

HSI Sport Horse/Pony Foal Championship 2020 Information Note

Horse Sport Ireland is pleased to announce the details of the 2020 Sport Horse/Pony Foal Championship. The Championship for horses and ponies has a prize fund of almost €25,000. The aim is to identify, evaluate and reward breeders who have bred a foal that has the potential to be competitive at the highest International level in the disciplines of showjumping or eventing.

There will be 5 regional qualifiers with separate categories and sections for horses and ponies for potential showjumping foals and potential eventing foals. The qualifiers will be held in August & September where 4 foals will be selected for the final at each regional qualifier. The best show jumping type foal, and the best eventing type foal from both the horse and pony categories.

The horse section regional qualifiers will have a €3,000 prize fund and the ponies will have a €1,000 prize fund. There is also a prize fund at each of the qualifiers for the best traditionally-bred foals which was introduced in 2019 and will continue again this year.

Dates for 2020;
Tuesday 18 th August - Bridestown Equestrian Centre, Cork
Tuesday 25 th August – Wexford Equestrian Centre
Tuesday 1 st September – Tubberbride Equestrian Centre, Sligo
Tuesday 8 th September – Creagh Equestrian Centre, Galway
Tuesday 22 nd September – Coilog Equestrian Centre, Kildare

At the final where Champions will be named in both horse and pony sections a pot of €10,500 for horses and €1,500 for ponies will be on offer. There will be a Champion Show Jumping Foal and Champion Eventing Foal for horse and pony sections at the Final and also a Champion traditionally-bred foal in the horse sections.

COVID- 19 Protocols

- Social distancing to be practiced at all times.
- Masks are mandatory at the qualifiers.
- Entries are to be made online and payment must be paid to the venue directly.
- A start list and start time will be allocated to each competitor by email. Competitors must be present for their allotted time to compete.
- NO prize-giving will take place on the day. Results will be provided on the HSI website and the ISH/HSI Facebook page.
- Prize money will be transferred via electronic banking. If bank details are not provided within 30 days of the competition the prize money will be forfeited.

Criteria for entry

- For the horse section, foals must be registered in a studbook that is a member of the WBFSH or DAFM approved (pending DNA where this can be verified by the studbook is acceptable) and should be shown with their dams where possible.
- For the pony section, foals must be registered originally in a EU approved studbook and should be shown with their dams where possible.
- For the pony section foals are permitted to enter more than one regional qualifier but once qualified for the final cannot compete again.
- Foals in the horse section are only permitted to enter **one regional qualifier** but **will not be** limited to competing in the region in which the competitor resides.

- Foals must be entered in either the Show jumping Section **or** the Eventing Section. They **cannot** compete in both sections.
- The dam's passport should be available on the day for inspection. For the pony section the dam may be measured.
- All foals must be a minimum of 6 weeks old to compete at the Final.
- All foals must be named in order to compete in the Final.
- Foals must be registered & microchipped for the qualifiers and must provide their passport for the final.
- A covering certificate is required to be submitted by the stallion owner to complete the foal registration in advance of the final.

Classes

- All classes must run on a pre-entry basis. Entries will be taken online or by the show/venue and will be **required 2 weeks prior to the event.**
- All classes must be held in a prominent arena at the show with a suitable surface to cope with adverse conditions and a suitable loose movement pen (20x40m) or an indoor arena which should be fenced off 20m by 40 m.
- Shows cannot schedule or hold other foal classes as part of the show;
- Entry fees should not exceed €40.

Please note foals need to be kept on their lead at the venues except when being shown loose in the arena.

Competitors

- Foals must be lead to and from the arena, and only turned loose when requested to do so by the judges.
- The judge's decision for the qualifiers and Championship is final, the only exception is where the pedigree of the foal is not subsequently confirmed by DNA.
- Foals must be registered & microchipped for the qualifiers and must provide their passport for the final. Prize money will only be provided after pedigree confirmed by DNA and passport details are verified.

Prize Money for HORSE SECTIONS

Regional Qualifiers (€2,000 per venue)

	Show Jumping Foal	Eventing Foal	Traditional Foal
1st (Qualifies for Final)	€500	€500	€350
2nd	€250	€250	€150

Final (€10,000)

	Show Jumping Foal	Eventing Foal	Traditional Foal
1st	€2,000	€2,000	€2,000
2nd	€1,000	€1,000	€1,000

In addition €1,000 will be awarded towards prizes in kind, sashes etc.

Prize Money for PONY SECTIONS

Regional Qualifiers (€700 per venue)

	Show Jumping Foal	Eventing Foal
1st (Qualifies for Final)	€250	€250
2nd	€100	€100

Final (€1,500)

	Show Jumping Foal	Eventing Foal
1st	€500	€500
2nd	€250	€250

*In addition €500 towards prizes in kind, sashes etc.

Preparation

It is important for the foals to be well prepared for the classes. To practice for the championship it is wise that the foal has been familiarised with the headcollar and leading at a young age. During the events the foals may not have lost all of their foal hairs. The judges will only examine the quality of the foal and does not pay attention to colour or coat. During the classes a foal's health is more important than show condition coat. Completely shaving the foals is not recommended, because shaved foals are more likely to get a cold when they are outside in bad weather.

These classes are not traditional show foal classes, they are for potential performance animals. Any evidence of foals having been over-fed or pushed to grow and develop unnaturally, which could be detrimental for their future bone development and general wellbeing will be penalised.

