

Irish Cob Studbook Inspections Procedures and Guidelines

Applications

Application forms for inspections are available on the HSI website (Jotform). Closing date for receipt of applications is two working weeks prior to the inspection dates and must contain the following:

- Completed and signed application form
- Relevant Fee (€70).

Incomplete entries will not be accepted.

All animals must have a passport prior to inspection. If an animal has a passport that is issued by a PIO that is not Horse Sport Ireland then an endorsement application will need to be completed, information can be found at www.horsesportireland.ie or by contacting the Horse Sport Ireland office.

Following the receipt of completed applications HSI will contact animal owners with the details of the inspection and a schedule of events.

Duration of Inspections

Inspections are completed in one day. Inspections will be carried out at venues during Spring and Autumn 2023.

Check In

All owners must report to a HSI representative upon arrival at the centre in order to check in. At this time, all owners must present the animal(s) passport and collect entry numbers for each animal.

The entry numbers provided by HSI must be used at all times during the inspection.

Entrants must ensure they reach the inspection site in plenty of time in order to check in their animal(s).

Please note animals that have not been checked in cannot be presented at the first stage of the inspection.

Presentation

All animals are expected to be presented at show standard and must be sufficiently trained and fit to take part in all aspects of the inspection. The animal should be in good condition, be well groomed and have well maintained hooves.

Each animal must be presented in a correctly fitted bridle.



If there is a foal present with the animal a leather head collar and canvas or leather lead should be used.

Handlers are required to dress neatly. Suitable protective footwear must be worn in order to present the animal correctly. In the case where an owner has more than one horse on the premises, sufficient handlers must be on site to cater for each animal. All handlers must be dressed appropriately.

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Inspection Panel

The inspection panel will consist of two inspectors. One set of overall scores will be produced from the inspector's collective deliberations.

Irish Draught Animal Inspection Process

The inspection will take place over one day and will include the following elements:

1. Pedigree assessment
2. Veterinary Examination
3. Conformation assessment
4. In hand Gait Assessment in an indoor arena

1. Pedigree Assessment

Genetic Diversity with mean kinship statistics which clearly identify genetically diverse horses will be provided to the selectors.

2. Veterinary Examination

On arrival to the veterinary examination the identification of the animal will be checked by comparing the animal's markings to the markings on its passport. The animal will also be scanned to confirm its microchip number.

At the inspection animals will undergo a veterinary examination by Veterinary Surgeons appointed by Horse Sport Ireland. The examination will consist of the following:

Stage 1. Preliminary examination:

This includes height & bone measurement of all animals. The Preliminary Examination involves overall visual and palpable observations of the animal presented. The heart and lungs are auscultated at rest.

Stage 2. Gait assessment & Trotting up:

This includes co-ordination testing such as tight circling and reversing, trotting on loosened rein.

The measurements taken at the veterinary examination will be considered to be the official measurements of the animal for classification and studbook purposes.

Blood samples may be taken on the day of inspection and may be subject to screening for substances listed on the FEI 'Equine Prohibited Substances List' (see www.feicleansport.org)

3. Conformation Assessment

Handlers must present animals to the inspectors in the indoor arena for their conformation assessment. Animals must be able to stand correctly and quietly in order for the inspectors to make their assessment.

The score sheet for Irish Cob inspections contains several breed characteristics, covering conformation, movement and appearance where they are scored out of 5. (see attached 'Sample Score Sheet').

4. In Hand Gait Assessment in the Indoor Arena

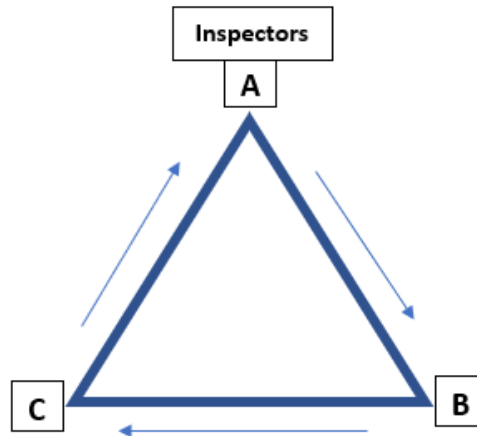
In the indoor arena animals will be required to stand for a visual inspection. The animal must stand side view to the inspection panel to facilitate the visual assessment.

When requested the handler will move the animal in walk and then in trot.

The handler must always lead from the left side of the horse. Overuse of the whip is not permitted, the animal should be trained to show correctly.



Irish Cob Studbook Inspections Procedures and Guidelines



You are asked to walk your horse in a straight line from A to B, show medium walk across the base of the triangle from B to C, and then walk in a straight line from C back to A. The same demonstration is repeated in trot, showing some engaged strides across the base of the triangle from B to C.

Note: The elements of the inspection may not necessarily be carried out in the same order as they are outlined above. Horse Sport Ireland reserves the right to terminate any inspection for health and safety reasons.

Photographs

Photographs of animals will be taken during the veterinary stage of the inspection process by a photographer appointed by HSI. These photographs may be published in HSI publications.

