



Your stallion's inspection: notes for guidance 2021

Main Studbook (purebred) stallions

Please note change of date to Thursday 2 September 2021.

These notes are intended to help you to know what to expect before, during and after your horse's inspection. Before you sign your application form, you should read these notes carefully.

Brexit has had no immediate impact on our studbook arrangements. We are harmonised with Horse Sport Ireland and continue to comply with the registration, veterinary and inspection provisions of our parent Studbook.

CORONAVIRUS 2020-2021

Coronavirus continues to present a challenge to all sporting and leisure activities. This is a dynamic situation. Please bear with us and keep in touch with developments through the GOV.UK website.

We are asking all applicants to agree to adhere to whatever social distancing and safety rules there are in place at the time of the inspections.

Part 1: How to apply

Before submitting your application, please ensure that:

- The colt or stallion is registered or over-stamped with the IDHS (GB)
- He is named on his passport
- He is correctly transferred into the current owner's name
- That the owner or person leasing the colt/stallion is a current member of the IDHS (GB).

Your application will not be accepted until all these elements are in place. Please ensure that they are completed before the closing date.

Please download an application pack from our web site at www.idhsgb.org.uk

This will comprise:

- An application form
- A pre-inspection veterinary form with a list of required x-rays
- These guidance notes.

Once you have obtained the veterinary and application forms, please read them carefully. If there is anything that is unclear, please contact the inspection administration manager to ask.

Please bear in mind that we may take a day or two to respond to your query, but we will try to reply as soon as possible.

Veterinary examination (pre-inspection)

Please arrange for a vet who sees equines as part of their normal practice to take the x-rays and complete the pre inspection examination. We do not have 'approved vets' in Great Britain, so it is up to the owner to find a vet who has the necessary facilities and experience to take high-quality digital images.

Your vet should be able to give you an estimated cost if you show them the list of X-rays on the pre-inspection vetting form.

Because of the cost of x-rays, owners are strongly advised to have the basic vetting done first. If the stallion passes that process, he should then be lunged and endoscoped.

If the horse passes his pre-inspection examination and endoscope, and proceeds to have his x-rays done, so long as they are clear, have the swabs and blood tests completed for CEM, EIA and EVA.

Our veterinary panel has frequently found that some X-rays are submitted when of poor quality. Others are incorrectly labelled or not labelled at all. Any images that are not clear or labelled will be rejected by the panel. The owner may well have to take this up with their vet and pay to have them repeated. Obviously this is to be avoided if at all possible.

Please would owners make sure that the vet completes the report form in full:

- That s/he uses the horse's registered name and not his stable name;
- That they have checked that the X-rays are clear before sending them;
- They have saved the images onto a digital file that can be attached to an email;
- It is helpful to the Panel if the vet uses the following file-naming protocol: owner's surname/horse's registered name/year/month/day/which limb/specific x-ray view;
- Please check that your vet has ticked the relevant laryngeal hemiplegia score box that applies (Geoff Lane system, scored 1-5);
- Please also check that they have signed **every page** of the pre-inspection vetting form and that they have stamped **every page** with their practice stamp.

This will be checked on receipt of the application and if not all ticked or completed, the inspection administration manager will have to return the forms to your vet for amendment. This happens for around 30% of applications every year, which is quite time consuming for everyone involved, so you can help to avoid this by politely requesting to check the forms yourself before you leave the vet.

It is a good idea for the vet to ask a colleague to double check the X-rays for clarity before they are sent to us.

Main Studbook stallions must normally be x-rayed **no more than six months** before the inspection, but if they become unsound **after** the application and payment has been received, then x-rays can be carried forward to the next year. If no application has been submitted, then they cannot.

X-rayed animals withdrawn before the inspection day and those coming forward for re-inspection do not normally need to have their X-rays repeated. However, horses for re-inspection must have their pre-inspection vetting and endoscope repeated.

Sending in the completed application

The email address for vets to use to send their completed report forms and images is:

inspections@idhsqb.org.uk

Forms should be posted to the inspection administration manager at the address on the form.

Please do not post disks or flash drives containing radiograph images, because they have to be sent to three individual panel members.

