and the biological dam is identified or, the competent authority has proof that certain

identification details in the existing identification document do not match the corresponding equine animal.

‘EIA’ Equine infectious anaemia or swamp fever is a classical bloodborne infection and the virus is transmitted by biting flies (mainly horse flies) and contaminated needles and other instruments. All infected horses and ponies remain virus carriers for life and can serve as a source of infection for other horses and ponies.

‘Endorsement’ Process by which ponies entered in the main section in a different Studbook are entered into the main section of the Irish Sport Pony Studbook via the cross-breeding programme. The progeny of these ponies may then be eligible for registration in the ISP Studbook. Animals that are classified in the supplementary section of a different studbook are entered in the supplementary section of the studbook provided the breed is listed under the cross-breeding programme.

‘Entered’ Ponies entered in the Irish Sport Pony Studbook include all ponies entered in the main section of the Irish Sport Pony Studbook and all ponies endorsed into the main section of the Irish Sport Pony Studbook via the Crossbreeding Programme.

‘E-passport’ is the digital version of the horses identification document.

‘Equine Premises Numbers’ (EPN) relate to the premises where the animal is kept are compulsory on all Republic of Ireland (ROI) Applications. Applications cannot be processed without a valid EPN. EPN numbers are issued by the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, [click here](#) for more detail.

‘EVA’ Equine Viral Arteritis is primarily spread by venereal infection of mares by stallions during mating or when artificially inseminated by a carrier stallion. Infected mares may not be symptomatic, but they may shed virus in all her bodily fluids for up to 24 days after exposure and can infect other horses and ponies by direct contact or by aerosol. Stallions that are exposed to virus may become long term or permanent venereal shedders and may infect every mare they cover. EVA is a Notifiable disease in Ireland.

‘Fee’ The amounts quoted in the fee schedules produced by Horse Sport Ireland.

‘FEI’ The Fédération Équestre Internationale (International Federation for Equestrian Sports) is the international governing body of equestrian sports.

‘FEI disciplines’ The FEI recognises eight disciplines: show jumping, eventing, dressage, combined driving, endurance, para-equestrian, reining and equestrian vaulting. The Irish Sport Pony Studbook focuses on the disciplines of show jumping and eventing.

‘FFS’ Fragile Foal Syndrome is a hereditary disease with symptoms of hyperextensible and abnormally fragile skin, as well as hyperextensibility of articulations. The skin of new-born foals lacks tensile strength due to large spaces between deep dermal fibres. Also, lesions occur across the body and limb joints are extremely lax and hyperextensible. These abnormalities require euthanasia just after delivery. The defect is caused by a gene mutation.

‘Germinal product’ Germinal products include semen, oocytes, *in vivo* derived embryos and *in vitro* derived embryos.

‘Identification Document’ It is a legal requirement that all ponies have an identification document issued within a year of birth and the document should always accompany the pony. The Identification document is a single lifetime document for a pony and contains the described particulars of the animal and includes the year of birth, sex, registration dates and microchip information as an aid to its identification and for maintaining a medical record. The document also contains the owner information but is not a certificate of legal ownership and cannot be construed as such. The Identification document remains the property of the Issuing Authority and must be surrendered upon request.

‘IHR online’ This is a web-based data resource which provides information on horses in the database known as the ‘Irish Horse Register’ as maintained and administered by HSI. Animals included in this database are those entered and recorded in the studbooks maintained and administered by HSI, equines issued with breeding and production documents, equines endorsed into a HSI studbook for breeding purposes and those equines that require to be notified to the central equine database (movement notification). Information on pedigree, progeny and performance detail of horses are entered and recorded in the Irish Horse Register where relevant. The database is publicly available to breeders, registered owners, and registered users.

‘Issuing Authority’ Horse Sport Ireland is the issuing authority for the Irish Sport Pony Studbook.

‘Keeper’ A person(s) or entity which is recorded in the studbook as the keeper of a horse or pony following submission to and acceptance by the studbook of a completed form or notification including the relevant fee.

‘Main section’ The section of a studbook that caters for ponies that have met all the rules for entry as outlined in the breeding programme.

‘Microchip’ An electronic device encoded with a unique 15-digit number and encased in biocompatible glass called a transponder. The transponder has no internal power source and remains passive and harmless when implanted in the animal. When a microchip scanner is passed over an animal it sends radio waves to the transponder which gives it sufficient power to transmit a unique signal back to the scanner. The scanner decodes this signal and displays the 15-digit number.

‘Operator’ Any natural or legal person having equine animals under his or her responsibility, including for a limited duration of time, but excluding veterinarians and defined in EU CIR 2021/963. Termed ‘keeper’ in previous legislation and Irish Statutory Instruments and in HSI documents

‘Owner’ A person(s) or entity having completed an ownership declaration on the animal registration form or having completed a Transfer of ownership form, and the form has been accepted as accurate, and the relevant fee has been paid will be recorded in the studbook as the owner of a pony.

‘Passport’ An alternative term for an equine’s identification document.

‘Passport Issuing Organisation (PIO)’ An organisation recognised by the Competent Authority to issue Identification documents for horses or ponies.

‘Recorded’ Ponies recorded in the supplementary section of the ISP studbook includes all ponies recorded in the supplementary section of the ISP studbook and all ponies endorsed into the supplementary section via the Crossbreeding programme.

‘Registration’ Process by which ponies receive an Irish Sport Pony Studbook identification document and are entered into the main section or recorded in the supplementary section of the Studbook.

‘Replacement Identification document’ An identification document is issued where the original identification document is lost, and the identity of the animal cannot be ascertained and

there is no evidence that an identification document had been issued previously by a PIO. Additionally, a replacement identification document may be issued where the animal has not been identified within the time limits.

‘Studbook’ The Irish Sport Pony Studbook.

‘Supplementary Section (SUPP)’ The section of a studbook that caters for ponies eligible to be recorded in that studbook but that are not eligible for entry in the main section.

‘UELN’ The Unique Equine Life Number which contains 15 digits. The first three digits of the UELN represent the country of origin (372 is the code for Ireland); the next three digits represent the registration authority (414 is the code for the Horse Sport Ireland database); with the remaining 9 digits forming the registration number used to identify the animal.

‘Veterinary Surgeon’ A qualified Veterinary Surgeon who shall not be the breeder, owner or agent of a horse or pony to which a markings certificate, blood sample or microchip implantation relates. A Veterinary Surgeon must be listed on the Veterinary Council of Ireland database.

‘Veterinary Committee’ A studbook-appointed panel of Veterinary Surgeons which provide veterinary advice and expertise to the Studbook.

SECTION 2 NAME OF THE BREED

The name of the breed is the Irish Sport Pony breed (ISP).

The Irish Sport Pony Studbook is the studbook of origin for this breed.

SECTION 3 SELECTION AND BREEDING OBJECTIVES OF THE IRISH SPORT PONY BREEDING PROGRAMME

The overall aim of the breeding programme for the Irish Sport Pony is the improvement of the breed in line with the detailed breeding objective (section 3.3).

