Funded under National Breeding Services

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

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HORSE SPORT IRELAND

DAFM Eventing Development Series 2027
Venue Application

Horse Sport Ireland are seeking applications for the DAFM Eventing Development Series 2027. Online applications must be completed and digitally signed & returned to Horse Sport Ireland before **Close of Business on Monday 30th November 2026.**
Please note hosting of the Development Series is subject to funding and Department of Agriculture, Food, and the Marine (DAFM) approval.

Venue application terms, conditions & eligibilities:

- All classes must run on a pre-entry basis.
- HSI retains the rights to any/all livestreaming of any classes and the platform on which it is hosted.
- Entries must be made via the Eventing Ireland online portal.
- For 2027 it is intended to run spring and autumn dates subject to calendar availability. Venues should suggest dates in February/March and August - October 2027.
- Must include positive promotion of the funding organisations **(Horse Sport Ireland and the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine)** in all digital and printed promotions and communications.
- Venues are required to utilise HSI-DAFM branding/signage across the venue during the competition.
- A representative from HSI may be in attendance, in such circumstances they will present all HSI prizes.
- Following the event, a show report form must be completed and returned to HSI with accompanying documentation (results, start list, breeding catalogue, benefit to breeders and industry etc.).
    - Please note that should this fund become available in future the feedback information supplied by shows will be considered when allocating future sponsorship funds.
    - Please tag @horsesportireland in any associated social media coverage on the day of, and in the lead up to the competition.
- Please supply photographs and results no later than one day after the competition. This will allow HSI to issue an immediate press release.
- Breeder names for horses competing in funded classes should be listed in the start list and show catalogue if possible. Information relating to breeder recognition and prizes must be provided to HSI following the event as part of the show report form.
- Breeder's Prizes are for breeders residing on the Island of Ireland only, if a breeders prize is won by a horse bred outside of Ireland, it will revert to the next eligible Irish-bred horse (in the top three only).
- Shows cannot schedule or hold other young horse classes for the same age categories as part of the show subject to the application.
- The classes must run in sequence (i.e. one after the other) and, barring exceptional circumstances and in agreement with HSI, should not have other classes slotted in between them.
- Where there is 5 or less entries in class, HSI reserve the right to cancel the class.

- Criteria (rules of the classes) for the 2027 series will be circulated to all venues at venue award. Acceptance of those criteria, in addition to the terms and conditions above, will be necessary before venues are finalized.
- Classes are restricted to horses/ponies registered in **any studbook with a valid, listed breed** contained within the studbook passport (for example, 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.
    - The Venue must screen all entries and passports for this criterion, queries must be submitted to HSI (grants@horsesportireland.ie)
    - Should venues permit these entries the venue will be liable for any prize money
- **No individual Studbook branding or fence is permitted to be used i.e. Irish Sport Horse Studbook Fence or arena boarding – these should be returned to Horse Sport Ireland.**
- All prize money will be handled through an online form, letters will be provided to venues to with the QR code attached – these **MUST** be printed by the show/venue and accessed in the show office on the day.
- Prize winner **MUST BE** provided with the attached letter at prizegiving, the show is required to detail the placing on the letter.

Responsibilities of the venues selected to host DAFM Development Series include but are not limited to:

- Managing class entries and horse eligibility for participation
- Promoting the class and in doing so recognise HSI and DAFM.
- All press releases must include acknowledgement of funding from Horse Sport Ireland and the Department of Agriculture, Food, and the Marine.
    - Associated logos provided.
    - All associated press releases are to be provided to HSI **within 3 days of the show** to permit timely publication on HSI's website and social media platforms.
    - Please tag @horsesportireland in any associated social media coverage on the day of, and in the lead up to the competition.
- Maintaining the appropriate insurance coverage required to host the class.
    - Public Liability (PL) to the minimum indemnity limit of €6.5 million. The PL coverage should permit use for hosting of public events – this should not be restricted to private activity with limited/private/occasional visitors.
- All classes will be called (for example):
  DAFM Eventing Development Series (venue name) 5-Year-Old Class.
- The hosting venue must provide HSI with the results in the requested show report document and format.
- All classes must run on a pre-entry basis and online results must be available and maintained online.
- Late entries are not permitted.
- All classes must be held in the main arena and that arena should have a suitable surface to cope with adverse conditions (please specify details above).
  Second arena are only warranted where the number of entries requires a second arena to be used for the

qualifiers OR a venue is running concurrent DAFM funded classes. HSI reserves the right to request that venues provide a back-up venue as part of their application.

- The classes must run in sequence (i.e. one after the other) and, barring exceptional circumstances and in agreement with HSI, should not have other classes slotted in between them.
- Entry fees for classes are fixed by HSI in the interest of breeder/rider/producer accessibility and will not exceed the below:
    - Arena eventing: €50, and combined training: €40
- A Starter/ Call up Stewart (or Eventing Ireland Steward) must be in place for all classes and the breed and microchip of the horse must be verified against the horse's studbook passport.
- The full venue and competitor criteria (rules of the classes) for the 2027 series will be circulated to all venues once they are available. Acceptance of those criteria, in addition to the terms and conditions above, will be necessary before venues are finalised.
- Horse Sport Ireland reserve the right to change or update the terms and conditions for the Development Series at any time.
- Two clean stables must be made available by the venue to for the purposes of anti-doping testing.

The factors listed below will be taken into consideration when selecting venues for the 2027 Development Series:

- Level of experience of venue/organising committee in running International, National events in the past.
- Suitability of facilities for discipline event applied for e.g. Surface of arenas and warm-ups suitable to provide a high standard of young horse competition and to cater for adverse conditions in the autumn/winter season.
- Avoidance of clashes with other shows as much as possible, regional distance will be considered.
- On-site facilities for participants (clean and appropriate rest rooms, refreshments etc) and administration functions.
- On site infrastructure and WIFI to facilitate online coverage of event and suitable covered platform/area for videography as required, including promotional and social media capacity
- Relevant insurance cover, safeguarding policy and consideration of equine welfare.
- Adherence to previous HSI funding rules (including but not limited to):
    - Recognition of HSI and the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM).
    - Timely return of show reports.
    - Accuracy and completeness of show reports.
    - Communication and organisation.
    - Correct naming of classes.
    - Provision of detail (pictures, results, etc) for associated press releases.

Horse Sport Ireland ADS Scoring Criteria			
	Criteria	**Points**	**Percentage**
1	Horse Competition facilities and surfaces (fences, arenas, stabling, etc)	25	25%
2	Competitor and administration Facilities (parking, café, toilets, showers, seating areas, judges' box)	20	20%
3	Marketing Capacity (social/print/web media)	5	5%
3	Date and location	10	10%
4	Committee experience, level of Show (other classes, level of entry, etc)	10	10%
5	Equine Welfare & adherence to previous competition criteria	15	15%
6	Child Safeguarding & Insurance provision	10	10%
7	Overall suitability	5	5%
	Total	**100**	**100%**

Please note that the closing date for receipt of applications is **Close of Business on Monday 30th November 2026.** Applications will be deemed to be invalid if they are incomplete, late or do not contain the relevant information. Applications must be submitted online. Any queries can be emailed to: grants@horsesportireland.ie