

## IRISH SPORT HORSE STUDBOOK MARE SELECTIONS

The mare selections will offer owners an evaluation of their breeding stock. Irish Sport Horse mares of 3 years old or older are invited for selection where they will be assessed on their pedigree, conformation and movement. Mares will be given the opportunity to loose jump in order to have their athleticism assessed. A veterinary examination will be carried out on all mares. Conformation and movement will be described using linear profiling, and mare owners will be given a detailed description of their mare's conformational strengths and weaknesses which will be invaluable when making future breeding decisions.

## IRISH SPORT HORSE STUDBOOK MARE MERITS

Mares aged 3 years and older that have met the requirements to be classified in SELECT can have their athleticism assessed through loose jumping to receive a 'One Star' rating in 'Showjumping' if they achieve a score of 80 or higher. Mares that are classified as SELECT are eligible to receive additional merits based on the Horse Sport Ireland star rating system for mares. Star ratings will range from one star to five stars and will be based on the mare's own performance or her progeny/damline performance. This will assist mare owners with demonstrating the added value of their mare when selling them or their progeny.

## CONDITIONS OF IRISH SPORT HORSE STUDBOOK MARE SELECTIONS

1. Closing date for receipt of applications is **TWO working weeks prior to the inspection dates**;
  - Online 'Application for Irish Sport Horse Studbook Mare Selections 2026' and accompanying documentation if necessary (naming, change of ownership, import notification forms);
  - Selection Fee of **€85** (late fee €130)
  - Loose jumping demonstration (optional) **€10**
2. Irish Sport Horse mares must be registered in the Main Section of the Irish Sport Horse Studbook.
3. Foreign-bred sport horse mares must be registered in the Main Section of a Studbook that is a full member of the World Breeding Federation for Sport Horses (WBFSH). The passports of such mares must be [endorsed on the Irish Horse Register](#).
4. Sport horse mares that are registered in the main section of a studbook that is approved by the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine in Ireland are eligible for selection. The passports of

such mares must be [endorsed on the Irish Horse Register](#).

5. Thoroughbred mares registered with Weatherbys are eligible for selection. The passports of such mares must be [endorsed on the Irish Horse Register](#). All mares must be aged three years or over.
6. All mares must be named prior to selection. In instances where the mare is unnamed you should immediately submit the passport and a [naming application](#) with the appropriate fee.
7. All mares will be measured at the selection and these measurements shall be regarded as official measurements for the purpose of mare classification in the Irish Sport Horse Studbook.
8. Mares must be accompanied by an up-to-date adult passport. Owners of mares with registration certificates issued by any other registration authority must obtain an adult passport from the relevant breed society prior to selection. Mare passports which are issued by a studbook authority other than Horse Sport Ireland must contain up-to-date markings and written descriptions corresponding to the mare presented, and such passports must be endorsed by the studbook concerned, as appropriate.
9. Mares must be adequately trained and fit to take part in all aspects of the selection including the athleticism phase where appropriate.
10. Mares must be fit to be handled at the selection, including handling by veterinary surgeons appointed by Horse Sport Ireland.
11. Mare owners must have all the necessary equipment at the selection.
12. Mares may be photographed at the selection and these photographs may be used in Irish Sport Horse Studbook/Horse Sport Ireland publications or websites.
13. Linear profiles and DNA may be used for research and publication purposes by HSI and by third parties including but not limited to Department of Agriculture Food and Marine and National Breeding Services.
14. Blood and urine samples may be taken on the day of selection and are subject to the HSI National Anti-Doping and Equine Controlled Medication rules (see [www.horsesportireland.ie](http://www.horsesportireland.ie))
15. Horse Sport Ireland reserves the right to refuse/terminate the selection of any mare which is not in a suitable condition for selection or in instances where it may be unsafe to proceed with the selection of any mare.
16. If the mare subject to this application cannot attend due to unforeseen circumstances, they may

defer a maximum of two times before having to pay the inspection fee again.

17. Irish Sport Horse mares must be classified as 'SELECT' in the Irish Sport Horse Studbook in Ireland to be eligible for jumping merits at selection.
18. Mares will be given a maximum of two opportunities to be presented for selection. Mares which have been the subject of an appeal following their initial selection may not be represented for a further selection.

**Failure to satisfy the above conditions will result in a mare being disqualified from selection / classification.**

### **CLASSIFICATION OF SPORT HORSE MARES FOLLOWING SELECTIONS**

1. Mares that meet the veterinary requirements and achieve minimum required scores in conformation and movement will be classified in the 'SELECT' class of the ISH Studbook.
2. Mares in the 'SELECT' class are eligible for star ratings based on their own, or their progeny's performance.
3. 'SELECT' mares that participate in the loose jumping phase of the selection and achieve a score of 80 or higher in athleticism will be awarded a 'One Star' rating in show jumping.
4. Mares which do not meet the veterinary or selection requirements will retain their original classification in the Irish Sport Horse Studbook.

### **CLASSIFICATION OF 'SELECT' MARES FOLLOWING PRESENTATION FOR JUMPING MERITS**

1. 'SELECT' mares that participate in the loose jumping phase of the selection and achieve a score of 80 or higher will be awarded a One Star Rating in Showjumping.
2. 'SELECT' mares that participate in the loose jumping phase of the selection and do not achieve a score of 80 or higher will remain classified as 'SELECT'.

3. 'SELECT' mares that are required to undergo a veterinary selection after being presented with an obvious veterinary condition will be classified as 'ENTRY' if they fail to meet the veterinary requirements.

**Note: 'Select' mares will not be required to undergo a veterinary examination as part of the selection process unless the mare is presented at selection with an obvious veterinary condition.**

### **APPEALS PROCEDURES**

#### Mare Selection Appeal:

Owners who are not satisfied with the results of the mare selection will be given the opportunity to re-present the mare on one occasion for a repeat selection at the next available selection date.

Owners that do not wish to re-present the mare for a repeat selection and owners who are not satisfied with the results of the repeat selection can make a formal written appeal to Horse Sport Ireland and will have their horses assessed by a different panel of inspectors.

**The decision of the Appeal panel shall be final.**

#### Veterinary Examination Appeal:

Owners of mares that do not meet the requirements at the veterinary examination can appeal the results of the examination providing they notify Horse Sport Ireland in writing within one month of the result of the selection of their intention to appeal. The appeal examination should be carried out at the University Veterinary Hospital, Dublin.

In exceptional circumstances the studbook veterinary advisor may permit the mare(s) to attend a Horse Sport Ireland designated clinic, which is not the owner/mare's own vet. These requests must be made in writing and will be assessed on a case-by-case basis. The examination will only be carried out in respect of the condition for which the mare was failed at the initial selection and the cost of the examination must be borne by the owner of the mare.

**The decision of the University Veterinary Hospital, Dublin shall be final.**