3.1 CHARACTERISTICS OF THE BREED/ BREED STANDARD

The Irish Sport Pony should be a functionally correct model of balanced proportions that is conducive to successful performance at international level in FEI disciplines. The pony should move correctly, be light-footed, balanced and supple with good self-carriage and impulsion from the hindquarters. Irish Sport Ponies should have a good temperament, be rideable, sound, intelligent

and willing to perform. They should have courage, be careful when jumping with good technique and scope.

Height: 148cm or under.

Bone: Good, strong, clean bone.

Colour: Any colour is acceptable.

3.2 SELECTION CRITERIA IN THE IRISH SPORT PONY BREEDING PROGRAMME

Details on selection procedures are outlined in section 7 of the breeding programme. All traits included in the breed standard are heritable and are assessed at studbook selections.

3.3 DETAILED BREEDING OBJECTIVE

To produce a performance pony that is sound, athletic with good paces and suitable temperament and capable of winning at the highest international level in FEI disciplines.

This is completed through several mechanisms, including the annual studbook mare and stallion selections. Studbook selections assess studbook animals, or animals wishing to enter the studbook, through the 37-trait linear profile and upper beam scores (see appendix 1). Studbook breeders/owners are provided with their own results following selections in the form of their linear profile bar chart and their upper beam scores. This allows breeders to evaluate their studbook ponies' qualities against any potential mating pair. The Studbook provides linear profiles of Studbook Stallions through the selection results page online and in the Stallion book.

Further to this, the studbook monitors breed performance outputs nationally and internationally and the inclusion of such detail in the IHR Online.

The above combined data supports studbook breeder decision making toward breed improvement with an application on soundness and performance via the selection and performance information made available.

SECTION 4 GEOGRAPHICAL TERRITORIES

The breeding programme shall operate in the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland.

SECTION 5 DIVISION OF THE STUDBOOK

The Irish Sport Pony Studbook incorporates a main section and a supplementary section.

5.1 MAIN SECTION

To qualify for entry into the main section of the Irish Sport Pony Studbook an animal must:

- Be descended from parents that are entered in the main section of a breeding book of the same breed.
- Be descended from parents that are entered in the main section of a breeding book under the studbook cross breeding programme (section 5.3).
- Have a pedigree established according to the rules set out in the breeding programme
- Be identified in accordance with the Equine Passport Regulations¹ and in accordance to the rules of the studbook (See section 6 on Entry into the Studbook)
- In the case of entry into the Union of an animal, the animal shall be accompanied by a zootechnical certificate issued in accordance with the Animal Breeding Regulations²
- Where an animal is produced from a germinal product which is traded or which is entered into the Union, it must be accompanied by a zootechnical certificate in accordance with the Animal Breeding Regulations².

The main section of the Irish Sport Pony Studbook is divided into classes in accordance with their merits of which they meet.

There are four classes for stallions:

- Approved
- Approved Over Height

¹ **COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) 2021/963 of 10 June 2021 laying down rules for the application of Regulations (EU) 2016/429, (EU) 2016/1012 and (EU) 2019/6 of the European Parliament and of the Council with regard to the identification and registration of equine animals and establishing model identification documents for those animals**

² **COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) 2016/1012 of 8 June 2016 on zootechnical and genealogical conditions for the breeding, trade in and entry into the Union of purebred breeding animals, hybrid breeding pigs and the germinal products thereof and amending Regulation (EU) No 652/2014, Council Directives 89/608/EEC and 90/425/EEC and repealing certain acts in the area of animal breeding ('Animal Breeding Regulation')**

- Preliminary Approved
- Entry (ENT)

There are four classes for mares and geldings:

- Select
- Select Over Height
- Preliminary Select
- Entry

There is one class for foals (colts and fillies):

- Entry

All animals born remain in the 'Entry' Class of the breeding book unless they meet the criteria and procedures which require a purebred breeding animal to undergo assessment as described in the breeding programme.

5.1.1 STALLION CLASSES

5.1.1.1 APPROVED

Stallions entering this class must meet the following criteria:

- Are entered in the main section of the Irish Sport Pony Studbook;
- Are 8 years of age or older and have been officially measured as 148cm or under when they are 8 years or older;
- Meet the veterinary requirements and meet the selection requirements outlined in section 7.1.

Irish Sport Pony stallions entered in the main section of the Irish Sport Pony Studbook can also be classified as Approved, providing they meet the following criteria:

- Are 8 years of age or older and have been officially measured as 148cm or under when they are 8 years or older;
- Have been presented for linear scoring;
- Meet the veterinary requirements;
- Meet minimum performance criteria as appropriate for their height. For 148cm show jumping stallions, this shall be at least 2 double clear rounds at a fence height of 1.30m or equivalent in eventing or dressage. For smaller ponies, the fence height will be adjusted depending on their height and the age of their rider.

OR

Have produced two progeny that meet these minimum performance criteria.

5.1.1.2 APPROVED OVER HEIGHT (AOH)

Stallions entering this class must meet the following criteria:

- Are entered in the main section of the Irish Sport Pony Studbook;
- Have been officially measured as over 148cm (when they are 8 years or older)
- Meet the veterinary requirements and meet the selection requirements outlined in section 7.1.

Irish Sport Pony stallions entered in the main section of the Irish Sport Pony Studbook can also be classified as Approved Over Height, providing they meet the following criteria:

- Have been officially measured as over 148cm;
- Have been presented for linear scoring;
- Meet the veterinary requirements;
- Meet minimum performance criteria as appropriate for their height. For 148cm show jumping stallions, this shall be at least 2 double clear rounds at a fence height of 1.30m or equivalent in eventing or dressage. For taller ponies, the fence height will be adjusted depending on their height and the age of their rider.

OR

Have produced two progeny that meet these minimum performance criteria.

5.1.1.3 PRELIMINARY APPROVED (PA)

Stallions entering this class must meet the following criteria:

- Are entered in the main section of the Irish Sport Pony Studbook and are aged between 3 and 8 years of age;
- Meet the veterinary requirements and meet the selection requirements outlined in section 7.1.

Preliminary Approved stallions that are officially measured 148cm or under when they are 8 years or older are upgraded to the Approved classification. Stallions that are measured officially as over 148cm, when they are 8 years or older will be classified as Approved Over Height.

5.1.1.4 ENTRY

Stallions entering this class must meet the following criteria:

- Are entered in the main section of the Irish Sport Pony Studbook and have not been presented for Studbook selection.

5.1.2 MARE AND GELDING CLASSES

5.1.2.1 SELECT

Irish Sport Pony mares and geldings are classified in this class providing they meet the following criteria:

- Are entered in the main section of the Irish Sport Pony Studbook and have been officially measured as being 148cm or under when they are 8 years or older;
- Meet the veterinary requirements and the selection requirements outlined in section 7.2.

Irish Sport Pony mares/geldings entered in the main section of the Irish Sport Pony Studbook can also be classified as Select, providing they meet the following criteria:

- Are 8 years of age or older and have been officially measured as 148cm or under when they are 8 years or older;
- Meet minimum performance criteria. For 148cm show jumping ponies, this shall be at least 2 double clear rounds at a fence height of 1.20m or equivalent in eventing or dressage. For smaller ponies, the fence height will be adjusted depending on their height and the age of their rider.