The Society will forward the X-rays to the X-ray Panel as soon as your inspection fee, veterinary report form and application form are received by post.

Your application can be posted as soon as you have the following items ready:

- The completed application form
- The pre-inspection veterinary form
- The X-rays
- The fee of £390 inc. VAT (£330 for re-inspections, because there is no need to repeat the X-rays). You may pay by cheque, Paypal or bank transfer.
- Health certificates.

Please be aware that your horse cannot be brought to the inspection centre without health certificates in place.

Please post first class (not registered or signed-for delivery please), all items to the Inspection Administration Manager, at the address below, by the deadline of 15 February 2021:

Heather Chaplin, Middle Munty Farm, Churchstanton, Taunton, Somerset TA3 7RH. Tel. 01823 601625.

Email: inspections@idhsgb.org.uk

Applications not received by 31 May 2021, and incomplete applications, will not be accepted.

This is because there is a great deal of administration to do before the inspections and if applications are late reaching us, they are late reaching the x-ray panel and everything becomes more difficult to manage.

PART 2: Preparation for the inspection

All horses must be fit enough to take part in the inspection and be sufficiently prepared. They should not be over or underweight and should be well-handled.

Presentation of animals

Stallions must wear a bridle and suitable bit. They must be clean and tidy but do not have to be plaited.

Try to avoid trimming heels on purebred horses. Feet should be carefully trimmed and any shoes should be in good condition.

Horses **must not** have coat gloss or hoof oil applied. It makes no difference to the inspection outcome! The limbs will be slippery and the vet's task made much more difficult.

Tack must be clean, in good condition and fit the horse. Handlers should bring lungeing equipment and tendon boots with them.

Handlers should be neatly attired. A hard hat, stout shoes or boots and gloves are strongly recommended. If the stallion is to be ridden, riders must wear competition attire.

On arrival at Warwickshire College

We are hoping that the College will be willing to make stables available to stallions on the day and possibly the night before the inspection. This may depend on COVID-19 risk levels nearer the time.

Many people arrive on the evening prior to the inspection. Please make sure that you advise us of your anticipated times of arrival and departure. There is no one on the yard late at night, so if you are arriving after 7 p.m., you will need to ensure that one of us is available to meet you. .

There will be a small team on site setting up the jumping lane until about 7 p.m., together with the stable manager.

What to expect on the day of your inspection

If you arrive on the day, as soon as possible after arrival, please report to one of the inspection administrators named above.

No horse will be vetted or inspected unless he has been checked in. If you arrive late you must still check in before you start the process of vetting or inspection.

The checking in process involves:

- **Submitting your horse's passport.** This will be used by officials and vets during the inspection. It will be stamped with the date of inspection and retained for further processing.

For main studbook stallions, passport is photocopied the day after the inspection and is then via recorded delivery to our passport administrator for processing.

The passport and database are updated with your stallion's classification and the passport is returned to the owner.

We cannot retain passports for horses returning to Ireland, because horse cannot be moved overseas on a temporary document (TPD), and TPDs are not in any event legally valid in Ireland. If your horse is going back to Ireland, you must have your passport with you.

Passports must be submitted to Horse Sport Ireland or to our office after the horse has arrived back home, for updating.

- **A TPD will be issued for British passports** retained by us. This is valid for 45 days, but horses cannot have veterinary treatment recorded on this, nor can they be exported.
- We try to keep the time that a horse has to rely on a temporary document to an absolute minimum. If you take your passport back, you will still need to send it to our passport administrator at a later date for updating.
- All applicants are asked to sign a **disclaimer form** on the day to confirm that they have understood the inspection rules.

Photographs

All horses being inspected must be photographed. You will be advised on the day of the timing and location.

Please ensure that you follow the photographer's instructions carefully, as this will speed up the process considerably. S/he will require a photograph of each side of your horse; the front view and also the back view.

All horses for inspection must be stood up correctly with all four limbs fully engaged (i.e. not resting a foot) and showing the horse to its best advantage. The stance should be open, so that three or four legs can be seen from the side. It helps to present your horse in the best light if you encourage him or her to lower their head slightly.

