

Embryo Transfer Scheme 2023 Eligibility, Terms & Conditions

(*Applicants who have received funding for this scheme before, please see **Appendix 1A** before completing)

Horse Sport Ireland are delighted to re-launch the Embryo Transfer (ET) scheme in 2023. This initiative is supported by the Department of Agriculture, Food, and the Marine under National Breeding Services. Please note that the closing date for receipt of applications is **5.00pm on the closing tranche deadlines in the table below (26th June*)**.

Applications will be deemed to be invalid if they are incomplete or do not contain the relevant supporting documentation. Applications must be submitted online only. Queries may be submitted for the attention of Lorraine McMahon, Horse Sport Ireland, Beech House, Millennium Park, Osberstown, Naas, Co Kildare, W91 TK7N. Phone. Tel: 045 854517; Email: schemes@horsesportireland.ie

Before completing this application form, please read the Eligibility Criteria (Appendix 1), the Donor Mare Performance and/or Progeny Performance Criteria (Appendix 2a or 2b for TIH applicants) and ensure that you have submitted all of the supporting documentation outlined in the checklist (Appendix 3).

2023 Deadlines					
Tranche one			Tranche two*		
Opening	Closing	60-D Scan returned	Opening	Closing	60-D Scan returned
19/05/2023	26/06/2023	10/07/2023	TBC	TBC	TBC
* Tranche two will only open if the allocation has not been filled during Tranche one. Applicants approved in T1 must return their scans and invoices before the T1 deadline. T1 invoices will not be accepted in T2.					

Appendix 1: Terms and Conditions of the HSI Embryo Transfer Scheme (ET Scheme)

- **Applicants must be the registered owner of the donor mare(s) subject to the application.**
- For equines registered in dual ownership, permission in writing or email correspondence must be received by HSI from the non-applicant owner.
- Scheme approval/ payment of prize funds will not occur in the absence of this written or email permission.
- Applicants must be resident on the island of Ireland (includes Northern Ireland).
- An applicant can apply for up to two Embryo Transfers (ET's) and can also apply for two *Intracytoplasmic Sperm Injection (ICSI's).
- This year the scheme has introduced funding for up to 2 ICSI's. Hence a breeder can complete 2 ET's and 2 *ICSI's.
- Any breeder applying for *ICSI will have to provide a legitimate reason as to why the mare cannot reproduce naturally or via ET (age > 20 or vet report or semen only available for ICSI.)
- Funding to support the procedure and does not cover any related storage cost (ICSI).
- Native/rare breeds can apply and be assessed on their rarity, horse must be registered in the main section of a DAFM approved studbook and have a kinship value of less than 1.25.
- In 2024 the donor mare may be required to be classified (inspected) in a DAFM approved studbook.

- This scheme operates on a first come first served basis up to the maximum allocation facilitated by the existing budget allocation. Horse Sport Ireland reserve the right to close the scheme prior to the advertised deadline.
- Provision of funding is subject to a complete feedback form on completion of the scheme.
- As per conditions in 2022 there is requirement successful applicants must provide Horse Sport Ireland with proof of registration of the foal in a Department of Agriculture, Food, and the Marine (DAFM) Approved Studbook. Foals must obtain a passport before 31st December of the year of birth or within 6 months following the date of its birth, whichever occurs later. **If this is not provided the applicant will be exempt from this scheme for the following three years (2024-2026).**
- **Donor mares must meet all of the following eligibility criteria:**
 - Be registered/endorsed in a DAFM Approved studbook.
 - Be three years old or more.
 - Meet veterinary requirements of the initial examination at the *Designated Veterinary Clinic as required.
 - Provide verified results demonstrating that the mare meets the performance and/or progeny performance criteria outlined in Appendix 2. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure the donor mare meets the performance requirement. Applications received without verified results will not be processed.
- Native/rare breeds can apply and be assessed on their rarity, horse must be registered in the main section of a DAFM studbook and have a kinship value of less than 1.25.
- Traditional Irish Horse donor mares must meet all the following eligibility criteria:
 - Be registered/endorsed in a DAFM approved studbook.
 - Be three years old or more.
 - Meet veterinary requirements of the initial examination at the *Designated Veterinary Clinic as required.
- The Embryo Transfer procedure **MUST** be carried out at a veterinary clinic which is designated for this scheme and **MUST** take place in 2023 and an application must be submitted before the associated tranche deadlines.
 - The verification of pregnancy must be received by HSI by the associated '**60-D Scan returned**' tranche deadline.
- In exceptional circumstances HSI will consider applications on a case-by-case basis from overseas veterinary clinics where the donor and recipient mares are based in Ireland.
- HSI will consider pony embryo transfer applications on a case-by-case basis in accordance with equivalent pony performance criteria.
- Semen used for the embryo transfers **MUST** be from Stallions which are Approved in a WBFSH/DAFM Studbook, or a Pony Studbook approved by DAFM.
- Semen used for the Traditional Irish Horse embryo transfers **MUST** be from Stallions recorded as Traditional/TB which are Approved in a WBFSH/DAFM approved Studbook.
- In the event of oversubscription to the program the awarding of the grant will be allocated to the donor mare with the best performance ratings or EBV's and to ensure that a sufficient balance across the disciplines is achieved.
- HSI reserve the right to use performance standard equivalents.

