



Breeding Grant Initiative

Applicant Terms and Conditions 2026

Allocation of funding is **subject to the approval** of the Breeding Grant Initiative fund from the Department of Agriculture, Food, and the Marine. **This fund cannot support Grand prix Show Jumping events and sport (non-breed/production) focused classes.**

Submission of an application and any subsequent approval maintains that the applicant has provided informed consent to abide by the listed 2026 terms and conditions as set out below:

- Funding is only permitted for breed/production initiatives for equines **registered in a studbook** with a breed documented within their studbook passport.
 - This can include main section studbook equines **OR** supplementary section studbook equines.
 - Animals with a breed code 'UNK' or no breed code recorded are not eligible.
- Any breed specific class/prize funded under this scheme must submit a [Derogation to the Department of Agriculture, Food, and the Marine](#), this is a legal requirement. Evidence must be provided to HSI prior to drawdown of funds.
- A copy of your organisation's insurance policy or a letter of Attestation **MUST** be uploaded with the application form, including the cover for necessary activities and indemnity of Horse Sport Ireland and the Minister/ Department of Agriculture, Food, and the Marine.
- A tax clearance certificate may be required, in line with DPER regulations
- Please note- operating under an affiliate safeguarding policy, e.g. SJI, does not provide cover for the entire show. Each show must have their **own safeguarding policies and procedures** in place to cover all aspects of the event.
- The organisation must include in their competition rules, to competitors, that the show is prescribed to the HSI National Equine Anti-Doping Rules and that through competition entry competitors agree to any

Show Dates

- Changes to approved show dates, class(es) funded by the Breeding Grant must be submitted in writing to grants@horsesportireland.ie for grant panel evaluation and decision.
- Date Parameters: To be eligible for funding under this Initiative shows may not be scheduled later **than 4th October 2026**.

Prize funds

- A full breakdown of the prize fund must be submitted to HSI a minimum of **30 days before the show date**.



- Changes in prize fund breakdowns are not permitted, requested changes must be submitted to HSI in writing for the grant panel evaluation and decision approval.
- Prize winners must be supplied with the **HSI prize form** and submit their full payment details via the online payment form within **7 days** of the competition, or they will not receive prize money (no exceptions can be made to this condition as it results in delays to other winners).
 - The horse must have a **Studbook passport and be registered in the correct ownership (SI201/2016)** to be in receipt of any prize fund allocation. The prize money can **only** be paid to the **owner** of the horse, and the correct bank details for the owner must be provided. Failure to provide correct details will result in the winner foregoing any prize money. Payments to other parties, e.g. riders, will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
 - For foal classes, foals must have a passport or be DNA verified (per studbook rule).
 - Horses must be endorsed/ notified to a DAFM Approved studbook where necessary
 - All applicants must ensure information provided to Horse Sport Ireland is accurate and up to date.
 - **Horse Sport Ireland will not be responsible for unpaid prize monies due to failure by the competitor to submit their online form, equine ineligibility, failure by the show to supply the prize form to the competitor or incorrect bank details, contact details, email addresses, owner details and or prize results submitted to HSI in the show report or any grievances arising between show/event/initiative/class participant and the organiser.**
- A show report, of verified results of the class(es), in the required format must be submitted to grants@horsesportireland.ie no later than **three days after the competition** to process prize forms for prize winners in a timely manner. Prize winners **will not** be processed until the above is received from the show. If the show report is not received, funding may be rescinded.
- A proportion of the prize fund **MUST** be allocated to breeders' prizes. Breeder prizes will only be paid to breeders residing on the Island of Ireland. Information relating to breeder recognition and prizes must be provided to HSI following the event as part of the feedback form.
- Funding will be provided for prize money and breeders prizes.
 - It is the responsibility of the show/event/initiative/class to engage any additional suppliers as required for the class i.e., promotion, livestream, photography, announcers, judges, etc.
 - All funding allocations are to be used as allocated under the determination of the grant approval panel.
 - It is the responsibility of the show to ensure competitors are aware that prize money is **ONLY** for studbook registered animals. Non-studbook animals will not be eligible for funding. Horse Sport Ireland are not responsible for prizes monies relating to same.