OR

Have produced two progeny that meet these minimum performance criteria.

5.1.2.2 SELECT OVER HEIGHT

Irish Sport Pony mares and geldings are classified in this class providing they meet the following criteria:

- Are entered in the main section of the Irish Sport Pony Studbook and have been officially measured as over 148cm when they are 8 years or older;
- Meet the veterinary requirements and the selection requirements outlined in section 7.2.

Irish Sport Pony mares/geldings entered in the main section of the Irish Sport Pony Studbook can also be classified as Select Over Height, providing they meet the following criteria:

- Have been officially measured as over 148cm when they are 8 years or older;
- Meet minimum performance criteria. For 148cm show jumping ponies, this shall be at least 2 double clear rounds at a fence height of 1.20m or equivalent in eventing or dressage. For taller ponies, the fence height will be adjusted depending on their height and the age of their rider.

5.1.2.3 PRELIMINARY SELECT

Mares and geldings entering this class must meet the following criteria:

- Are entered in the main section of the Irish Sport Pony Studbook and are aged between 3 and 8 years of age;
- Meet the veterinary requirements and meet the Selection requirements outlined in section 7.2.

Preliminary Select mares and geldings that officially measure 148cm or under when they are 8 years or older are upgraded to the Select classification. Mares and geldings that measure over 148cm, when they are 8 years or older will be classified as Select Over Height.

5.1.2.4 ENTRY

Mares and geldings entering this class must meet the following criteria:

- Are entered in the main section of the Irish Sport Pony Studbook and have not presented for Studbook selection.

5.1.3 FOAL CLASSES

5.1.3.1 ENTRY

All Irish Sport Pony foals that meet the eligibility criteria to be classified in the Main Section are classified in the Entry class.

5.2 SUPPLEMENTARY SECTION

To qualify for recording into the supplementary section animals must meet the following criteria:

- Are identified in accordance with the Equine Passport Regulations and in accordance to the rules of the breeding programme (See section 6 on Entry into the Studbook);

- Be descended from parents that are both either entered in the main section of the Irish Sport Pony Studbook or recorded in the supplementary section of the Irish Sport Pony Studbook but do not qualify for registration in the main section;

OR

Are judged to conform to the characteristics of the breed through assessment at selection or through sport results proving their capability to succeed in FEI disciplines, and meet the minimum performance as laid down in the studbook rules **which are:**

- For 148cm show jumping ponies, this shall be at least 2 double clear rounds at a fence height of 1.20m or equivalent in eventing or dressage. For smaller ponies, the fence height will be adjusted depending on their height and the age of their rider.

The supplementary section of the Irish Sport Pony studbook is divided into classes.

There are four classes for stallions:

- Supplementary Approved (SA)
- Supplementary Approved Over Height (SAOH)
- Supplementary Preliminary Approved (SPA)
- Supplementary Entry

There are four classes for mares and geldings:

- Supplementary Select
- Supplementary Select Over Height
- Supplementary Preliminary Select
- Supplementary Entry

There are one class for foals:

- Supplementary Entry

5.2.1 STALLION CLASSES

5.2.1.1 SUPPLEMENTARY APPROVED (SA)

Stallions entering this class must meet the following criteria:

- Are not eligible for classification in the main section of the Irish Sport Pony Studbook;
- Are 8 years of age or older and have been officially measured as 148cm or under when they are 8 years or older;
- Meet the veterinary requirements and meet the Selection requirements outlined in section 7.1.

Stallions that are not eligible for classification in the main section of the Irish Sport Pony Studbook can also be classified as Supplementary Approved, providing they meet the following criteria:

- Are 8 years of age or older and have been officially measured as 148cm or under when they are 8 years or older;
- Have been presented for linear scoring;
- Meet the veterinary requirements;

Meet minimum performance criteria. For 148cm show jumping ponies, this shall be at least 2 double clear rounds at a fence height of 1.30m or equivalent in eventing or dressage. For smaller ponies, the fence height will be adjusted depending on their height and the age of their rider.

5.2.1.2 SUPPLEMENTARY APPROVED OVER HEIGHT (SAOH)

Stallions entering this class must meet the following criteria:

- Are not eligible for classification in the main section of the Irish Sport Pony Studbook;
- Have been officially measured over 148cm;
- Meet the veterinary requirements and meet the Selection requirements outlined in section 7.1.

Stallions that are not eligible for classification in the main section of the Irish Sport Pony Studbook can also be classified as Supplementary Approved Over Height, providing they meet the following criteria:

- Have been officially measured over 148cm;
- Have been presented for linear scoring;

- Meet the veterinary requirements;
- Meet minimum performance criteria. Meet minimum performance criteria. For 148cm show jumping ponies, this shall be at least 2 double clear rounds at a fence height of 1.30m or equivalent in eventing or dressage. For taller ponies, the fence height will be adjusted depending on their height and the age of their rider.

5.2.1.3 SUPPLEMENTARY PRELIMINARY APPROVED (SPA)

Stallions that are not eligible for classification in the main section of the Irish Sport Pony Studbook can also be classified as Supplementary Preliminary Approved, providing they meet the following criteria:

- Are aged between 3 and 8 years of age;
- Meet the veterinary requirements and meet the selection requirements outlined in section 7.1.

Supplementary Preliminary Approved stallions that officially measure 148cm or under when they are 8 years or older are upgraded to the Supplementary Approved classification. Stallions that measure over 148cm will be classified as Supplementary Approved Over Height.

5.2.1.4 SUPPLEMENTARY ENTRY

Stallions entering this class must meet the following criteria:

- Are not eligible for classification in the main section of the Irish Sport Pony Studbook and do not meet the eligibility criteria for classification as Supplementary Approved, Supplementary Approved Over Height or Supplementary Preliminary Approved.
- Are registered to compete with any Horse Sport Ireland affiliated bodies (e.g. Showjumping Ireland, Eventing Ireland) or their equivalents in other countries.

5.2.2 MARE AND GELDING CLASSES

Mares and geldings must be named in order to be eligible for classification in the Supplementary Section of the Studbook.

5.2.2.1 SUPPLEMENTARY SELECT

Mares and geldings are classified in this class providing they meet the following criteria:

- They are not eligible for classification in the main section of the Irish Sport Pony Studbook;
- Have been officially measured as being 148cm or under when they are 8 years or older;

- Meet the veterinary requirements and the selection requirements outlined in section 7.2.

Mares/geldings that are not eligible for classification in the main section can also be classified as Supplementary Select, providing they meet the following criteria:

- Are 8 years of age or older and have been officially measured as 148cm or under when they are 8 years or older;
- Meet minimum performance criteria. For 148cm show jumping ponies, this shall be at least 2 double clear rounds at a fence height of 1.20m or equivalent in eventing or dressage. For smaller ponies, the fence height will be adjusted depending on their height and the age of their rider.

5.2.2.2 SUPPLEMENTARY SELECT OVER HEIGHT

Mares and geldings are classified in this class providing they meet the following criteria:

- They are not eligible for classification in the main section of the Irish Sport Pony Studbook;
- Have been officially measured as over 148cm when they are 8 years or older;
- Meet the veterinary requirements and the selection requirements outlined in section 7.2.

