



DAFM Development Series 2026 Show Jumping Criteria

Venues/Dates:

Classes for 4-Year-Old, 5-Year-Old and 6-Year-Old & 7-Year-Old horses will be held at selected venues throughout Ireland listed below.

Date*	Venue
21 st -23 rd August	Cavan Equestrian Centre.
19 th – 20 th September	Sceilig Equestrian Centre
26 th – 27 th September	Emerald Equestrian Centre.
3 rd – 4 th October	Tipperary Equestrian Centre.
16 th – 18 th October	Tubberbride Stables.

*These shows are a one-day show taking place between the dates mentioned above. See SJI live/show schedule for exact date**

Notes on 2026 Series:

It is the responsibility of riders, and their guardians where relevant, and owners to familiarize themselves with all criteria in this document.

Entries:

- Entries for all classes are on a **pre-entry** basis and must be made through the Showjumping Ireland online system; www.sjilive.ie or equivalent online platform. No other form of entry will be accepted.
 - Please ensure your entries are made before close of entries as outlined in the show schedules and on sjilive.
 - Entries will close at 4pm two days prior to the show.
 - Late entries will be charged double the class entry fee.
 - Entries will be no more than €25 (£20) for the 4-Year-Old class and €30 (£25) per class for 5-Year-Old and over horses per show.
 - No Temporary Tickets are allowed in these classes. In the case of ineligibility in terms of age and breeding, 'Hors Concours' entries will NOT be allowed.
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At the show:

The DAFM Show Jumping Development Series, delivered by Horse Sport Ireland, must be organised and run in full compliance and adherence of Showjumping Ireland rules.

Riders must enter the ring in the running order dictated by the start list. All riders must be ready to jump at their timeslot to keep within the show timetable. Failure to do so may result in elimination and will be decided by the judge at each show. Failure to comply with Showjumping Ireland rules, Horse Sport Ireland rules, the ground jury, starter, or stipendiary steward may result in disqualification.

Horse/rider combinations entered to compete in these classes are strictly limited to warming up in the designated practice arenas. Any rider found in breach of this rule by the SJI steward will be eliminated from the class.

Tack and horse boots:

Martingales are allowed but must be correctly fitted.

Only non-performance enhancing hind boots may be worn in these classes. If riders do not wish to use the boots as specified in the SJI Boot Rule, then no hind boots or bandages of any kind will be permitted. Failure to comply with this rule will lead to elimination of horse and rider combination.

SJI stewards may be in attendance at each leg of the Development Series to check and swab test boots.

Judges and Stewards:

- A Senior National Judge and National Judge must form part of the Ground Jury for all classes held as part of the Development Series.
- A Senior National Course Builder (or above) must be in place for all classes held as part of the DAFM Development Series.
- An SJI steward may be present in the practice arenas for the duration of the Development Series.
- All rounds of all classes in the DAFM Development Series must be timed.

Ground Conditions:

Where adverse weather conditions occur in the week leading up to any of the legs of the DAFM Development Series, an SJI official/ SJI regional representative will be asked to make a final decision on the ground conditions by 12 noon the day before the classes are due to commence. Should the ground conditions be deemed to be unsuitable for jumping, the classes shall be moved to an all-weather surface or cancelled. Notification will be provided by SJI to the riders by 2pm on the day prior to the class. In the case where a show is hosting a Grand Prix that is called off due to weather conditions, all DAFM Development Series classes must be called off.



Prize money:

Prize winners will be asked to submit their details for the prize fund at the end of each show through an online payment system. QR codes will be available at each show office to scan and complete the [online payment form](#) and submit to Horse Sport Ireland, please select the ‘DAFM Development Series’ option.

Please note:

- Prize money cannot be paid out to horses who are not **registered in the correct ownership** in the relevant DAFM approved studbook.
- Payment will not be issued to riders unless HSI has received **written permission** from the registered owner of the horse.
- Payment details must be submitted within **7** days via the [online form](#); if received beyond this window, payment **cannot** be processed.

In the case where one leg of the series is cancelled the prize money for that leg will be redistributed in proportion over the remaining legs of the series.

In the case of Breeder/Owner prizes, breeder/owner must be resident in Ireland.

Prize winners (horse-rider) must take part in the prize giving ceremony (Article 248/5).

Prize money:

At each leg there will be over €12,000 in prize money on offer, broken down between the three age classes as follows:

	Prize Fund	Breeder's Prizes*	Young Rider	Total:
4-Year-Old Horses	€2,200	€100 x2	€100	€2,500
5-Year-Old Horses	€2,500	€150 x 2	€100	€2,900

* Two breeder prizes will be awarded at random in the 4-Year-Old and 5-year-old classes for horses who jump clear in their age category.
Prizes for breeders' resident in Ireland only.

