



DAFM Development Series 2026: Arena Eventing and Combined Training

Horse Sport Ireland are delighted to announce the 2026 DAFM Eventing Development Series, this will include a selection of pony classes within the Arena Eventing/Combined Training alongside the previously funded young horse classes for Eventing. This year, as in previous years, the DAFM Eventing Development Series will run as four standalone legs with €35,000 in funding available across the league with prizes for 4-, 5-, 6-&7-Year-Old horses and 5, 6-&7-Year-Old ponies as well as breeders' prizes.

The dates and venues for the 2026 DAFM Eventing Development Series are as follows:

Date	Venue
1 st March	Killossery Lodge Stud, Swords, Co.Dublin. (Arena Event H)
7 th March	Meadows EC, Lurgan, NI. (Combined Training H&P)
18 th October	Milchem EC, Tynagh, Co.Galway. (Combined Training H&P)
11 th October	Wexford EC, Tomhaggard, Co. Wexford. (Arena Event H)

H&P: Horse and Pony classes.

Notes on 2026 Series:

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

Entries:

- All DAFM Development Series classes must run on a pre-entry basis made through Eventing Ireland
- Entries must be made via an online portal. No other form of entry will be accepted
- Only registered pony athletes are permitted to enter the pony classes.
- Each leg is a standalone competition.
- For Eventing Ireland non-members, day tickets will be accepted.

Late entries will be charged double the class entry fee. Late entries can be made via the Eventing Ireland website. Entries will be no more than €45 (£40) per class for combined training and €55 (£50) for Eventing.



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.
 - 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.
 - Breeder's prizes will only be paid to breeders residing on the Island of Ireland.
 - HSI will not accept responsibility nor provide prize monies to any combination who do not meet this criterion.
 - **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.

At the show:

The DAFM Eventing Development Series, delivered by Horse Sport Ireland, must be organized and run in full compliance and adherence of Eventing Ireland rules.

Ponies are permitted to enter all dates; however they will be competing against horses. The designated pony combined training classes are as listed.

Important note on horse/pony and athlete combinations – horses/ponies must be jumped by the same athlete in all phases of the event. Any athlete found in breach of this rule will forfeit any prize money.

Failure to comply with Eventing Ireland rules, Horse Sport Ireland rules, or with the EI official, may result in disqualification.

Horse/athlete combinations entered to compete in these classes are strictly limited to warming up in the designated practice arenas. Any athlete found in breach of this rule by the EI steward will be eliminated from the class. Riders who choose to compete in a leg(s) of the DAFM Eventing Development Series are consenting to their rounds being live-streamed and/or available for publication on platforms of Horse Sport Ireland's choosing.

Tack and Boots

Martingales are allowed but must be correctly fitted. Only non-performance enhancing hind boots may be worn in these classes as per Eventing Ireland rules.



Horse Arena Eventing and Combined training classes

- 4-year-old horse classes made up to heights ranging from 80-90cm
- 5-year-old horse classes made up to heights ranging from 90cm -1m
- 6/7-year-old horse classes made up to heights ranging from 1m – 1.10m

Horse Arena Eventing Prize Fund

Placing	4 YO	5 YO	6/7YO
1st	€ 550.00	€ 650.00	€ 800.00
2nd	€ 400.00	€ 500.00	€ 600.00
3rd	€ 250.00	€ 350.00	€ 400.00
4th	€ 120.00	€ 250.00	€ 300.00
5th	€ 100.00	€ 150.00	€ 180.00
6th	€ 80.00	€ 100.00	€ 120.00
Breeder	€ 500.00	€ 700.00	€ 900.00
Total:	€ 2,000.00	€ 2,700.00	€ 3,300.00

Where there are five entries or less, prize money will be paid to 3rd place only Where there are three entries or less, prize money will be paid to 1st place only. Where there is only one entry, 50% of the 1st place prize will be paid

Horse Combined Training Prize Fund

Placing	4 YO	5 YO	6/7YO
1st	€ 400.00	€ 600.00	€ 700.00
2nd	€ 300.00	€ 450.00	€ 500.00
3rd	€ 200.00	€ 300.00	€ 400.00
4th	€ 150.00	€ 250.00	€ 300.00
5th	€ 100.00	€ 120.00	€ 200.00
6th	€ 50.00	€ 80.00	€ 100.00
Breeder	€ 400.00	€ 600.00	€ 800.00
Total:	€ 1,600.00	€ 2,400.00	€ 3,000.00

Where there are five entries or less, prize money will be paid to 3rd place only Where there are three entries or less, prize money will be paid to 1st place only. Where there is only one entry, 50% of the 1st place prize will be paid



Pony Combined training classes

- 5-year-old pony classes made up to heights ranging from 80cm – 90cm
- 6/7-year-old pony classes made up to heights ranging from 90cm-100cm
- Only registered pony athletes are permitted to enter the pony classes.

Pony Combined Training Prize Fund

Placing	5 YO	6/7YO
1st	€ 400.00	€ 500.00
2nd	€ 300.00	€ 350.00
3rd	€ 200.00	€ 250.00
Breeder	€ 200.00	€ 200.00
Total:	€ 1,100.00	€ 1,300.00

Where there are three entries or less, prize money will be paid to 1st place only. Where there is only one entry, 50% of the 1st place prize will be paid

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 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.
- Breeders prizes will only be issued to breeder residing on the Island of Ireland.

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 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-equidae-regulations-2015/>