If you wish to use our official photographs for publicity purposes, please ask the photographer's permission and always credit him/her with each use.

Veterinary procedures on the day

All Main Studbook horses will be vetted on the day, prior to the inspection. Stallions receive a comprehensive vetting which takes about 40 minutes. This is in addition to their pre-inspection vetting.

Horses that the vet considers to be unsound on the day

Any animals found not to be sound enough to inspect on the day, or suffering from one of the prohibited disorders, will not be able to come forward for inspection. This is a welfare decision taken by the vet together with the inspection team and owner.

The vet may consider that some animals with very minor and possibly temporary unsoundness or conditions that require further assessment are sound enough to inspect on the day. In making this decision, the animal's welfare is paramount. If they are inspected on the day, they are given a provisional classification.

This classification will not be confirmed unless they subsequently pass a further veterinary examination by a mutually agreed specialist at a later date. This further examination will focus on the identified problem and will not cover other areas that were found to be acceptable during the inspection day vetting.

In such cases, the choice of veterinary specialist **MUST** be agreed with the Society's veterinary advisor. The inspection administration manager will contact the owner on the day, or immediately after the inspection, and liaise with the veterinary advisor to discuss this.

What happens during the inspection?

1. The steward or stable manager will advise you when to bring your horse out for his/her inspection.
2. The handler will be asked to stand the horse up for a few minutes to enable the inspectors to view his/her conformation on a hard surface. For this purpose he will need to be taught to stand with his hind feet and fore feet aligned, i.e. four square.
3. The horse will be walked away from the inspectors, and back again on the concrete outside the indoor school. This is then repeated in trot.
4. The horse will be taken into the indoor school and let loose. The handler will **not** be assisting the arena party and must stand in the diamond shape area in the arena away from the inspection team.
5. The experienced arena party will then work the horse loose in walk, trot and canter.
6. Stallions can wear front tendon boots or bandages for the loose phase and for jumping, but not hind boots.
7. Stallions will then be guided towards the entrance to the jumping lane for the first jump effort. Horses will usually complete the jumping lane about six times.
8. After the horse has jumped, the handler will be asked to catch his or her horse. S/he will hold the horse or walk around quietly in the arena, as directed by the administration team, while the inspectors finish completing the profile and the comments sheet.
9. If any animals show signs of aggression or become too difficult to handle safely during their inspection, the handler will be asked to return to the horse to the stables to settle. If they do not settle, their inspection may be discontinued.
10. At the conclusion of the inspection, the inspection administrator will then speak with the owner or handler for a few minutes to explain the recommendation made. The recommendation is subject to further cross checking of all the inspection paperwork. The inspection panel chair provides outline results to the audience. Handlers can bring their horse forward towards the audience for this to take place.
11. For purebred horses, the results given on the day and published provisionally on the website are recommendations only. They are subject to further checks on paperwork after the inspection.
12. Owners will be told the result by letter within four to six weeks of the inspection. They will receive a bar chart which will eventually appear on the Society's website. This now applies to Class 2 stallions as well as Class 1 stallions, unless the horse is not going to be standing at stud, in which case the owner can opt out.

13. Once Horse Sport Ireland have received and processed the results, they will issue an Irish Horse Register (IHR) number for British-bred stallions and this is added to our database. (Irish-bred stallions are already on the IHR).

Inspection appeals procedures

Inspection Appeal:

Owners who are not satisfied with the results of the inspection will be given the opportunity to represent the horse for one repeat inspection, under a different inspection team, at a future date. The stallion will have to be vetted and endoscoped again, but not re- X-rayed.

In addition to the single opportunity for re-inspection, the owner may appeal in writing within 28 days of being informed of the inspection result. The IDHS (GB) reserves the right to charge a fee for an appeal inspection outside the normal inspection programme.

Veterinary Examination Appeal

Owners of horses that do not meet the requirements of the veterinary examination can appeal the results of the examination providing that they apply to the Society within four weeks of the veterinary examination. The horse may be re-examined by a mutually agreed specialist for a second opinion.

The examination will only be carried out in respect of the condition for which the horse was failed at the initial inspection. The cost of the examination must be borne by the owner of the horse.