Mares/geldings that are not eligible for classification in the main section can also be classified as Supplementary Select Over Height, providing they meet the following criteria:

- Are 8 years of age or older and have been officially measured as over 148cm when they are 8 years or older;
- Meet minimum performance criteria. For 148cm show jumping ponies, this shall be at least 2 double clear rounds at a fence height of 1.20m or equivalent in eventing or dressage. For taller ponies, the fence height will be adjusted depending on their height and the age of their rider.

5.2.2.3 SUPPLEMENTARY PRELIMINARY SELECT

Mares and geldings entering this class must meet the following criteria:

- Are not eligible for classification in the main section of the Irish Sport Pony Studbook and are aged between 3 and 8 years of age;
- Meet the veterinary requirements and meet the selection requirements outlined in section 7.2.

Supplementary Preliminary Select mares and geldings that officially measure 148cm or under when they are 8 years or older are upgraded to the Supplementary Select classification. Mares and geldings that measure over 148cm will be classified as Supplementary Select Over Height.

5.2.2.4 SUPPLEMENTARY ENTRY

Mares and geldings entering this class must meet the following criteria:

- Meet the eligibility criteria for classification in the supplementary section of the Irish Sport Pony Studbook and do not meet the eligibility criteria for classification as Supplementary Select, Supplementary Select Over Height or Supplementary Preliminary Select;
- Are registered to compete with any Horse Sport Ireland affiliated bodies (e.g. Showjumping Ireland, Eventing Ireland) or their equivalents in other countries.

5.2.3 FOAL CLASSES

5.2.3.1 SUPPLEMENTARY ENTRY

Foals entering this class must meet the following criteria:

- Are not eligible for entry into the main section of the Irish Sport Pony Studbook.

5.2.4 UPGRADING OF PROGENY FROM THE SUPPLEMENTARY SECTION

The progeny of animals classified in the supplementary section (male and female) are eligible for entry into the main section of the Irish Sport Pony Studbook in the Entry class providing they have both a sire and dam entered in the Studbook.

5.3 CROSS-BREEDING PROGRAMME

The ISP breeding programme carries out a cross-breeding programme. Animals that are registered with recorded parentage in the main section of pony and horse studbooks that are approved/recognised by the Ministry of their country of operation are eligible for classification in the Irish Sport Pony Studbook in accordance with the criteria they meet.

Horse Sport Ireland may amend the list of breeds eligible for the Irish Sport Pony Cross-Breeding Programme from time to time.

5.3.1 STALLIONS

Stallions that are registered with recorded parentage in the main section of pony and horse studbooks that are approved/recognised by the Ministry of their country of operation are eligible for classification in the Irish Sport Pony Studbook in accordance with the criteria they meet as outlined

in section 5.2.1. Stallions entering through the crossbreeding programme that meet the veterinary requirements of a pony or horse studbook that is approved/recognised in its country of operation will not be required to complete a second veterinary assessment in Ireland.

5.3.1.1 IRISH SPORT HORSE STALLIONS

Irish Sport Horse Stallions entering through the crossbreeding programme that have been approved by that studbook will not be required to complete a second veterinary or selection in Ireland. Their official measurements by the Irish Sport Horse Studbook will be accepted by the Irish Sport Pony Studbook and will be entered in the class whose criteria they meet.

5.3.1.2 CONNEMARA PONY STALLIONS

Connemara Pony stallions that are classified as Class 1 in the main section of the Connemara Pony Studbook are eligible to be classified as Approved in the Irish Sport Pony Studbook.

5.3.2 MARES

Mares that are registered with recorded parentage in the main section of pony and horse studbooks that are approved/recognised by the Ministry of their country of operation are eligible for classification in the Irish Sport Pony Studbook in accordance with the criteria they meet as outlined in section 5.2.1. Mares entering through the crossbreeding programme that meet the veterinary requirements of a pony or horse studbook that is approved/recognised in its country of operation will not be required to complete a second veterinary assessment in Ireland.

5.3.1.1 IRISH SPORT HORSE MARES

Irish Sport Horse mares entering through the crossbreeding programme that have been awarded Select status by that studbook will not be required to complete a second veterinary or selection in Ireland. Their official measurements by the Irish Sport Horse Studbook will be accepted by the Irish Sport Pony Studbook and will be entered in the class whose criteria they meet.

5.3.1.2 CONNEMARA PONY MARES

Connemara Pony mares that are classified as Class 1 in the main section of the Connemara Pony Studbook are eligible to be classified as Select in the Irish Sport Pony Studbook.

SECTION 6 SYSTEM FOR IDENTIFYING IRISH SPORT PONIES AND RECORDING PEDIGREES

This section details the required procedures for Registering equines in the Irish Sport Pony Studbook.

Irish Sport Pony identification documents must be returned to the issuing authority when, a transfer of ownership is to be recorded, the animal to which it refers dies or is destroyed, or the owner / keeper is requested to do so by the issuing authority.

6.1 REGISTERING OF FOALS

6.1.1. REGISTERING A FOAL WITH FULL BREEDING RECORDED (SIRE AND DAM RECORDED):

6.1.1.1. Initiation of process:

- Once a mare is covered by a stallion entered in the Irish Sport Pony Studbook a completed covering certificate should be submitted by the stallion owner to Horse Sport Ireland.

OR

- The Mare owner can initiate the process by providing a Mare Declaration to Horse Sport Ireland.

OR

- The owner of offspring from germinal products (e.g. embryos, oocytes from donor females, semen from fertilising sires) can initiate the process by contacting HSI and providing a zootechnical certificate for the embryo or an embryo transfer certificate and, a zootechnical certificate, for both the donor male and the donor female where relevant if either are entered in another studbook.

OR

- From June 2024 the mare owner/keeper/breeder submits a foal registration application once the foal is born. In the case of germinal products the owner/keeper/breeder of the surrogate mare.

On receipt of the relevant documentation outlined above, a foal kit (which includes an HSI marking chart with the sire and dam recorded on it, a DNA kit and an explanatory note) is issued to the breeder in the year of foaling. Foal kits may be supplied to the keeper of the foal, if different to the breeder, only when written instructions to this effect have been received by HSI from the breeder.