There will be one randomized Young Rider prize to be given to a Young Rider who jumps double clear in each age category.

Where a Young Rider does **not** jump double clear in an age category, the Young Rider prize fund will be redistributed equally between each breeder prize.



Prize money for the 6-Year-Old & 7-Year-Old classes will be as per the tables below:

6-Year-Olds (€2,500 + Breeder/YR prizes)

Prize Fund	1 st Place	2 nd Place	3 rd Place	4 th Place	5 th Place	6 th Place	Breeder's Prizes*	Leading Young Rider	Total:
€2,500	€850	€650	€450	€300	€150	€100	€200 x 2	€100	€3,000

7-Year-Olds: (€3,000 + Breeder/YR prizes)

Prize Fund	1 st Place	2 nd Place	3 rd Place	4 th Place	5 th Place	6 th Place	Breeder's Prizes*	Leading Young Rider	Total:
€3,000	€1,000	€800	€500	€350	€200	€150	€350 x 2	€100	€3,800

* Two breeder prizes will be awarded for the top two Irish-bred horses in the 6-Year-Old and 7-year-old classes provided they finish within the Top 6 of their respective class. Prizes for breeders' resident in Ireland only.

There will be one randomized Young Rider prize to be given to a Young Rider who jumps double clear in each age category.

Where a Young Rider does **not** jump double clear in an age category, the Young Rider prize fund will be redistributed equally between each breeder prize

As per the Equidae (Change of Ownership) Regulations 2016 subsection 5, equines must have their ownership details updated within 30 days of their purchase.

Please see links below.

<https://www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/2016/si/201/made/en/print>

<https://animallaw.ie/2020/05/08/s-i-no-62-2016-european-union-identification-of-equidaeregulations-2015/>

Eligibility:

Classes are restricted to horses/ponies registered in **a studbook with a valid, listed breed** contained within the studbook passport (UNK is not a breed).

- Main and Supplementary section studbook animals are permitted.
- Pedigree recording with an 'UNK' breed code is not a studbook passport and not eligible for entry/prizemoney.
- Breeder's prizes will only be paid to breeders residing on the Island of Ireland.
- All studbook horses born outside of the island of Ireland entering the DAFM Development Series must be lodged with an Irish PIO prior to entry or participation in the league.
- HSI will not accept responsibility nor provide prize monies to any combination who do not meet this criteria.
- **To check if your horse is eligible to compete, please email;**
grants@horsesportireland.ie



Horse Sport Ireland reserve the right to change or alter the terms and conditions of the DAFM Development Series at any time.

4-Year-Old Horses:

At each leg of the DAFM Development Series, the 4-Year-Old class will run as a one round competition (Article 274.5.1). Prize money will be divided between the clear rounds and/or horses on equal faults where there are no clear rounds.

Course Details and Obstacle Heights:

Course builders will be asked to set the courses at 325m/min.

Recommended height for the 4-Year-Old class is 1m with no obstacle exceeding a maximum 1.10m.

Ground lines will be included for every leg of the Development Series. 4-Year-Olds must have a minimum of 10 fences.

5-Year-Old Horses:

At each leg of the DAFM Development Series, the 5-Year-Old class will run as a twophase competition (Article 274.8.5.1).

The second phase will be run as a jump-off not against the clock. Time will only be used for the provision of time faults. All double clear rounds will divide the prize money.

Course Details and Obstacle Heights:

Course builders will be asked to set the courses at 350m/min.

Recommended height in the 5-Year-Old section is 1.10m with no obstacle exceeding 1.20m.

Ground lines will be included for the 5-Year-Olds at every leg of the Development Series.

6-Year-Old Horses:

At each leg of the DAFM Development Series, the 6-Year-Old class will be run as a twophase class with the second round against the clock (Article 274.5.3). Prize money will be as per the breakdown for 6-Year-Old prize money.

Course Details and Obstacle Heights:

Course builders will be asked to set the courses at 350m/min.

Recommended height in the 6-Year-Old section is 1.20m with no obstacle exceeding 1.30m.

7-Year-Old Horses:

At each leg of the DAFM Development Series, the 7-Year-Old class will be run as a twophase class with the second round against the clock (Article 274.5.3). Prize money will be as per the breakdown for 7-Year-Old prize money.

Course Details and Obstacle Heights:

Course builders will be asked to set the courses at 350m/min.

Recommended height in the 7-Year-Old section is 1.30m with no obstacle exceeding 1.40m.

Points/League System:

Each leg of the DAFM Development Series will operate as a standalone show and have no league format in operation.
