

# Expression of Interest: Hosting a Leg of the Longines EEF Series (2026–2030)

Horse Sport Ireland invites Expressions of Interest (EOI) from Irish Organising Committees (OCs) interested in applying to host a leg of the **Longines EEF Series** (LES) during the competition cycle **2026–2030**.

The Longines EEF Series is one of Europe's premier showjumping competitions, providing a vital platform for emerging and established nations to compete in a structured and high-quality environment. As the National Federation for equestrian sport in Ireland, Horse Sport Ireland is coordinating the national selection process and will submit endorsed bids to the European Equestrian Federation (EEF).

Ireland currently does not host a leg of the Longines EEF Series. This is therefore a new opportunity for an Irish venue and Organising Committee to join this prestigious European series and strengthen Ireland's position in international showjumping.

# **Requirements for Submission**

Organising Committees must submit the following information:

- **Preferred and Reserved Dates:** Indicate your preferred week(s) of the year for hosting the event.
- Organising Committee Name: Full legal name of the OC submitting the application.
- Venue Presentation:

Detailed information on the venue, including:

- Facilities overview (arenas, stabling, hospitality, spectator amenities)
- Previous event history (particularly FEI-level or large scale national events)
- Photos or videos of the venue (if available)
- Footing Specification:

Specify the size, type, and quality of footing in the main competition arena.

• Organising Experience:

Demonstrate previous experience in hosting large national and/or international showjumping events.

### • Vision for the Event:

Provide a short statement (maximum 300 words) outlining your vision for delivering a top-quality competition aligned with the Longines EEF Series' values.

## • Confirmation of Good Standing:

OCs must be in good standing with Horse Sport Ireland.

#### **Selection Process**

Horse Sport Ireland will apply a fair and transparent selection process to all Expressions of Interest received:

### 1. Eligibility Check

Applications will be reviewed for completeness, compliance with EEF requirements, and confirmation of good standing with Horse Sport Ireland.

#### 2. Assessment Criteria

Eligible applications will be evaluated based on the following revised criteria:

Criteria	Weighting
Venue Suitability (facilities, footing, infrastructure)	25%
Organising Experience (international and/or national events)	20%
Financial and Logistical Capability (financial stability and delivery capacity)	30%
Strategic Fit (alignment with Horse Sport Ireland and EEF goals)	15%
Vision and Innovation (added value and community engagement)	10%

# 3. Interview Stage (if required)

Shortlisted Organising Committees may be invited to make a short presentation to the Horse Sport Ireland selection panel.

#### 4. Final Decision

The final decision will be made by the HSI Executive.

# 5. Important Note:

### The submission of an Expression of Interest does not guarantee endorsement.

Even if only one application is received, the Organising Committee must demonstrate that it meets the required standards under the published criteria. Horse Sport Ireland reserves the right not to nominate any candidate if the application does not sufficiently meet the standards expected by Horse Sport Ireland or the EEF.

# 6. Endorsement and Submission

The selected OC will have their bid officially endorsed by Horse Sport Ireland and submitted to the European Equestrian Federation before the EEF deadline of 30 June 2025.

#### **Key Dates**

- Deadline for EOI Submission to Horse Sport Ireland: Friday, 31 May 2025
- Final Selection Notification: By Friday, 13 June 2025
- Deadline for Official EEF Submission: 30 June 2025

## How to Apply

Please submit your completed Expression of Interest and supporting documents by email to:

#### aeverett@horsesportireland.ie

Avalon Everett, Head of Sport, Legal and Governance Subject Line: Expression of Interest – Longines EEF Series 2026–2030

### **Further Information**

For more information about the Longines EEF Series, including rules and regional structure, please visit:  $\mathscr{O}$  <u>https://les-eef.eu/</u>

We look forward to receiving your Expression of Interest and to Ireland becoming part of this prestigious European competition series for the first time.