- 6.1.1.2 The breeder should arrange to have the foal marked by a veterinary surgeon when the foal is between 8 days and 1 month old. The veterinary surgeon is also required to microchip the foal with transponder issued by a PIO approved by the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, record the microchip number on the marking chart and take a sample of the foal's hair for the DNA kit. In certain cases, dam and or sire hair samples may be required. This may vary in other jurisdictions depending on national legislation for Equine Identification in place.
- 6.1.1.3 The keeper should complete the necessary declarations on the form and send the completed marking chart with the appropriate fee to Horse Sport Ireland. The keeper may also name the foal for an additional fee.
- 6.1.1.4 The keeper should send the DNA kit to the Horse Sport Ireland (not the DNA laboratory). DNA is also required for germinal products and for sires and dams breeding through Embryo Transfer (ET), Intracytoplasmic Sperm Injection (ICSI) and other artificial methods.
- 6.1.1.5 On receipt of the completed marking chart, a covering certificate from the Stallion owner, registration fee and confirmation of pedigree from the DNA Laboratory, Horse Sport Ireland will process the registration, issue the identification document to the applicant and enter the foal in the appropriate section of the studbook. A zootechnical certificate shall also be provided in respect of purebred animals entered in the main section of the studbook.
- 6.1.1.6 Where in extenuating circumstances, the sire's specific genetic markers (DNA profile) is unattainable or being withheld by the stallion owner/agent/controller, the Head of Breeding, Innovation and Development of HSI reserves all rights related to the issuance of an identification document to the respective progeny, subject to the submission of a covering certificate and receipt of the progeny's specific genetic markers (DNA profile). Such decisions will be made on a case-by-case basis by the Head of Breeding, Innovation and Development of HSI with the sole objective of discharging the functions of a studbook.

6.2 REGISTRATION OF OTHER PONIES

The procedures for registering yearlings and older ponies with sire and dam recorded are the same as the process described in section 6.1 except the pony is not identified as a foal at foot, the owner of the animal must contact HSI in order to request a DNA kit and the DNA sample should be returned to HSI rather than the DNA Laboratory.

In certain circumstances where it is not possible for the keeper/owner of a pony to obtain a covering certificate for an animal, an identification document may be issued with recorded pedigree where the pony is identified by DNA analysis at the discretion of the Head of Breeding, Innovation and Development of HSI. This derogation has been authorised by the competent authority.

6.2.1 REGISTERING A PONY WITH PARTIAL BREEDING RECORDED

Ponies with partial breeding (sire or dam only) that have not been entered in another Studbook and have been judged to conform to the characteristics of the breed as outlined in section 6 may be registered and recorded in the supplementary entry section of the studbook (see section 5.5.2) with partial breeding recorded (sire or dam only recorded). Those that already have a valid identity document, will have their original identity document rescinded, and a new identification document issued, bearing the same UELN as the original, to reflect this position. The known parentage of the animal will be recorded on the new identification document. The original food chain status of the equine will remain unchanged in the new identification document.

6.1.2.1 If the dam is the only parent known the owner can complete a declaration indicating that the dam of the selected pony is known, and the sire of the pony is unknown. Horse Sport Ireland will send a foal kit to the owner (which includes an HSI marking chart with the dam recorded on it, a DNA kit and an explanatory note). The procedure outlined above in section 6.1.1.2 to section 6.1.1.5 is then followed.

6.1.2.2 If the sire is the only parent known, the owner should contact the owner of the stallion to provide a covering certificate to Horse Sport Ireland stating that the stallion covered a breeding and production mare whose identity could not be established by them. The pony owner must also contact Horse Sport Ireland requesting a foal kit (which includes an HSI marking chart with the sire recorded on it, a DNA kit and an explanatory note). The procedure outlined above in section 6.1.1.2 to section 6.1.1.5 is then followed.

6.2.2 UPGRADING A PONY WITH NO BREEDING RECORDED

Breeding and production ponies with no known breeding that have not been entered in another Studbook and have been judged to conform to the characteristics of the breed as outlined in section 6 may be registered and recorded in the supplementary entry section of the studbook (see section 5.2) with no breeding recorded. Those that already have a valid identity document, will have their original identity document rescinded and a new identification document issued, bearing the same UELN as the original, to reflect this position. The original food chain status of the equine will remain unchanged in the new identification document.

6.3 REGISTRATION OF CLONES

The registration of clones are permitted in the Irish Sport Pony Studbook. Such animals will follow the same procedures regarding registration and entering the Studbook and selection/classification as other animals registered and entered in the Studbook. The identification documents of cloned animals will clearly state that the animal is a clone by the suffixing of their name with the term "CLONE".

6.4 SYSTEM FOR IDENTIFYING ANIMALS IN THE STUDBOOK

6.4.1 IDENTIFICATION NUMBERS USED IN THE IRISH SPORT PONY STUDBOOK

All animals registered in the Irish Sport Pony studbook are uniquely identified by a Unique Equine Life Number (UELN). This UELN identifies the country and Studbook where the pony was first registered and the registration number within the studbook. All UELN numbers contain 15 digits. The first three digits of animals registered in the Irish Sport Pony Studbook are 372 which is the code for Ireland; the next three digits are 414 which is the code for the Horse Sport Ireland database, their identification document and their e-passport (where relevant) and the remaining 9 digits form the registration number used to identify the animal in the Horse Sport Ireland database.

An animal registered in another studbook retains its original identification number as issued by the approved studbook keeping authority when entered in the Irish Sport Pony.

6.4.2 NAMES USED IN THE IRISH SPORT PONY STUDBOOK

Ponies can be named from birth. To (re)name a pony, the owner must send in the identification document that the pony was issued as a foal, along with a choice of four names for the pony and the

relevant fee to Horse Sport Ireland. There is no duplication of names of horses or ponies registered in the Horse Sport Ireland database. All ponies registered as yearlings or older must be named at the time of registration. If the owner's choices of names for the pony have already been taken Horse Sport Ireland may contact the owner to agree upon a different name that has not yet been used. Horse Sport Ireland will then send the identification document back to the owner/keeper/nominated party with the name of the pony recorded on it.

Intended names will be checked against a number of criteria, and any other matters considered relevant, and the following exclusions will apply: names including prefix should be no more than 30 characters; names should not be too similar to another animal's name; no brand or company names are allowed; names of people living or dead are not allowed; vulgar or obscene words are also excluded as are words that may be offensive to religious, political or ethnic groups. Horse Sport Ireland reserves the right to refuse to register any name for any reason if deemed undesirable and reserves the right to cancel any animal's registered name for any reason if deemed necessary.

6.4.3 PREFIX REGISTRATION

Breeders and owners can register a prefix with the Irish Sport Pony Studbook upon application and subject to the prescribed fee. Prefixes are subject to the rules of naming as outlined in section 6.4.2. Unless an owner has registered a prefix formally with Horse Sport Ireland, there is no protection from other breeders using the same or similar identifiers in front of pony's names. Further other studbooks may have similar prefixes already in use.

The benefits of owning a prefix include:

- A breeder prefix cannot be used by another breeder/owner within the HSI studbooks unless written consent is given by the prefix owner.
- An animal that has been named with a prefix cannot have its prefix removed/changed without the written consent of the prefix owner.
- Owners are made aware of the FEI General Regulations prior to purchasing a prefix as follows:

HSI, as the National Federation in Ireland, is obliged to follow the FEI regulations on naming and cannot refuse to change a name when registering a pony with the FEI on the grounds that the pony is registered with a prefix in the IHR.

The FEI General Regulations outline the rules for naming horses registered with the FEI in Article 138 'Names of Horses'.

1. In principle, the first registered name of a Horse entered in the passport shall be the original name under which it was originally registered by its studbook/NF, and this name must remain permanently in the passport.

2. The first registered name may not be the name of a commercial company or product. If this name is considered to be the name of a commercial company or product, a new first registered name must be entered and remain permanently in the passport.