Evaluation

Foals will be presented to the judges accompanied by their dam where possible. During the individual presentation the foal is positioned in front of the judges with a halter, in order to evaluate its posture and conformation. The mare will be kept at hand during the foals movement evaluation. The foal can then be judged freely on walk, trot and canter as indicated by the judges. When all the foals are evaluated, the results for Regional Champion and Reserve will be announced as soon as possible on the Horse Sport Ireland website. The judges sheet will describe the positive attributes of the foals and provide an assessment as to whether they think the foal is Eventer type or Showjumper type.

Judging Criteria:

There will be two judges for each category of Show jumping and Eventing.

Foals will be judged according to the following criteria.

1. Functional conformation
2. Walk
3. Trot
4. Canter

5. Overall athleticism and balance
6. Pedigree

The judges will be provided with pedigree and performance information for each of the foals that the owner has submitted with the application.

Scoring will be judged out of 100 for eventing horses and 105 for showjumping horses and will be based on the following traits:

	Showjumping Section Qualifier/Final	Eventing Section Qualifier/Final
Functional conformation	20	25
Walk	5	10
Trot	5	20
Canter	25	10
Overall athleticism and balance	25	20
Pedigree	25	15

Scoring will be judged out of 100 for ponies and will be based on the following traits:
(No pedigree points available for the pony foals)

	Showjumping Section Qualifier/Final	Eventing Section Qualifier/Final
Functional conformation	20	25
Walk	10	15
Trot	15	25
Canter	25	15
Overall athleticism and balance	30	20

System for Evaluating Pedigree for horses only

Please note: Only pedigree and performance information supplied by the entrant will be included in the assessment of the pedigree score. The onus is on the entrant to supply full performance details for the damline (dam, maternal granddam and maternal great granddam and their progeny) to HSI by the closing date.

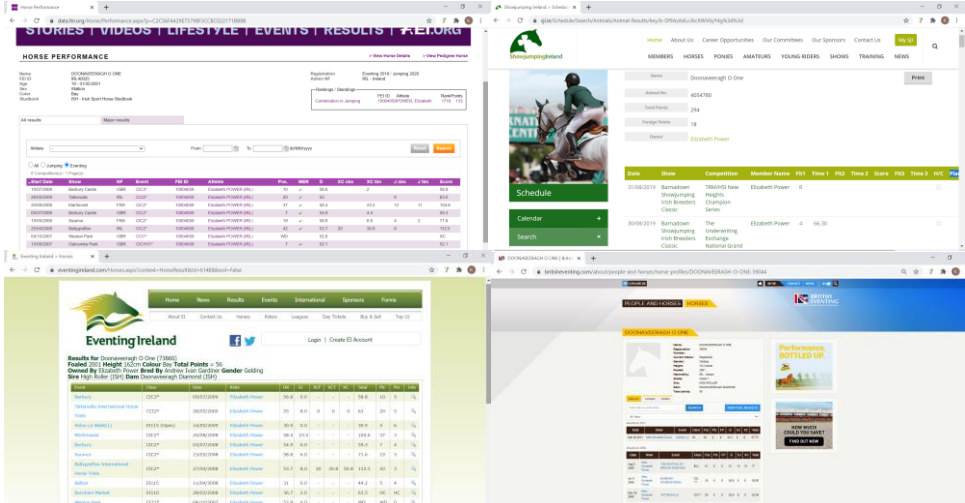
Only information provided by the closing date for entries will be verified and included in the calculations of the pedigree score at the competition.

If no pedigree and performance information is supplied by the entrant by the closing date, horses will receive a pedigree score of 0.

Performance pedigree of horses will be assessed by the studbook prior to the class based on the information provided in the online application. The score for pedigree will be based on the highest level at which a relative is successful for 3 generations of the dam line and 1 generation of the sire line.

In this regard, detailed information on performing horses must be provided to ensure that appropriate points are awarded to your entry. HSI will not be responsible in instances where sufficient details are not supplied. Details considered include the horse's studbook name and competition name, studbook, year, sex, sire name, rider, competition organiser, show name, class name, level (e.g. fence height, format) and date, horse's placing and/or score. **A link or photo of the relative's performance record from a studbook or sporting organisation is sufficient** (e.g. FEI, SJI, EI, BSJA, British Eventing or equivalents in other countries). For stallions, their full name and breed is sufficient.

Examples of performance link or photo:



In this regard, supporting documentation from the relevant national (or international) sporting body verifying the performance claimed, must be provided or available online to ensure that appropriate points are awarded to your entry. HSI will not be responsible in instances where supporting documentation is not available.

Maximum Points for:	Showjumping Pedigree Points	Eventing Pedigree Points
Sire	5	Not Applicable
Dam	10	5
maternal granddam or maternal great granddam	10 (maternal granddam) Or 5 (maternal great granddam)	5 (maternal granddam) Or 2.5 (maternal great granddam)
Thoroughbred percentage above 60% (for EV category)	Not Applicable	5
Maximum Points Available	25	15

The points awarded for each of these ancestors will be based on the individual's ancestor's own performance or its progeny's performance component of the star rating criteria, whichever is highest. A performing horse may only be counted once either as a dam or as a sibling.

For example a foal whose dam is eligible for a 4 star rating for her own showjumping performance and a 3 star rating for her progeny's showjumping performance will be considered to be a 4 star mare out of an available 5 stars. Her foal will receive 4 points for this dam.

Where pedigree points are available for an ancestor they will be awarded as follows:

Star Rating	No Points Awarded if scored out of 10	No Points Awarded if scored out of 5	No Points Awarded if scored out of 2.5
5	10	5	2.5
4	8	4	2
3	6	3	1.5
2	4	2	1
1	2	1	0.5

ENDS.