



Horse Sport Ireland have proactively engaged with their Government partners in both the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine and Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport, and Media with regard to the resumption of sport horse activity.

Competition Events – Level 5

In consultation with Department of Agriculture, Food and Marine, Horse Sport Ireland will have the sole authority to approve competition and training events which are applied for by a recognised affiliate body.

In brief, the approval system will comprise of the following;

- Formal application by the affiliate for the relevant events which has been verified and endorsed by the affiliate in the first instance;
- Confirmation of relevant risk assessment completion and associated assessment in line with public health guidance;
- Confirmation of COVID Officer appointment and adherence of HSI COVID protocols revised edition November 2020, by affiliate body and the show organiser;
- Signed declaration by both affiliate & organiser that strict adherence to the COVID protocols;
- Acknowledgement that any departure from the COVID 19 Protocols will result in non-approval of the affiliate application for that venue in subsequent applications;

Level 5 Elite, HP Professional events can run on consecutive days subject to strict control behind closed doors.

Level 5 events should focus on catering for professional sport horse athletes & producers, high performance (elite) athletes who participate within professional competition.

Elite, Professional, HP Athletes – Level 5

Level 5 competition events should only be attended by Professionals/Producers and High Performance athletes (elite) who are operating within the Sport Horse Industry. Definition: Professional/ Producer is an individual who derives a living from competing the sport; is a member of the senior training HP squad within Horse Sport Ireland

- Amateurs/ non-professionals are not permitted to attend Level 5 Elite events. No amateur competitions or classes will be permitted during Level 5.
- Youth activity - athletes who are (U18), i.e. athletes who have not achieved their 18th birthday are **NOT** permitted to compete during Level 5.
- Athletes who have not achieved their 18th birthday in 2021, but are Professionals/Producers working in the industry on a full-time basis, not in second level education, may compete subject to providing verifiable evidence to Horse Sport Ireland.
- No youth competitions (U18) or classes will be permitted during Level 5.

Amateur, Recreation, Youth Training Events – Level 5

- **Affiliated training activities for amateurs & youths are permitted.**
- **Amateur Athletes may undertake training only and travel nationally.**
- **Group training for amateur adult athletes extends to pods of 15 at any one time, outdoors only.**
- **Youth U18 activity extends to training only and travel nationally.**
- **Group training for U18 extends to maximum pods of 15 at any one time, outdoors only.**
- **One to one coaching is permitted.**
- **Indoor training limited to individual basis only.**

As of 7th May, Horse Sport Ireland are still awaiting an update from the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine regarding an earlier resumption of Amateur and Youth competitive sport.