3. A commercial prefix or suffix may be added to the name mentioned in paragraphs 1 and 2 above and must be entered in the passport. However, at Regional and Olympic Games under the patronage of the IOC, such prefix or suffix cannot appear in a programme or be used in any other way.

4. If a new first name shall be used and entered in the passport and/or the commercial prefix/suffix be changed, the Horse must carry the new name and/or the new prefix/suffix for the next twelve (12) months as follows: new name and/or new prefix/suffix ex previous name/prefix/ suffix (see VRs)."

6.4.4 MICROCHIPS USED IN THE IRISH SPORT PONY STUDBOOK

All ponies registered in the Irish Sport Pony Studbook are required to be microchipped with a transponder issued by a PIO by a veterinary surgeon as part of the registration process. Microchips issued to veterinary surgeons by Horse Sport Ireland contain the last 9 digits of the UELN. This number is documented by the veterinary surgeon on the marking chart, recorded in Horse Sport Ireland's database and printed on the pony's identification document and entered on the horse's e-passport. Microchips must comply with ISO standard 11784. Only microchips supplied by a PIO approved by DAFM are permitted to be implanted in horses and ponies identified in Ireland. Microchips can only be implanted in horses and ponies by veterinary surgeons. Veterinary surgeons are required to take all appropriate measures to ensure that a pony has not been microchipped previously.

6.4.5 MARKING CHARTS USED IN THE IRISH SPORT PONY STUDBOOK

All ponies registered in the Irish Sport Pony Studbook are required to have a marking chart completed by a veterinary surgeon as part of the registration process. Marking charts are supplied to

mare owners or vets as part of a HSI foaling kit. Markings are documented by the veterinary surgeon on the marking chart, recorded in Horse Sport Ireland's database and printed on the pony's identification document and digitally on the e-passport.

6.4.6 DNA VERIFICATION OF PEDIGREE IN THE IRISH SPORT PONY STUDBOOK

All ponies registered in the Irish Sport Pony Studbook as required to undergo DNA verification of parentage as part of the registration process. A DNA kit and an explanatory note are issued to the owner as part of a foal kit. The veterinary surgeon marking a foal will take a sample of the foal's hair for the DNA kit, in some cases a dam hair sample may be required. The owner should send the DNA kit to Horse Sport Ireland (not the DNA Laboratory). For yearlings and older ponies, the DNA sample should also be returned to HSI rather than the DNA Laboratory. Confirmation of pedigree from the DNA Laboratory OR returned genotype is required for Horse Sport Ireland to issue the passport. Confirmation of the pedigree via the genotype must be completed by a suitably qualified geneticist and approved by the HSI Head of Breeding.

The HSI-appointed DNA analysis and storage laboratory, currently Weatherbys Scientific, Unit F1, M7 Business Park, Newhall, Naas, Co. Kildare, Ireland. W91 VX86. Information on DNA profiles is recorded in Horse Sport Ireland's database.

6.5 SYSTEM OF RECORDING PEDIGREE

Pedigrees of ponies entered in the Irish Sport Pony Studbook are recorded in Horse Sport Ireland's electronic database. For each pony entered on the database, the following information is recorded where applicable: name of the pony, UELN, studbook of registration, date and country of birth, parents and known ancestors, sex, microchip number, DNA profile details, markings, human consumption status, name and contact details of breeder, name and contact details of keeper, name and contact details of owner, name and contact details of agent, section and class of the studbook, classification in other studbooks managed by HSI, insemination or covering information, links to performance results, details including date of death, slaughter or export, other relevant information to the registration process.

The database complies with all the requirements of Animal Identification and Movement database maintained by the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine.

6.5.1 IHR ONLINE

IHR online is a web-based data resource of animals entered or recorded in the HSI database and includes animals entered in HSI studbooks. It provides information on the pedigree, progeny, and performance information to breeders. The classification of horses following selection is also provided to enable breeders to make informed breeding decisions. See Section 1.2 for full definition of IHR.

6.6 PROCEDURE FOR ENTRY OF PUREBRED BREEDING ANIMALS AS PART OF THE CROSS-BREEDING PROGRAMME

6.6.1 ENDORSING IDENTIFICATION DOCUMENTS FOR MARES FOALING IN IRELAND FOR INCLUSION IN THE IRISH SPORT PONY CROSS-BREEDING PROGRAMME:

Horse Sport Ireland will endorse the identification documents of mares eligible for the Irish Sport Pony Cross-Breeding programme (see section 5.1.2). Owners must send the mare's identification document and zootechnical certificate which must include a completed marking chart (or contain a microchip number) and the relevant fee to Horse Sport Ireland. If eligible, Horse Sport Ireland will enter/record the details of the mare into the Irish Sport Pony Studbook and will return the identification document to the owner. Details of the entry into the Irish Sport Pony Studbook Cross-Breeding Programme may be entered on the "Other Breeding Society Registrations" page of the mare's identification document, if available.

6.6.2 ENDORSING IDENTIFICATION DOCUMENTS FOR STALLIONS STANDING IN IRELAND FOR INCLUSION IN THE IRISH SPORT PONY CROSS-BREEDING PROGRAMME:

Horse Sport Ireland will endorse identification documents for stallions standing in Ireland that are eligible for inclusion in the cross-breeding programme. Owners must send the stallion's identification document and zootechnical certificate, which must include a completed marking chart, and the relevant fee to Horse Sport Ireland. The stallion must also be named with its studbook of origin. If eligible, Horse Sport Ireland will record the details of the stallion and will return the identification document to the owner. Details of the entry into the Irish Sport Pony Studbook Cross-Breeding Programme may be entered on the "Other Breeding Society Registrations" page of the stallion's identification document, if available.

6.6.3 ENTERING DONOR MALES AND FEMALES OF GERMINAL PRODUCTS FOR INCLUSION IN THE IRISH SPORT PONY CROSS-BREEDING PROGRAMME:

Horse Sport Ireland will enter into the Studbook donor males and donor females that are eligible for inclusion in the cross-breeding programme. Owners of the offspring resulting from the purchase of germinal products must send in the appropriate zootechnical certificates, which must include a completed marking chart, and the relevant fee to Horse Sport Ireland. Additional administration fees may apply in cases where incomplete documentation is submitted. The fertilising male and/or donor female must also be named with its studbook of origin. Details of stallions eligible for the cross-breeding programme and standing outside of Ireland may also be included in the Studbook, database and publications for breeder information and progeny evaluation purposes. Fertilising males and donor females are not required to meet any additional performance testing or genetic evaluation criteria in addition to the eligibility criteria for the cross-breeding programme.

6.7 COVERING CERTIFICATES

HSI provides a facility to participating stallion owners to record stallion online covering certificates using a secure login facility to the HSI website at <https://breeding.horsesportireland.ie/Person/Login.aspx?ReturnUrl=%2fCovering%2fCoverings.aspx>.

As an alternative, a book of covering certificates can be issued to stallions that are entered or recorded in the Irish Sport Pony Studbook and are actively breeding at the start of each breeding season. An active stallion is defined as a stallion that produced a registered foal in the previous two years. Stallions that are not issued with covering certificates can request covering certificates by applying directly to HSI.