- The recipient mare must meet the veterinary requirements of the initial examination at the Designated Veterinary Clinic as required (this includes checking the mare's microchip).
Recipient mares are required to be registered and if no microchip is located the veterinary surgeon during the initial examination will have to insert a microchip and complete markings for registration.
- In order to draw down the **€1,500** payment per embryo applicants **MUST**
 - submit proof of payment for the Embryo Transfer procedure by the '60-D Scan returned' tranche deadline for the relevant application tranche.
 - AND**
 - A zootechnical certificate for the Embryo signed and stamped by the Designated Veterinary Clinic by the '60-D Scan returned' tranche deadline for the relevant application tranche.
 - **AND**
 - Confirmation that the recipient has been **scanned 60 days in foal**, signed and stamped by a Veterinary Surgeon by the '60-D Scan returned' tranche deadline for the relevant application tranche.
 - AND**
 - Submission of payment details
 - AND**
 - Completion of Feedback form
 - Once the above supporting documentation has been received payment of €1,500 (vouched) will be transferred to account details provided in 2023
- Applicants must be prepared to provide Horse Sport Ireland with a Tax clearance certificate should the sum of their approvals and or prize money equal €10,000 or more. If a tax clearance cert cannot be furnished on request, grants cannot be provided. [CLICK HERE FOR INFORMATION ON HOW TO APPLY.](#)

PLEASE NOTE: Applicants must comply with Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine legislation for equine foal passport registrations to be eligible to participate in future Embryo Transfer Schemes. Proof will be required.

Horse Sport Ireland reserves the right to use performance equivalents and will consider breeding values from other studbooks on a case-by-case basis.

Horse Sport Ireland reserve the right to change, amend or update scheme terms and conditions. In the event of same, existing applicants will be notified.

Appendix 1A: Declaration or verification of registration of foals participating in the HSI Embryo Transfer Scheme 2022

Please submit a veterinary declaration in relation to the foal or proof of the foal's passport (e.g. photo of front page or foal registration number) if you received funding from the Embryo Transfer Scheme in 2022.

*Designated Veterinary Clinics for this scheme are:

- | | |
|--|--------------------|
| • Andrea Carli, Animal Reproductive Technologies, Co. Kilkenny. | T. 087-2127865 |
| • Carmel Welsh, Kilcash Equine Clinic, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary. | T. 052-6139461 |
| • Julie Storme, UCD Veterinary Hospital, Belfield, Dublin 4 | T. 087-1351359 |
| • Katarzyna Engiel-Murray, Co. Roscommon. | T. 085-1976413 |
| • Larry Dunne, Ballyvorney, Co. Wicklow. | T. 01-2867146 |
| • Philip McManus, Rockmount AI Centre, Co. Galway. | T. 091-739685 |
| • Tim Brennan, Gowran Castle Stud, Gowran, Co Kilkenny. | T. 056-7726836 |
| • Jim Slaine, Parklands Veterinary Group, Cookstown, Co Tyrone, BT80 8NU | T. 004428-86765765 |
| • John Haughey, Carrickview Stud, Armagh, BT60 2NS. | T. 0044-7810855087 |