Video footage of the inspection may also be recorded and used by Horse Sport Ireland.

Results of the Inspection

Final results will be posted to the animal owner shortly after the date of inspection and will be made available for public access on the Horse Sport Ireland website and may be published in subsequent Horse Sport Ireland publications.

Classification of Irish Cob Animals

Following Inspection

Animals who attend inspection may be classified in either the 'Main' section of the Irish Cob studbook or the 'Supplementary' section of the Irish Cob studbook.

This is based on whether or not they already maintain an Irish Cob Studbook passport.

The classification options are then 'Basic' or 'Elite' for the Supplementary register and 'Elite' for the Main register

Eligibility for Main Elite

Irish Cob animals must be registered in the Main section of the Irish Cob Studbook in Ireland.

This animal must then pass the veterinary requirements and meet the minimum scores on the day. If they do not meet the minimum scores they will maintain their original classification in the studbook.

Eligibility for Supplementary Elite

To be eligible for classification in the Supplementary Elite Section of the Irish Cob Studbook, animals must meet the same requirements as the main elite however they do not have to have an Irish Cob Studbook passport.

If they do not meet the scores required for 'Elite' then they may be awarded 'Supplementary Basic' register.

**IRISH COB STUDBOOK
IRISH COB PART BRED STUDBOOK**

MARE/GELDING INSPECTION SHEET

MARE GELDING (circle as required)

<u>RESULT OF INSPECTION</u>	<i>√ in appropriate box</i>					MINIMUM POINTS REQUIRED
	5	4	3	2	1	
						BREED:
1. IRISH COB BREED TYPE						Must score at least 4 to be approved
2. PRESENCE						Must score at least 4 to be approved
3. TOPLINE						Must score at least 4 to be approved
4. HEAD AND MOUTH						Must score at least 4 to be approved
5. NECK						Must score at least 3 to be approved
6. WITHERS						Must score at least 3 to be approved
7. SHOULDERS						Must score at least 3 to be approved
8. BACK						Must score at least 4 to be approved
9. HINDQUARTERS						Must score at least 4 to be approved
10. CHEST						Must score at least 3 to be approved
11. BODY						Must score at least 4 to be approved
12. FORELEGS & FEET						Must score at least 4 to be approved
13. HIND LEGS & FEET						Must score at least 4 to be approved
14. LEG FEATHERING						Must score at least 4 to be approved
15. MANE & TAIL						Must score at least 3 to be approved
16. MOVEMENT <u>WALK – 2pts TROT – 3pts</u> 17. 3 pts may only be given for Trot where step/action is present						Must score at least 3 to be approved
TOTAL POINTS SCORED						
MEDIUM HEAVY	TEMPERAMENT /BEHAVIOUR Aggressive & threatening behaviour such as ears back, kicking, biting, rearing and not being under the control of the handler, will result in expulsion from ICS Inspection					
I recommend this Cob for Supplementary Basic Register						<input type="checkbox"/>
I recommend this Cob for Supplementary Elite						<input type="checkbox"/>
I recommend this Cob for Main Elite						<input type="checkbox"/>
Signature of two ICS Inspectors: _____ _____					Date & Stamp:	

**IRISH COB STUDBOOK
IRISH COB PART BRED STUDBOOK**

STALLION INSPECTION SHEET

<u>RESULT OF INSPECTION</u>	<i>√ in appropriate box</i>					MINIMUM POINTS REQUIRED
	5	4	3	2	1	
						BREED:
1. IRISH COB BREED TYPE						Must score at least 4 to be approved
2. PRESENCE						Must score at least 4 to be approved
3. TOPLINE						Must score at least 4 to be approved
4. HEAD AND MOUTH						Must score at least 4 to be approved
5. NECK						Must score at least 3 to be approved
6. WITHERS						Must score at least 3 to be approved
7. SHOULDERS						Must score at least 3 to be approved
8. BACK						Must score at least 4 to be approved
9. HINDQUARTERS						Must score at least 4 to be approved
10. CHEST						Must score at least 3 to be approved
11. BODY						Must score at least 4 to be approved
12. FORELEGS & FEET						Must score at least 4 to be approved
13. HIND LEGS & FEET						Must score at least 4 to be approved
14. LEG FEATHERING						Must score at least 4 to be approved
15. MANE & TAIL						Must score at least 3 to be approved
16. MOVEMENT <u>WALK – 2pts TROT – 3pts</u> 3 pts may only be given for Trot where step/action is present						Must score at least 3 to be approved
TOTAL POINTS SCORED						
MEDIUM HEAVY	TEMPERAMENT /BEHAVIOUR Aggressive & threatening behaviour such as ears back, kicking, biting, rearing and not being under the control of the handler, will result in expulsion from ICS Inspection					
I recommend this Cob for Supplementary Basic Register					<input type="checkbox"/>	
I recommend this Cob for Supplementary Elite					<input type="checkbox"/>	
I recommend this Cob for Main Elite					<input type="checkbox"/>	
Signature of two ICS Inspectors: _____ _____					Date & Stamp:	