The decision of the appeal vet is final.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

This event is supported by a full and detailed risk assessment.

Health and safety is the responsibility of all of us. Anything to do with horses is inherently hazardous and we cannot eliminate all risk. If you see any particularly risky situations developing, please do report them to one of the stewards or the stable manager.

If anyone needs first aid, please report to any official on site on the day, or to a member of college staff. We do have trained first aiders on the day, but for any significant medical event, you will need to seek help off site. Please ask for assistance if you become unwell or need help in any way, especially if travelling alone.

Veterinary emergencies: we will have a vet on site during the inspection. At other times, you will need to call an emergency veterinary service.

The vets on call will be Avonvale Veterinary Group, contactable on 01295 670501.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE ARENA AND JUMPING LANE

The basic outline of the inspections is similar to Ireland, except that we do not (for health and safety reasons) use Heras panels for the loose jumping phase.

PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOU PREPARE YOUR HORSE ACCORDING TO THE JUMPING LANE DIMENSIONS IN THIS DOCUMENT BELOW. PLEASE DO NOT USE OUTDATED MATERIAL FOUND FROM PREVIOUS INSPECTIONS.

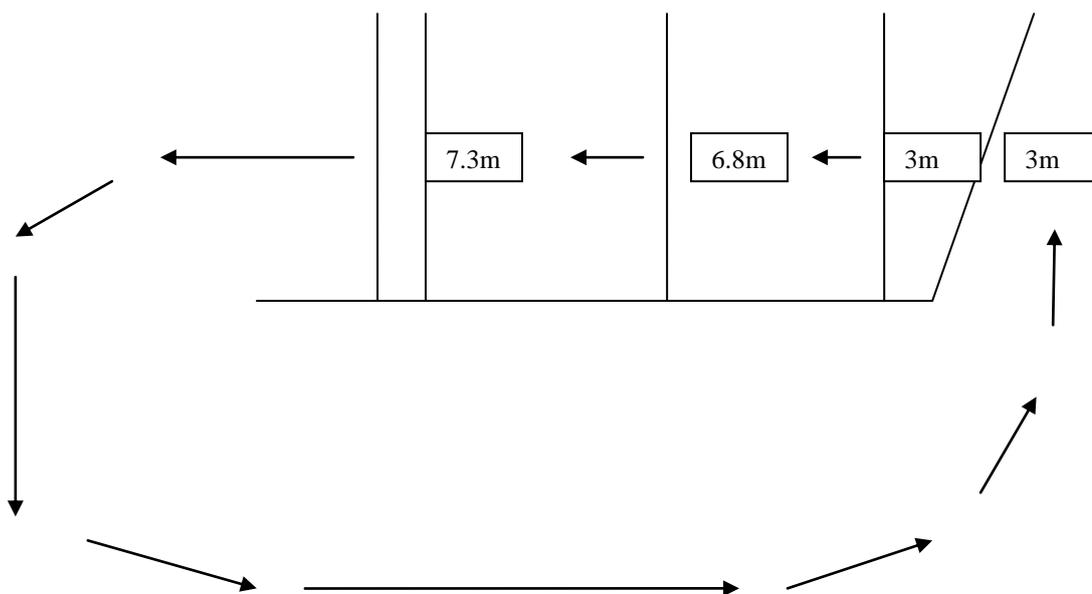
The size of the indoor arena is 60m x 23m. The inspectors will be in the arena, as will the arena party of five or six people. Stallions will all be asked to show walk, trot and canter on both reins and will be asked to negotiate the jumping lane six or seven times. Heights and spreads for the first four attempts are below.

Animals that appear not to be coping with the task due to lack of fitness, will be stopped if to continue will compromise their welfare or safety.

A diagram of the lane is below. This is not to scale. **The heights of the jumps** are as in the table below, and horses jump anticlockwise.

There is a **placing pole** on the ground 3m from the end wall of the school, angled at 45 degrees. It is important to practice with this pole in place, as it does make a difference to how horses approach the lane. Coloured jump poles are used. The sides of the lane will be jump stands and poles.

