

HSI Mare Upgrade Scheme 2022

Horse Sport Ireland (HSI) are delighted to launch a mare upgrade scheme for breeders of performance sport horses. This initiative is supported by the Department of Agriculture, food, and the Marine. The aim of this initiative is to incentivise Irish breeders to invest in performance damlines abroad as either filly foals, active performance mares or retired performance mares that may/or may or may not be already in foal. The scheme will finance the veterinary screening and transport back to Ireland of qualifying purchased high genetic merit mares/fillies. A Horse Sport Ireland Breeding Scheme Advisor will be available to assist breeders through this process.

The HSI scheme is open to Irish breeders aiming to register foals in a WBFSH/DAFM approved studbook and who intend to purchase a mare or filly meeting specific damline performance and other requirements. Breeders will have the opportunity to apply to participate in the mare upgrade scheme by completing an online application. Following receipt of a valid application which is subsequently approved, HSI will cover the cost of the veterinary screening and transport back to Ireland up to a maximum of €2,000 per horse (in accordance with scheme criteria).

Ponies are also eligible to receive funding under the scheme but must also meet the performance criteria and be registered in a WBFSH/DAFM Approved Pony Studbook.

This scheme has three objectives:

1. Increase the numbers of performance dam lines in the active broodmare herd in Ireland;
2. Incentivise the veterinary screening of mares and fillies imported into Ireland for breeding purposes;
3. Establish pathways and a knowledge base to encourage further importations of suitable mares into the active broodmare herd in Ireland.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- Foal/filly/mare must meet all of the following eligibility criteria:
 - Be registered/endorsed in a DAFM/WBFSH approved studbook.;
 - Meet the required veterinary criteria;
 - Provide verified results demonstrating the performance criteria outlined below:
 - The foal/filly/Mare must have a genetic evaluation in the top 10 percentile of their studbook of origin; and/or
 - 1st Dam (or sister), 2nd Dam and/or 3rd Dam of the young horse for show jumping must have either jumped double clear at 1.45m or have bred at least 1 progeny that have jumped double clear at 1.45m. 1.50m performance damlines will be given preference. For eventing, the criteria is performance at CCI4*-S with preference given for CCI4*-L. For dressage, the criteria is performance at CDI3* with preference given for CDI4*.
 - Sires must have competed successfully at 1.50m and be Approved/Preliminary Approved or Recognised/Preliminary Recognised classification in a WBFSH/DAFM-Approved studbook. For eventing, the criteria is performance at CCI4*-L and for dressage, it is performance at CDI4*.
- Applicants must be resident in the Island of Ireland including Northern Ireland.
- The onus is on the applicant to provide accurate information.

- Applicants must become the registered owner of the animal.
- Animals must be registered/endorsed in a WBFSH/DAFM-Approved studbook.
- All applications must be submitted before the **30th of September 2022**.
- This scheme operates on a first come first served basis up to the maximum allocation facilitated by the existing budget allocation.
- Provision of funding is subject to a complete feedback form on completion of the scheme.
- Applicants may apply for a maximum of two mares/fillies under this scheme.
- It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure the filly or mare meets the performance requirement. Applications received without verified results will not be processed.
- HSI reserve the right to use performance standard equivalents.
- Prior to veterinary screening and transport, the applicant is required to:
 - Contact a Horse Sport Ireland Breeding Scheme Administrator;
 - Provide evidence of WBFSH/DAFM classifications;
 - Provide copy of the horse's zootechnical certificate;
 - Provide evidence of performance/progeny performance as outlined above;
 - Obtain written authorisation from Horse Sport Ireland confirming the filly/mare's eligibility, veterinary screening and transport arrangements.
- HSI will re-imburse the costs of veterinary screening and transport to the purchaser up to a maximum of €2,000 upon receipt of a copy of the invoices demonstrating the purchase of the filly/mare, the veterinary screening costs (age appropriate) and the transport costs.
- All veterinary and performance information will be provided to HSI and will be retained by HSI for research and studbook purposes. This research will not publish any identifiable features of the animals/owners/breeders who participated in the scheme.
- I confirm that I have reviewed Horse Sport Ireland's Data Protection and Privacy policies (available at www.horsesportireland.ie or on request) and I note that HSI only process personal data for legitimate business purposes and/or where required by law. All processing will have due regard to the DPA 2018 and GDPR 2016. I note that this personal data may include sensitive personal data, as defined within the DPA and GDPR, the processing of which requires my explicit consent. I note that HSI will honour the rights and freedoms of the data subjects at all times, as long as there is no other overriding law which limits those privileges.

By signing this form, I declare that:

- **I understand and agree to the terms and conditions of this scheme in their totality**
- **I provide my informed consent to participate in this scheme**
- **I understand and provide consent for my equine's performance data to be used for classification and studbook purposes, including but not limited to publication**
- **I understand and provide consent for my equines' anonymised veterinary data to be used for research purposes, including but not limited to scientific publication**

Signed: _____

Print name: _____

Date: _____

Veterinary Screening

All fillies and mares must successfully undergo a standard 5 stage pre-purchase vetting.

Two-year-old fillies and mares must also complete the HSI Mare X-ray Screening Protocol.