

## HSI Mare Upgrade Scheme 2023

Horse Sport Ireland (HSI) are delighted to continue the mare upgrade scheme in 2023 for breeders who wish to obtain a performance mare for their breeding herd. This initiative is funded by the Department of Agriculture, Food, and the Marine under National Breeding Services. 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 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 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

Tranche one			Tranche two		
Opening	Closing	Documents submitted	Opening	Closing	Documents submitted
15/05/2023	26/06/2023	29/06/2023	14/07/2023	17/08/2023	31/08/2023
* Tranche two will only open if the allocation has not been filled during Tranche one. Applicants approved in T1 must return their invoices before the T1 deadline. T1 invoices will not be accepted in T2.					

- Foal/filly/mare must meet all of the following eligibility criteria:
  - Be registered and endorsed in a DAFM/WBFSH approved studbook.;
  - Meet the required veterinary/application criteria;
    - ✓ Provide receipt/written confirmation of proof of purchase
    - ✓ A copy of the mare/filly/foal's passport is to be supplied to HSI (all passports are to be endorsed with HSI)
    - ✓ A zootechnical certification for the filly or mare is supplied

- ✓ A veterinary certificate for mares demonstrating completion of a five-stage pre-purchase vetting. (Please submit any vetting certificates completed for mare/filly)
  - ✓ Receipts to show all costs associated with the veterinary.
  - ✓ If the application is for a two-year old or older filly or mare, a digital copy of the X-rays and interpretation has been sent to HSI.
  - ✓ Receipts to show cost of x-rays
  - ✓ Receipts to show transport costs
  - ✓ Foals/yearlings are not required to submit x-rays
  - ✓ Foals/yearlings must complete a vetting in advance of travel and submit same to HSI.
- 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 – Applicants must seek this from the studbook of origin; **and/or**
    - 1<sup>st</sup> Dam (or sister), 2<sup>nd</sup> Dam and/or 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 submit a completed application with accurate information.
  - For inclusion of equines registered in dual ownership, permission in written 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 become the registered owner of the animal.
  - 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.](#)
  - Animals must be registered and endorsed in a WBFSH/DAFM-Approved studbook.
  - All applications must be submitted before the **17<sup>th</sup> August 2023 (Tranche 2)**
  - 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/foals under this scheme.
  - In 2024 mares may be required to be classified (inspected) in a DAFM approved studbook.

- It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure the filly/foal or mare meets the performance requirement. Incomplete applications/those 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 performance/progeny performance as outlined above;
  - Obtain written authorisation from Horse Sport Ireland confirming the filly/mare's eligibility, veterinary screening and transport arrangements.
  - Provide copy of the horse's zootechnical certificate;
- 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/foal, 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](http://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**
- **I understand that HSI will publish a list of awardees (forename, surname, county and mare name) on the HSI website**
- **I understand that drawdown of funding is subject to the completion of scheme feedback.**

### **Veterinary Screening**

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

Foals are not required to submit x-rays.

**Irish Sport Horse Mares**

**Minimum Performances Required for each Rating Level**

<b>Rating Type</b>	<b>5*</b>	<b>4*</b>	<b>3*</b>	<b>2*</b>	<b>1*</b>
Mare performance – Showjumping	2 double clear rounds at CSI/CSIO 4* level (Grand Prix or Nations' Cup class or equivalent <sup>2</sup> ) or higher	2 of the following:  Double clear rounds at CSI/CSIO3* level <sup>6</sup> or Double clear rounds in FEI competitions at a fence height of at least 1.45m at CSI/CSIO level or Top 4 placings in FEI speed classes at a fence height of at least 1.45m at CSI/CSIO level or higher	2 double clear rounds at National 1.30m level <sup>5</sup> or higher	Be entered in Select class <b>and</b>  Jump 4 double clear rounds at National 1.20m level <sup>7</sup> or higher	Be entered in Select class and jump 3 double clear rounds at National 1.10m <sup>8</sup> or higher or On inspection pass the clinical veterinary, conformation and movement assessments and achieve an athleticism score of at least 80 or Be classified as a 'Premier Broodmare'
Mare performance – Eventing	2 MERs <sup>15</sup> at:  CCI 3* level <sup>11</sup> up to 2018 or CCI4*-L level from 2019 or higher	2 MERs <sup>15</sup> at:  EI120 level or CIC3* level up to 2018 or CCI4*-S level from 2019 or higher	2 of the following: Top 25% finishes at CCI 1* level <sup>13</sup> up to 2018 or Top 25% finishes at CCI 2* level <sup>13</sup> up to 2018 or Top 25% finishes at CCI2*-L level <sup>13</sup> from 2019 or Top 25% finishes at CCI3*-L level <sup>13</sup> from 2019 or Top 10% finishes at EI115 level or Top 10% finishes at CIC2* level up to 2018 or Top 10% finishes at CCI3*-S level from 2019 or higher	Be entered in Select class <b>and</b> have  2 of the following:  Top 10% finishes at CIC 1* level up to 2018 or Top 10% finishes at CCI2*-S level from 2019 or higher	Be entered in Select class <b>and</b> have  2 of the following:  Top 10% finishes at EI110 level or higher
Mare performance – Dressage	2 placings at CDI/CDIO4*level (big tour or equivalent) with a score of 65% or higher	2 placings at CDI/CDIO3*level (big tour or equivalent) with a score of 65% or higher	2 placings at National Advanced level with a score of 65% or higher	Be entered in Select class <b>and</b> have 2 placings at National Medium level with a score of 65% of higher	Be entered in Select class <b>and</b> have 2 placings at National Elementary level with a score of 65% or higher