Fences are placed as follows: fence A is 6m from the end wall and 3m from the centre of the placing pole; fence B is 6.8m from (A) and fence C 7.3m from fence B.



	Height of 1st fence	Height of 2nd fence	Height of 3rd fence (oxer)
Jumping effort 1	0.75m	0.75m	0.95m
Jumping effort 2	0.75m	0.75m	1.0m
Jumping effort 3	0.75m	0.75m	0.95m 0.95 width
Jumping effort 4	0.75m	0.75m	0.9m front pole 1.0m back pole 1.05m width

FAMILIARISATION WITH THE ARENA AND LANE

Horses which are going to jump will have the opportunity to spend a few minutes walking in hand around the arena and down the lane, with the jumps in place but down on the ground. This will take place on the day prior to the inspection and will be limited to five minutes per animal. Only one animal is to be in the arena at any one time.

TOILETS

The venue has good WC facilities in the courtyard adjacent to the lorry park. We will ensure that there is hand sanitiser available.

REFRESHMENTS

You may wish to bring your own. There is a fast food van on site, but this is outside our control and it is not always available.

Use of public photos and video taken at the inspections

It is likely that the public will not be invited to attend as spectators this year, because of COVID restrictions. If the public are present, they are not permitted to film other people's horses without permission from the owner. No one is allowed to record sound anywhere near the veterinary area or the inspection team.

Anyone filming the inspection process from the public gallery must seek the horse owner's permission before posting video or images on social media.

Final results will not be placed on websites either here or in Ireland until they have been fully confirmed. If there is a veterinary query, this can result in a delay before the results are published because further examination of the horse may be necessary.

APPENDIX 1: The inspection management team: contact details and roles

CHIEF INSPECTOR:

Mrs Mary Wilson (Trustee), Rudge Manor Farm, Froxfield, Marlborough, Wiltshire, SN8 2HN, Tel. 01672 520869 Mobile: 07729 516465 Email: memwilson@hotmail.co.uk

- *Leads on Breed Standards and oversees inspections*
- *liaises with the stallion inspection venue*
- *coordinates helpers for the stallion inspections*
- *delivers an annual report to Members on Breed Standards matters.*

REGISTRATION AND INSPECTION ADMINISTRATION MANAGER:

Mrs Heather Chaplin (Trustee), Middle Munty Farm, Churchstanton, Taunton, Somerset TA3 7RH. Tel. 01823 601625 (before 7.30 p.m. please). Email: inspections@idhsgb.org.uk

Heather's current role includes:

- *Liaising with Defra with regard to EU legislation and the Minimum Operating Standards*
- *Ensuring that the Society is compliant with the Horse Passport Regulations*
- *Organising the spring, summer and autumn mare inspections*
- *Overseeing the stallion inspection administration, applications and forms*
- *Organising and leading administrative support for arena and veterinary teams at the stallion and mare inspections*
- *Ensuring compliance with HSI rules and inspection protocols before, during and after the inspections*
- *Ensuring accurate recording and processing of inspection results*
- *Submitting completed paperwork and results spreadsheets to Ireland*
- *Ensuring that Members are supported in dealing with veterinary issues arising during inspection.*

INSPECTION ADMINISTRATORS:

Mrs Sue Benson (Trustee and Society Chairman), Mrs Sue D Benson, 7 Church Lane, Gomersal, Cleckheaton, West Yorkshire BD19 4QH. Tel. 01274 870028 Mob: 07968 715597 chairman@idhsgb.com

Sue:

- *Is the lead person for negotiations with harmonised studbooks*
- *Has oversight of all the Society's activities*
- *Provides administrative support for arena and veterinary teams at the stallion and mare inspections.*

Mrs Carol Rudd (Trustee), 55, Anglesey Drive, Poynton, Cheshire. SK12 1BU. Tel. 01625 873662 Mobile 07860 102256. Email: carol@aerialwired.co.uk

Carol provides: *Administrative support for arena and veterinary teams at the stallion and mare inspections.*

SOCIETY ADMINISTRATOR:

Miss Carol Malin, The Irish Draught Horse Society (GB), P.O. Box 91, Newcastle Emlyn, SA44 9AT. Tel.: 03452 300 399. Email: admin@idhsgb.org.uk

Carol's role in relation to inspections includes:

- *Being 'front of house' person for general information*
- *DNA kits*
- *Membership applications*
- *Stallion and spring mare inspection stable bookings and payments*
- *Passports and overamping when the passport administrator is not available.*

PASSPORT ADMINISTRATOR:

Miss Annie Holbeche, 2 Burnbake Cottages, Burcombe Lane, Wilton, Wiltshire SP2 0ES
Email: passports@idhsgb.org.uk

Please note that this address is a private residence and there is no public access. In order to respect privacy, no house callers can be accepted.

Annie deals with:

- *Registrations*
- *Transfers*
- *Overamping*
- *Duplicate passports*
- *Processing passports after the inspection.*

MAIN STUDBOOK HOLDING BODY:

Horse Sport Ireland, Beech House, Millennium Park, Osberstown, Naas, Kildare, Ireland. Phone: 00-353-45-850800.

All matters relating to registration, transfer and passport handling for horses bred and initially registered in Ireland; management of the Irish Draught studbook and ultimate authority on main studbook registration and inspection rules in the European Union.

Appendix 2: The Breed Objective and Description

Breeding Objective

The breeding objective of the Irish Draught studbook is to breed sound Irish Draught horses with correct conformation, type, movement and action, calm and willing temperaments and sufficient athleticism that conforms to the Irish Draught breed standard. These animals will serve one or more of the following three functions by:

- Participating in preservation and ongoing breed improvement programmes;
- Performing as pleasure, leisure or performance horses;
- Contributing to cross breeding programmes with other breeds.

Breed Summary Description

The Irish Draught Horse is a versatile, powerful and athletic animal with substance and quality. It has a pleasant head, good bone and a short shin, good spring of rib, strong loins and hindquarters and an active powerful stride. Known for its good temperament, docility and willing nature, it has a robust constitution and is inherently sound.

The Irish Draught Horse is a foundation breed that, when crossed with other breeds, will produce all types of leisure and performance horses.

Type of horse: detailed description

Height: Ideally Irish Draughts should stand between 158cms (15.2hh) and a maximum of 170cms (16.3hh) at maturity.

Bone: Approximately 23cms (9 inches) of strong, clean, flat bone.

Head: Should be pleasant, not coarse or hatchet like, with plenty of room between the jaw bones. Wide forehead and kind eyes, set well apart, and with large quality ears.

Neck: Good length of rein with head well set on, neck should be correctly muscled and well shaped.

Front legs: Long muscular forearms, short cannon bones with plenty of strong clean, flat bone, not back at the knee or tied in below the knee. Pasterns should be in proportion with good hoof pastern axis. Hooves should be of equal size, hard and sound with plenty of room at the heel. They should not be boxy, over large or flat.

Shoulders: A sloping shoulder neither loaded, nor too heavy, nor too short, with well-defined withers, well set back.

Body, back and hindquarters: Deep girth with a good spring of rib, strong back, loins and quarters. The croup and buttocks should be long and gently sloping. Hips should not be too wide.

Hind legs: Strong gaskins, well shaped clean hocks set into short shins. Should not be cow-hocked or wide apart at the hocks.

Action: Should be straight and free, not heavy or ponderous.

Movement: Should be active and strong, with sufficient athleticism showing good flexion of joints and freedom of the shoulders.

Colour: Any strong whole colour including bay, grey, chestnut, black, brown and dun. Excessive white markings are not desirable.

APPENDIX 3: INFORMATION ABOUT MORETON MORRELL COLLEGE:

A leading agricultural college, the Moreton Morrell College site covers 750 acres of countryside and is home to many of our land-based students.

GETTING THERE: Moreton Morrell College, Moreton Morrell, Warwick, Warwickshire, CV35 9BL

Sat Nav postcode: CV35 9BP

[Get directions](#)

Accommodation:

This will be during the Easter holidays, so some simple low-cost accommodation may be available in the student halls. Breakfast is not provided. Please contact the College for further information: 0300 45 600 47.