



Horse Sport Ireland Young Handler Championship Series 2019 Information Note

Horse Sport Ireland (HSI) is pleased to announce details of their sponsorship for the Young Handler Championship Series 2019. The aim of this Championship is to assist in the development of the skills of young handlers to prepare and present horses for show and sale.

The Economic Contribution of the Sport Horse Industry to the Irish Economy 2017 highlighted that since 2012 the involvement of young breeders (≤ 30 yrs) in the sport horse industry has declined from 8.1% to 3.7% in 2016. In 2016 just 0.19% of breeders were less than 20 years of age. The Championship is aimed at encouraging more young breeders/producers to become involved in the industry. It will also provide a unique opportunity for young handlers that are new to the industry to become involved in breeding initiatives and to gain contact and information/education and encourage long term involvement in the breeding industry.

Competition Format

The Championship will run over five qualifiers held at existing shows or events within the five Irish Horse Board regions and will take place from June to September to allow for maximum participation. The top three young handlers from each qualifier will be eligible to compete in the final. The Final will take place on Tuesday 17th September at the National Ploughing Championships in Carlow.

Young Handlers may enter one of two age categories:

- Junior: 14 – 18 years
- Senior: 19 – 25 years

Each young handler will be required to do the following:

- Use a suitable horse or pony to compete. The young handler is not required to have bred or to own the animal. All animals must be registered in a Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM) Approved Studbook or World Breeding Federation of Sport Horses (WBFSH) Studbook.
- Turn out the horse/pony for competition.
- Answer two theory questions (the list of questions and answers will be available on www.horsesportireland.ie/breeding/hsi-breeding-sponsorships/ (Qualifier and Final))
- Exhibit the horse/pony on a triangle in walk and trot, with open stance both on entering the triangle and completion of the triangle.
- Give a short description including the pedigree & performance to promote the animal to the judge(s) – (Final only).
- Create a short video of the horse/pony that will be shown in hand at the Final to highlight the animal's attributes (as if marketing for sale) – Final only.

Please note in 2019 training on "how to create a video" will be offered to all participants of these classes in the first week in September.

Prize Money

There is a prize fund of €1,400 for each qualifier and a prize fund of €8,250 for the final. The prize breakdown for each section (Junior and Senior) will be as follows:

Qualifier Prize Breakdown		Final Prize Breakdown	
1 st	€200	1 st	€1,500
2 nd	€150	2 nd	€1,000
3 rd	€125	3 rd	€750
4 th	€100	4 th	€500
5 th	€75	5 th	€250
6 th	€50	6 th	€125
Total:	€700	Total:	€4,125

Additionally, the Senior winner will be awarded a week's stay at a top Irish riding and producing yard and the Junior winner will receive a family pass to the Horse of the Year Show 2019.

Terms and Conditions

- There are two age categories for the competition. Junior: 14 years to 18 years (as of 1st January 2019) and Senior: 19 to 25 years (as of 1st January 2019). Proof of age will be requested.
- Competitors are permitted to enter more than one regional qualifier but once qualified for the final cannot compete again.
- Competitors will show a horse/pony – mare or gelding three years old or over. The animal must be registered in a DAFM approved studbook or WBFSH studbook. Passports must be available for inspection at the show and brought in to the ring for the judges scribe.
- The horse/pony must be unique within each age category (i.e. can only be used by one competitor in each age category at the qualifier).
- The animal will not be judged, however must be turned out to show standard.
- Animals must be shown in hand.
- No colts allowed.
- Animals need not be the property or bred by the handler.
- Equine premises number and UELN Studbook Registration number for the animal must be provided with the entry.
- Entry fee must not exceed €20.
- Animals shown in this class may compete in other classes at the show.
- All exhibitors must remain in the show ring until prizes are presented, otherwise prizes are forfeited.
- Entries should be made directly to Secretary of the Show as per the application.
- All exhibitors should ensure they have adequate insurance cover to exhibit their horse/pony. Each qualifier will be run under public liability insurance at the designated venue. Horse Sport Ireland bear no involvement to the running of the event. Please note that Horse Sport Ireland shall not be responsible or liable for any loss or damage, (indirect, incidental, consequential) in any form incurred by any person, whether or not foreseeable and regardless of the form of the act in which such a claim may be brought, with respect to the Horse Sport Ireland's role as Sponsor.
- HSI collect Data from which you volunteer when you provide such Data to us, or via our services with which you interact. We may collect and process Data: including the following in the course of providing services to you, which could contain your Data: Your full name; your address; your various email addresses; financial information about you, including your bank account details, credit card details or other payment details; your date of birth; photographs and/or video images. We may require you to provide certain financial information in order to facilitate the processing of payments and all other Data which is necessary for us to process in order for us to fulfil our role as providing event organisation and other related services to you.
- The privacy & protection of your data is very important to HSI & the data (mentioned above) supplied to us will only be used for studbook purposes, breed improvement research and future promotion. Please note competitors may be videoed for social media and other media outlets for studbook purposes on the day of the competition.
- These rules should be read in conjunction with the general rules of the show.
- In exceptional cases substitution horses may be presented but have to meet the criteria as outlined.
- The competition will be judged under the following headings:
 - Control of horse/pony
 - Skill in showing – animal in walk, trot and stand for conformation assessment
 - Courtesy and Sportsmanship
 - Turnout and attire of both handler and animal
 - Marketing & Knowledge of Horses (Final only)

Marks for the competition (FINAL only)

(Competitors are required to show a horse in hand unaided.)

- Control of horse/pony (marks 1 -10)
- Skill in showing
 - Enter Arena (marks 1-10)
 - First open stance (marks 1-10)
 - Horse in walk (marks 1-10)
 - Trot (marks 1-10)

Second open stance (marks 1-10)

- Courtesy and sportsmanship (marks 1-10)
- Turnout of horse/pony (marks 1-10)
- Turnout of handler (marks 1-10)
- Marketing & Knowledge of Horses (3 elements) (marks 1-40) **FINAL**
 - 1. Two theory questions (as per qualifiers) (10 marks)
 - 2. Produce a short marketing video (min. 40 seconds – max. 60 seconds) of the horse/pony to be submitted in advance of the Final (deadline: 11th September 2019 @ 5pm) (20 marks)
 - Video to include: Name, age and pedigree of horse/pony that will be shown in hand at the Final, Photograph of animal standing in open stance, movement, performing its specific discipline (where possible) and pedigree from an official source.

Video should be between 40 –60 seconds in duration. It should be submitted as per details emailed to competitors at the Final.

- 3. Give a short description including the pedigree & performance to promote the animal to the judge(s) – (Final only). (10 marks)

Overall Impression (marks 1-20)

Total marks at Final = 150