Appendix 2: Donor Mare Performance and/or Progeny Performance Criteria

	Mare own Performance	Mare Progeny Performance	Mare is Full/Half-sister to one or more animals that meets the following
Show jumping	<p>2 double clear rounds at CSI/CSIO 4* level (Grand Prix or Nations' Cup class or equivalent²) or higher</p> <p>Or</p> <p>2 double clear rounds at CSI/CSIO3* level⁶ or 2 double clear rounds in FEI competitions at a fence height of at least 1.45m at CSI/CSIO level or 2 top 4 placings in FEI speed classes at a fence height of at least 1.45m at CSI/CSIO level or higher</p> <p>Or</p> <p>2 double clear rounds in National (1.40m) or Premier GP (1.50m) which can be verified by SJI records</p> <p>Or</p> <p>Has a minimum Estimated Breeding Value (EBV-SJ) of 130 or pedigree index.</p>	<p>1 progeny with 2 double clear rounds at CSI/CSIO 3* level⁶ or 2 double clear rounds in FEI competitions at a fence height of at least 1.45m at CSI/CSIO level or 2 top 4 placings in FEI speed classes at a fence height of at least 1.45m at CSI/CSIO level or higher</p> <p>Or</p> <p>1 progeny with 2 double clear rounds at CSI/CSIO 2* level⁹ or 2 double clear rounds in FEI competitions at a fence height of at least 1.40m at CSI/CSIO level or 2 top 4 placings in FEI speed classes at a fence height of at least 1.40m at CSI/CSIO level or 2 double clear rounds at National 1.45m level³ or higher</p> <p>Or</p> <p>1 progeny with 2 double clear rounds in National (1.40m) or Premier GP (1.50m) which can be verified by SJI records</p>	<p>2 double clear rounds at CSI/CSIO 4* level (Grand Prix or Nations' Cup class or equivalent²) or higher</p> <p>Or</p> <p>2 double clear rounds at CSI/CSIO3* level⁶ or 2 double clear rounds in FEI competitions at a fence height of at least 1.45m at CSI/CSIO level or 2 top 4 placings in FEI speed classes at a fence height of at least 1.45m at CSI/CSIO level or higher</p> <p>Or</p> <p>2 double clear rounds in National (1.40m) or Premier GP (1.50m) which can be verified by SJI records</p>
Eventing	<p>2 MERs¹⁵ at CCI4*-L level¹¹ or higher</p> <p>Or</p> <p>2 MERs¹⁵ at CCI4*-S /EI120 level or higher</p> <p>Or</p> <p>2 MERs¹⁵ at CCI3*-S /EI115 level or higher</p>	<p>1 progeny with 2 MERs¹⁵ at CCI3*L /EI115 level or higher</p> <p>Or</p> <p>1 progeny each with 2 Top 25% finishes at CCI3*L level or higher</p> <p>Or</p> <p>1 progeny each with 2 Top 25% finishes at CCI3*-S level or higher</p>	<p>2 MERs¹⁵ at CCI4*-L level¹¹ or higher</p> <p>Or</p> <p>2 MERs¹⁵ at CCI4*-S /EI120 level or higher</p> <p>Or</p> <p>2 MERs¹⁵ at CCI3*-S /EI115 level or higher</p>
Dressage	<p>2 placings at CDI/CDIO4*level (big tour or equivalent) with a score of 65% or higher</p> <p>Or</p> <p>2 placings at CDI/CDIO3*level (big tour or equivalent) with a score of 65% or higher</p> <p>Or</p> <p>2 placings at CDI2*level (big tour or equivalent) with a score of 65% or higher</p>	<p>1 progeny with 2 CDI/CDIO3* level (big tour or equivalent) with a score of 65% or higher</p> <p>Or</p> <p>1 progeny each with 2 placings at CDI2*level (big tour or equivalent) with a score of 65% or higher</p>	<p>2 placings at CDI/CDIO4*level (big tour or equivalent) with a score of 65% or higher</p> <p>Or</p> <p>2 placings at CDI/CDIO3*level (big tour or equivalent) with a score of 65% or higher</p> <p>Or</p> <p>2 placings at CDI2*level (big tour or equivalent) with a score of 65% or higher</p>

**Appendix 2 (a): Donor Mare Performance and/or
Progeny Performance Criteria for Traditional Irish Horses
if oversubscribed**