All stallion owners are obliged to do the following with regard to covering certificates:

- Record full details of all coverings to mares entered in the Irish Sport Pony Studbook;
- Submit the Certificates of all mares covered by the stallion by 1st October in the year of covering;
- Return a Covering Book to HSI upon request;
- Notify HSI of the death of the stallion.
- In cases where a mare is inseminated using Artificial Insemination techniques, a veterinary declaration of insemination identifying the stallion and the mare and showing the date of

insemination may be accepted in place of a covering certificate. A zootechnical certificate must be provided where the donor is entered in another breeding book.

In cases involving *in vitro* derived embryos, the zootechnical certificate relating to the embryo may be accepted in place of a covering certificate.

Agents of stallions must register with the Irish Sport Pony Studbook for each stallion in order to be an authorised signature for covering certificates. An 'Application for agents to declare covering certificates' form is available from the Horse Sport Ireland Registration Unit.

In cases where germinal products (for example, semen, oocytes or embryos) have been traded, zootechnical certificates and proof of purchase may comprise the covering certificate.

In certain circumstances where it is not possible for the owner of a pony to obtain a covering certificate for an animal an identification document may be issued with recorded pedigree based on DNA analysis at the discretion of the Head of Breeding, Innovation and Development of HSI.

6.8 MARE DECLARATIONS

A mare owner may complete an online Mare Declarations by recording the details of a covering between their mare and the covering stallion. By submitting a mare declaration, the mare owner will receive the foaling kit in time. Any issues that might delay the process can also be resolved using mare declarations online. Should a change of ownership be needed for your mare, this can be requested when submitting your mare declaration.

6.9 SUBMISSION OF ZOOTECHNICAL CERTIFICATES FOR GERMINAL PRODUCTS

An owner may declare an embryo by submitting a zootechnical certificate for germinal products (if they are registered in a different studbook), at the birth of the resulting foal. By submitting the zootechnical certificate(s) in advance, the owner will receive the foaling kit in time.

6.10 PROCEDURE FOR THE PROVISION OF DUPLICATE AND REPLACEMENT IDENTIFICATION DOCUMENTS

If the identification document is lost, the loss should be reported immediately to the Issuing Authority and the procedure to obtain a duplicate identification document should be initiated.

Duplicate identification documents will be issued in accordance with Article 25 of Commission Regulation (EC No 2021/963) laying down rules pursuant to Council Regulations 2016/429, 2016/1012 and 2019/6 as regards the methods for the identification of Equidae.

Where an identification document is lost, stolen or destroyed and the identity of the animal can be established the owner can apply to HSI for a duplicate identification document. The following is required to issue a duplicate identification document:

- A signed declaration from the owner recorded on the database confirming that the initial identification document was lost, stolen or destroyed. If the current owner is not the recorded owner in the IHR, then a statement is required from the owner as recorded on IHR that they agree to have the replacement identification document issued to the applicant.
- The prescribed fee;
- A new set of markings must be taken by a veterinary surgeon and the animal must be microchipped if a microchip is not already present;
- In certain circumstances the Studbook may require that DNA confirmation of the animal's identity is required.

6.11 TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP OF ANIMALS IN THE IRISH SPORT PONY STUDBOOK

Transfer of ownerships will be conducted in accordance with S.I. 201 of 2016.

When an animal transfers ownership, the new owner is legally obliged within 30 days of purchase, to return the identification document and the appropriate fee to the issuing authority with his/her contact details and a completed Transfer of Ownership form. HSI will record the new owner's details in their database and return the identification document to the new owner.

The identification document is issued as an identifying document of the equine and is not a certificate of legal ownership and should not be construed as such. The identification document remains the property of the studbook and must be surrendered to the studbook upon request.

If the identification document / Identity document is lost, the loss should be reported immediately to the Issuing Authority and the procedure to obtain a duplicate identification document should be initiated.

6.12 ISSUING OF ZOOTECHNICAL CERTIFICATES

Zootechnical certificates are issued by the breed society for ponies entered in the main section in the model format outlined in Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2017/1940³ are provided in addition to the identification document to breeders at the point of entry into the breeding book. The certificates are also available to owners online from the Horse Sport Ireland website. Zootechnical certificates will distinguish where ponies are entered in the main section of the studbook. Ponies recorded in the supplementary section will receive a supplementary certificate at the back of their identification documents.

6.13 DEROGATION CONCERNING ZOOTECHNICAL CERTIFICATES FOR GERMINAL PRODUCTS

HSI has been authorised a derogation by the Competent Authority to permit the listed semen collection and storage centres issue zootechnical certificates based on the information received from the society.

Information regarding these facilitates is provided on the department of Agriculture, Food, and the Marine [website](#):

- Centres authorised to issue zootechnical certificates for germinal products for the Irish Sport Pony breed:
Approved semen storage centres for intra-Community trade in approved semen collection centres for intra Community trade in semen of domestic animals of the equine species (Regulation (EU) 2016/429)
- Equine Semen Storage Centres: Approved semen storage centres for intra-Community trade in semen of domestic animals of the equine species (Regulation (EU) 2016/429)

Zootechnical certificates are required to accompany germinal products when traded and when the offspring produced from these germinal products are intended to be entered in another breeding book. For example, when semen from breeding animals is being exported to other Member States it

³ COMMISSION DELEGATED REGULATION (EU) 2017/1940 of 13 July 2017 supplementing Regulation (EU) 2016/1012 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards the content and format of zootechnical certificates issued for purebred breeding animals of the equine species contained in a single lifetime identification document for equidae

must be accompanied by a zootechnical certificate where the offspring is to be entered in another breed book of that Member State. The model form for semen is set out in Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/602⁴. It will be noticed the zootechnical certificate for semen is in two parts with Part A providing information on the donor male and Part B on the identification of the semen.

SECTION 7 PROCEDURES FOR ASSESSING PONIES IN THE IRISH SPORT PONY STUDBOOK

The Studbook shall operate assessments of breeding animals including performance testing at selection and performance testing in sport for breeding animals as part of the classification process in the main and supplementary sections of the breeding book.

HSI reserves the right to terminate any selection for health and safety reasons. Failure to satisfy the conditions of Studbook selections may result in a pony being disqualified from selection/classification.

7.1 PROCEDURES FOR SELECTING STALLIONS FOR CLASSIFICATION IN THE IRISH SPORT PONY STUDBOOK

Stallions that are eligible for selection will be assessed following the process outlined below. All stallions must be named prior to selection.

Eligible stallions must be a minimum of three years of age to be presented for selection. Prior to selection the stallion owner must submit a completed and signed application form.

During the selection stallions are assessed by an selection panel, appointed by HSI, under the following criteria:

1. Pedigree assessment:

The stallion's pedigree will be assessed based on bloodlines and the performance of those bloodlines.

⁴ COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) 2020/602 of 15 April 2020 amending Implementing Regulation (EU) 2017/717 as regards the model forms of zootechnical certificates for breeding animals and their germinal products

2. Conformation assessment:

The stallion's conformation will be described using linear scoring profile and will be given an overall score.