- Horse Sport Ireland are not responsible for any additional funds allocated by the show/event/initiative/class derived from the event or sponsorship. The onus remains with the show to allocate those externally derived funds and for the payment of same.
- Levies are **NOT** a permissible use of funding.

Promotion & Marketing

- The Department of Agriculture, Food and Marine **and** Horse Sport Ireland must be positively recognised and represented at the event with adequate signage, recognition, digital media, print media and all associated marketing etc.
- Please note the official recognition line: ***'The Breeding Grant Initiative is funded under National Breeding Services by the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, and delivered by Horse Sport Ireland'***.
- Classes **MUST NOT** be named 'HSI/ Horse Sport Ireland'. Non-adherence to same may mean that funding is rescinded.
- A representative from HSI/the wider board may be in attendance and for prize giving.
- It is the responsibility of the show to return any Horse Sport Ireland materials (i.e., banners) to the Horse Sport Ireland offices immediately post show. **NOTE: Where HSI materials are not returned, the applicant will incur a replacement charge for said material(s).**

Support Documents

- **Safeguarding**
 - A Child Safeguarding Statement (CSS), appropriate safeguarding measures and a suitably qualified Safeguarding Officer must be in place for all shows where funded classes could include young people or vulnerable adults' participation. A CSS is a legal requirement under the Children's First Act for any organisation engaged in Relevant Work.
 - Please note- operating under an affiliate safeguarding policy, e.g. SJI, does not provide cover for the entire show. Each show must have their own safeguarding policies and procedures in place to cover all aspects of the event.
 - A copy of the show's CSS and relevant detail must be provided to Horse Sport Ireland, prior to the show, and this is a contingent of funding. More information on Child-Safeguarding can be found [HERE](#).
- **Anti-Doping**
 - When requested, and where relevant, funded organisations are required to engage with the HSI National Equine Anti-Doping Programme and to provide testing facilities in line with the HSI EADCM Rules which incorporates the FEI Veterinary Regulations. Specifically, referring to Article 1008- Stables (1008.I.2) of the [FEI Vet Regulations](#). The organisation must include in their competition rules, to competitors, that the show is prescribed to the [HSI National Equine Anti-Doping Rules](#) and that through competition entry competitors agree to any



associated testing and to abide by same. **This is a contingent of funding and not negotiable.**

○ **Insurance/ Tax Clearance**

- Horse Sport Ireland require a copy of your organisation's insurance policy to be sent to grants@horsesportireland.ie.
- Horse Sport Ireland further require a letter of indemnity from your organisation's insurance company/ broker/ underwriter, confirming indemnity of Horse Sport Ireland and the Minister/ Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine.
- A tax clearance certificate may be required, in line with DPER regulations.

Reporting

- Following the event, a 'show report' must be completed and returned to HSI with accompanying documentation (results, start list, catalogue, prize winner contact details etc.)
 - Please note that should this fund become available in future the feedback information supplied by shows will be considered when allocating future breeding grant funds.
- If your application is successful, the organising committee will be required to read and sign a Breeding Grant Terms and Conditions document issued via DocuSign.
- Please note the show report must include all detail required as per the template.
- The onus is on each show to ensure they have adequate GDPR policies in place for the fulfilment of required details on the linked [Show Report](#), including contact details.

Eligibility

- Please note that the closing date for receipt of applications is **12 Noon on Tuesday 6th January 2026**. Applications will be deemed to be invalid if they are incomplete or do not contain the relevant supporting documentation.
- Applications will only be accepted via the online application.
- Any breed specific class/prize funded under this scheme must submit a [Derogation to the Department of Agriculture, Food, and the Marine](#), this is a legal requirement. Evidence must be provided to HSI prior to drawdown of funds.
- Failure to adhere to above terms and conditions may mean that your Breeding Grant funds are reallocated/withheld/removed and will impact future funding applications/requests to Horse Sport Ireland.
- Events outside of the funded dates are not eligible for funding.
- Requested funding amount is not guaranteed and is subject to demand/ application scoring.
- Applications that score less than 65% will not be eligible for funding.
- See full list of eligibilities and scoring criteria in Appendix 1 and 2 below.