<b>Irish Sport Horse Mares</b>					
<b>Minimum Performances Required for each Rating Level</b>					
<b>Rating Type</b>	<b>5*</b>	<b>4*</b>	<b>3*</b>	<b>2*</b>	<b>1*</b>
Mare progeny – Showjumping	<p>1 progeny with</p> <p>2 of the following:</p> <p>Double clear rounds at CSI/CSIO 3* level<sup>6</sup> or</p> <p>Double clear rounds in FEI competitions at a fence height of at least 1.45m at CSI/CSIO level or</p> <p>Top 4 placings in FEI speed classes at a fence height of at least 1.45m at CSI/CSIO level or higher</p>	<p>2 progeny with</p> <p>2 of the following:</p> <p>Double clear rounds at CSI/CSIO 2* level<sup>9</sup> or</p> <p>Double clear rounds in FEI competitions at a fence height of at least 1.40m at CSI/CSIO level or</p> <p>Top 4 placings in FEI speed classes at a fence height of at least 1.40m at CSI/CSIO level or</p> <p>Double clear rounds at National 1.45m level<sup>3</sup> or higher</p>	<p>2 progeny with</p> <p>2 double clear rounds at National 1.30m level<sup>5</sup> or higher</p>	<p>Be entered in Select class <b>and</b> have</p> <p>2 progeny with</p> <p>2 double clear rounds at National 1.20m level<sup>7</sup> or higher</p>	<p>Be entered in Select class <b>and</b> have</p> <p>2 progeny with</p> <p>2 double clear rounds at National 1.10m<sup>8</sup> or higher</p>
Mare progeny – Eventing	<p>1 progeny with</p> <p>2 MERs<sup>15</sup> at:</p> <p>EI120 level or</p> <p>CIC3* level up to 2018 or</p> <p>CCI4*-S level from 2019 or higher</p>	<p>2 progeny each with</p> <p>2 of the following:</p> <p>Top 25% finishes at CCI 2* level<sup>12</sup> up to 2018 or</p> <p>Top 25% finishes at CCI3*-L level from 2019 or higher</p>	<p>2 progeny each with</p> <p>2 of the following:</p> <p>Top 25% finishes at CCI 1* level<sup>13</sup> up to 2018 or</p> <p>Top 25% finishes at CCI2*-L level from 2019 or</p> <p>Top 10% finishes at EI115 level or</p> <p>Top 10% finishes at CIC2* level up to 2018 or</p> <p>Top 10% finishes at CCI3*-S level from 2019 or higher</p>	<p>Be entered in Select class <b>and</b> have</p> <p>2 progeny each with</p> <p>2 of the following:</p> <p>Top 10% finishes at CIC1* level up to 2018 or</p> <p>Top 10% finishes at CCI2*-S level from 2109 or higher</p>	<p>Be entered in Select class <b>and</b> have</p> <p>2 progeny each with</p> <p>2 Top 10% finishes at EI110 level or higher</p>
Mare progeny – Dressage	<p>1 progeny with</p> <p>2 placings at CDI/CDIO3* level (big tour or equivalent) with a score of 65% or higher</p>	<p>2 progeny each with</p> <p>2 placings at CDI2* level (big tour or equivalent) with a score of 65% or higher</p>	<p>2 progeny each with</p> <p>2 placings at National Advanced level with a score of 65% or higher</p>	<p>Be entered in Select class <b>and</b> have</p> <p>2 progeny each with</p> <p>2 placings at National Medium level with a score of 65% or higher</p>	<p>Be entered in Select class <b>and</b> have</p> <p>2 progeny each with</p> <p>2 placings at National Elementary level with a score of 65% or higher</p>