	Mare own Performance	Mare Progeny Performance	Mare is Full/Half-sister to one or more animals that meets the following
Show jumping	<p>2 double clear rounds at CSI/CSIO3* level⁶ or 2 double clear rounds in FEI competitions at a fence height of at least 1.45m at CSI/CSIO level or 2 top 4 placings in FEI speed classes at a fence height of at least 1.45m at CSI/CSIO level or higher</p> <p>Or</p> <p>2 double clear rounds in National (1.40m) or Premier GP (1.50m) which can be verified by SJI records</p> <p>Or</p> <p>2 double clear rounds in National (1.30m or higher) which can be verified by SJI records</p>	<p>1 progeny with 2 double clear rounds at CSI/CSIO 2* level⁹ or 2 double clear rounds in FEI competitions at a fence height of at least 1.40m at CSI/CSIO level or 2 top 4 placings in FEI speed classes at a fence height of at least 1.40m at CSI/CSIO level or 2 double clear rounds at National 1.45m level³ or higher</p> <p>Or</p> <p>1 progeny with 2 double clear rounds in National (1.40m) or Premier GP (1.50m) which can be verified by SJI records</p> <p>Or</p> <p>1 progeny with 2 double clear rounds in National (1.30m or higher) which can be verified by SJI records</p>	<p>2 double clear rounds at CSI/CSIO3* level⁶ or 2 double clear rounds in FEI competitions at a fence height of at least 1.45m at CSI/CSIO level or 2 top 4 placings in FEI speed classes at a fence height of at least 1.45m at CSI/CSIO level or higher</p> <p>Or</p> <p>2 double clear rounds in National (1.40m) or Premier GP (1.50m) which can be verified by SJI records</p> <p>Or</p> <p>2 double clear rounds in National (1.30m or higher) which can be verified by SJI records</p>
Eventing	<p>2 MERs¹⁵ at CCI4*-S /EI120 level or higher</p> <p>Or</p> <p>2 MERs¹⁵ at CCI3*-S /EI115 level or higher</p> <p>Or</p> <p>2 top 10% finishes at CCI2*-S level or higher</p>	<p>1 progeny each with 2 Top 25% finishes at CCI3*-L level or higher</p> <p>Or</p> <p>1 progeny each with 2 Top 25% finishes at CCI3*-S /EI115 level or higher</p> <p>Or</p> <p>1 progeny with 2 top 10% finishes at CCI2*-S level or higher</p>	<p>2 MERs¹⁵ at CCI4*-S /EI120 level or higher</p> <p>Or</p> <p>2 MERs¹⁵ at CCI3*-S /EI115 level or higher</p> <p>Or</p> <p>2 top 10% finishes at CCI2*-S level or higher</p>
Dressage	<p>2 placings at CDI/CDIO4*level (big tour or equivalent) with a score of 65% or higher</p> <p>Or</p> <p>2 placings at CDI/CDIO3*level (big tour or equivalent) with a score of 65% or higher</p> <p>Or</p> <p>2 placings at CDI2*level (big tour or equivalent) with a score of 65% or higher</p>	<p>1 progeny with 2 CDI/CDIO3* level (big tour or equivalent) with a score of 65% or higher</p> <p>Or</p> <p>1 progeny each with 2 placings at CDI2*level (big tour or equivalent) with a score of 65% or higher</p>	<p>2 placings at CDI/CDIO4*level (big tour or equivalent) with a score of 65% or higher</p> <p>Or</p> <p>2 placings at CDI/CDIO3*level (big tour or equivalent) with a score of 65% or higher</p> <p>Or</p> <p>2 placings at CDI2*level (big tour or equivalent) with a score of 65% or higher</p>

Appendix 3: Checklist

- ✓ Online application completed in full and receipted email with details received.
- ✓ Supporting documentation showing proof that the donor mare meets requirements outlined in Appendix 2 is supplied.
- ✓ The Veterinary Clinic used for the Embryo Transfer is a Designated Clinic for this Scheme.
- ✓ The applicant is the registered owner of the donor mare (s).
- ✓ The Embryo Transfer has taken place within the specified time frame (in 2023 and an application submitted before the 26th of June).
- ✓ The stallion used is Approved in a WBFSH studbook or a DAFM approved studbook.