- Horse Sport Ireland reserve the right to amend and update these terms and conditions at any time.
- Equine welfare is paramount for all activities including equines; equines should not have their whiskers trimmed or be inappropriately produced for or handled during any of the events. Shows must indicate the welfare/inspection and other relevant provisions they have in place.

Please revert to grants@horsesportireland.ie if you require additional clarification.

By completing a breeding grant application, I/WE as an organisation declare that:

- I/WE understand and agree to the terms and conditions of this scheme in their totality.
 - I/WE understand that HSI will publish a list of awardees on the HSI website.
 - I understand that drawdown of funding is subject to adherence to Breeding Grant terms and conditions.
1. The foregoing particulars are true and accurate in every respect. In the event of any particulars becoming inaccurate updated particulars must be furnished immediately in writing to Horse Sport Ireland ("HSI").
 2. I/WE am not aware of any matter or circumstance which might affect or be relevant to the application of the above-named person(s)/organisation/society to this Scheme which I have not disclosed in writing to HSI.
 3. I/WE agree to indemnify HSI on demand in full against any loss, claim or damage arising in the event of any breach of the foregoing warranties or any of them.

I/WE hereby confirm, agree and acknowledge as follows:

HSI are hereby irrevocably authorised to publish the results of this application/scheme and any other information furnished above or pursuant to this application, without being under any obligation to do so.

I/WE have read the "Breeding Grant Initiative Applicant Terms and Conditions 2026" and I/WE agree to accept and abide by them and any amendments that may be made by HSI thereto from time to time.

Appendix 1: Eligibility Criteria for Applicants

1. Shows/events must be located in Ireland.
2. The applicant must be a legal entity where Horse Sport Ireland retain the right to request audited accounts. Successful applicants may be required to provide a tax clearance certificate.
3. Applicants must complete and return the relevant application form with ALL the requested supporting documentation (see Appendix 3).
4. Applications may be deemed ineligible if they are considered to duplicate initiatives already funded by HSI through National Breeding Services.
5. Applicants may be deemed ineligible if they did not abide by Breeding Grant funding and reporting rules in previous years.



6. All grant funding will be provided in the form of prize money, young horse bursaries or breeder prizes.
7. Applicants must demonstrate how their applications support the National Breeding Programme.
8. Requests for direct payment of funding must be submitted no less than one month in advance. Eligibility will be assessed on account of the previous adherence to the T&Cs and will be at HSI's discretion.

Appendix 2: Evaluation Criteria for Applicants

Applicants which are applying for funding will be evaluated by the Grant Application Evaluation Committee under the following evaluation criteria:

	Criterion for Evaluating Breeding Grant funding Applications	%	Max Score Achievable (100)
1	Number of entries, level/history of event and show facilities	10%	10
2	Breeder prizes and recognition	10%	10
3	Geographical, native breed and discipline spread	10%	10
4	Overall Contribution to the development of the industry and sport horse breeding nationwide	20%	20
5	Suitability of date	5%	5
6	Matching funds - % request versus overall prizemoney	5%	5
7	Equine Welfare provisions (access to shade, water, inspection provision etc.)	10%	10
8	Insurance and Safeguarding policies in place for the show (affiliated safeguarding is not sufficient)	10%	10
9	Adherence to previous Breeding Grant Terms and Conditions*	20%	20
	TOTAL	100%	100

*Where an applicant has not previously received funding under the Breeding Grant Initiative, adherence will be scored the full allocation based on the assumption that the applicant intends to comply fully with the Breeding Grant funding terms and conditions. **All applicants must receive a minimum 65% (13/20) in this section to be eligible for funding.** Adherence will be measured for 2024 & 2025.

Appendix 3: Supporting Documentation Checklist

- ✓ Completed and signed online application form
- ✓ Digital Copy of 2024 or 2025 show/event catalogue and promotional material if applicable

Delivered by



HORSE SPORT
IRELAND

Funded under National Breeding Services



**An Roinn Talmhaíochta,
Bia agus Mara**
Department of Agriculture,
Food and the Marine

- ✓ Digital List of entrants in the class in 2024 or 2025 including pedigree and breeding information
- ✓ Insurance and safeguarding policies provided