3. In hand gait assessment on a hard surface:

The stallion will be required to stand for a visual assessment and will be assessed in walk and trot on a hard surface.

4. In hand gait assessment in indoor arena:

The stallion will be required to stand for a visual assessment and will be assessed in walk and trot on a triangle in an indoor arena.

5. Free gait assessment in jumping pen:

The stallion's free gaits will be assessed in a jump pen.

6. Free athleticism/jumping assessment in jumping pen:

The stallion will be required to loose jump in a jumping pen to facilitate an assessment of its athleticism/jumping ability.

Note: Stallions that are aged 5 years or older may be assessed ridden over a course of fences instead of being assessed loose jumping.

If in the opinion of the selection panel a stallion is jumping in an unnatural manner, the selection panel reserves the right to award zero points for their assessment of the stallion's athleticism/jumping ability.

7. Veterinary examination:

All stallions must undergo a veterinary examination, either on the day of selection by HSI appointed Veterinary Surgeons or prior to the selections at a HSI designated veterinary clinic. This screening includes testing for EVA, EIA CEM and FFS.

On the day of selection all stallions will be identified by a Veterinary Surgeon appointed by HSI and blood samples will be taken for testing and stallions may be subject to screening for substances listed on the FEI Equine Prohibited Substances List.

Following the selection stallions will be classified on the basis of their selection and veterinary results in accordance with the criteria outlined in Section 5.

7.2 PROCEDURES FOR SELECTING MARES AND GELDINGS FOR CLASSIFICATION IN THE IRISH SPORT PONY STUDBOOK

Eligible mares and geldings must be a minimum of two years of age to be presented for selection.

During the selection mares/geldings are assessed by an selection panel, appointed by HSI, under the following criteria:

1. Pedigree assessment:

Pedigree will be assessed based on bloodlines and the performance of those bloodlines.

2. Conformation assessment:

Conformation will be assessed using linear scoring.

3. In hand gait assessment on a hard surface and in an indoor arena:

Mares/geldings will be required to stand for a visual selection and will be assessed in walk and trot on a hard surface and in an indoor arena.

4. Free gait assessment in jumping pen:

The mare/geldings free gaits will be assessed in a jump pen.

5. Free athleticism/jumping assessment in jumping pen:

Athleticism/jumping ability will be assessed by means of loose jumping in a jumping pen.

Note: This element of the selection is optional for mares and geldings.

If in the opinion of the selection panel a pony is jumping in an unnatural manner, the selection panel reserves the right to award a score of zero for their assessment of the pony's athleticism/jumping ability.

6. Veterinary examination:

Mares/geldings will undergo a basic veterinary examination at the selection by a Veterinary Surgeon appointed by HSI (eg. examination of identification, heart, eyes, limbs, co ordination, mouth etc.).

7.3 RE-PRESENTATIONS AND APPEALS PROCEDURES FOR SELECTIONS

The owners of ponies that do not meet the selection requirements (conformation, movement, athleticism or riding test requirements) will be given the opportunity to apply for selection by completing the appropriate forms and fees and to present the pony on one occasion at a subsequent selection date in accordance with the procedure in section 7.1 or section 7.2 as appropriate.

Appeals relating to selections must be dealt with under the procedures outlined the [Horse Sport Ireland Studbook Inspection Terms and Conditions](#).

7.4 PROCEDURES FOR ASSESSMENT OF SPORT PERFORMANCE IN THE IRISH SPORT PONY STUDBOOK

The Irish Sport Pony Studbook assesses sport performance for classification and rating purposes in line with its breeding objective. The criteria both stallion and mare and gelding classes may involve the assessment of sport performance vis-à-vis the breeding objective. All assessments of sport performance are made using the criteria outlined in this document.

The assessment of sport performance is based on objective, verifiable results from a combination of official sources. The main source of international performance results is the FEI database which includes results from 2006. The main source of national performance results is the Show Jumping Ireland and Eventing Ireland databases which includes results from the 1990s. Where appropriate, national governing body and sport organisations databases are used, e.g. the British Eventing database, the British Show Jumping database, the German FN database. Sport results retrieved by Horse Sport Ireland personnel, contractors and supplied by owners and breeders is considered. Details of each assessment are made available to owner and breeders on request. Re-assessments are carried out annually for active breeding stallions and mares and on request from an owner.

Owners that are not satisfied with the classification of a pony which is based on performance results may appeal the classification as outlined in the Horse Sport Ireland Studbook Inspection Terms and Conditions.

SECTION 8 TECHNICAL ACTIVITIES

The assessment of sport performance and related matters to the Horse Sport Ireland geneticist at genetics@horsesportireland.ie

APPENDIX 1 SAMPLE LINEAR PROFILE SHEET

INSPECTOR SIGNATURE:

1: _____

2: _____

3: _____

		a b c d e f g h i											
CONFORMATION/TRAIT		Obvious	Average	Obvious								Comments	
Condition												fat poor	
Mouth												underbite overbite	
Head												convex profile coarse long	
1. Body shape	rectangular											square	
2. Body direction	uphill											downhill	short legged
3. Head neck connection	light											heavy	
4. Length of neck	long											short	deep out of chest
5. Position of neck	vertical											horizontal	
6. Muscling of neck	heavy											poor	ewe-neck
7. Height of withers	high											flat	
8. Position of shoulder	sloping											straight	
9. Line of back	roached											weak	
10. Line of loins	roached											weak	
11. Shape of croup	sloping											flat	
12. Length of croup	long											short	
13. Stance of forelegs	over at knee											back at knee	tied in standing under
14. Stance of hind legs	sickle											straight	cow hocked tied in abnormal hock abnormal stifle
15. Stance of pastern	weak											upright	

IRISH SPORT PONY INSPECTION SHEET

	Conformation:	Movement:	Athleticism:
CONF 70		Walk:	Canter:
MOV 65 ATHL 75		Trot:	Reflexes: Technique: Scope:
Total Score:			

		a b c d e f g h i											
16. Shape of feet	wide											narrow	different
17. Heels	high											low	
18. Quality of legs	lean											blurred	
19. Substance of legs	heavy											fine	
Movement/traid		Obvious	Average	Obvious								Comments	
20. Walk: length of stride	long											short	irregular
21. Walk: correctness	toed in											toed out	uncoordinated
22. Trot: length of stride	long											short	
23. Trot: elasticity	elastic											stiff	irregular
24. Trot: impulsion	powerful											weak	uncoordinated
25. Trot: balance	carrying											pushing	
26. Canter: length of stride	long											short	
27. Canter: impulsion	powerful											weak	
28. Canter: balance	carrying											pushing	
Athleticism/traid		Obvious	Average	Obvious								Comments	
29. Take off: direction	upwards											forwards	
30. Take off: quickness	quick											slow	
31. Technique: forelegs	bent											stretched	under the body
32. Technique: back	rounded											hollow	
33. Technique: haunches	open											tight	
34. Scope	much											little	
35. Elasticity	supple											stiff	
36. Care	careful											not careful	
37. Attitude	much											little	