

# Irish Draught Sport Horse Stallion Inspections

## Notes for guidance 2021

*These notes are intended to help you to know what to expect before, during and after your horse's inspection.*

*Before you submit your application form, you should read these notes carefully.*

**COVID-19: PLEASE BE AWARE THAT THE COVID-19 SITUATION IS VERY FLUID. OUR RISK ASSESSMENT CHANGES WHENEVER THERE IS A CHANGE IN GOVERNMENT GUIDANCE.**

**THIS EVENT WILL BE SUBJECT TO THE GOVERNMENT GUIDANCE IN PLACE AT THE TIME. PARTICIPANTS WILL BE UPDATED BY EMAIL AND PHONE, ONCE THEY HAVE SUBMITTED THEIR APPLICATIONS.**

### Eligibility

- Stallions must have a minimum of 25% fully documented or otherwise proven; Irish Draught breeding and be registered or overstamped by the IDHS (GB)
- All stallions must be 15hh and over;
- All stallions must be **four years old or over** at the time of the inspection; i.e. for 2021, they must have been born in or before 2017;
- Owners must be members of the IDHS (GB).

### Pre-inspection vetting for Sport Horse stallions

- Every Irish Draught Sport Horse (ID SH) stallion will have a 5-stage vetting, including endoscopy, prior to the inspection. A satisfactory veterinary report must be submitted with the application;
- The vetting must be done by a recognised equine practice;
- Any practice that has previously seen the stallion is to submit a report of consultations relating to that animal, and any clinical treatments given;
- Sport Horse stallions do not have to be x-rayed. If their owners choose to do so, they may have their stallions x-rayed after the inspection; positive x-ray outcomes will be publicised;
- Sport horse stallions must be swabbed (after 1 January 2021) for CEM, EVA and EIA. Certificates must be submitted to the office before a covering book can be issued.

Vets may contact our veterinary advisor, Mr Liam Kearns MRCVS, for any further information required:

*Three Counties Equine Hospital  
Tel. 07803888273 or 01684592099  
Email: [liam.kearns@tceh.co.uk](mailto:liam.kearns@tceh.co.uk)*

### Sending in your application

Please submit your application form to the Inspection Administration Manager **by 31 May 2021**. **Late entries will not be accepted. Send to: Heather Chaplin, Middle Munty Farm, Churchstanton, Taunton, Somerset TA3 7RH.**

The application is not considered to be complete until your horse is either registered or overstamped with the Society, your membership has been paid and all certificates and the fee are present. You are advised to keep a copy of everything you submit.

## 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. Feet should be carefully trimmed and shoes should be in good condition.

## Tack and equipment

As there is a ridden assessment, the bit chosen must be appropriate to the horse's level of training and development.

Handlers should also bring lungeing equipment and tendon boots with them. Although lungeing is not a part of the veterinary check on the day, it may be required if there is a query. All handlers and riders should be correctly attired, including hard hats and appropriate footwear.

Stallions may wear foreleg boots, but not hind boots in the loose jumping phase.

## Inspectors for IDSH Stallions

There will be a minimum of three inspectors for ID SH stallions. At least one inspector must be from the IDHS (GB) panel. The other inspectors will be selected for their expertise and knowledge of the sport horse disciplines.

The inspection administration manager ensures that all participants and inspectors are aware of the inspection rules prior to the day, and that conflict of interest forms are completed.

An experienced inspection administrator is an essential member of the inspection team. This person is responsible for ensuring that the correct protocol is followed and that the score sheets are completed efficiently and accurately, in order to provide clear assessment data.

A linear profile form will be completed for comparison and statistical purposes but will not form part of the assessment.

## Summary of the inspection procedure:

**Please observe social distancing of two metres and wear a face mask or other face covering at all times when in the company of people you do not live with.**

- Checking in: submitting your passport
- Photographs
- Veterinary check: brief check to ensure that your stallion is sound enough to undertake the inspection tasks. The vet will have your own vet's report available to him/her for reference.
- All stallions to be shown in hand, then loose for movement assessment.
- All stallions **must** complete the loose jumping lane.
- All stallions **must** be presented under saddle to demonstrate three good paces.
- There will be three fences to jump under saddle, to include a double.
- The fence layout in the arena will be determined by the inspectors.
- The fence heights will be agreed between the owner and the inspectors according to the stallion's level of training.

## On arrival at Warwickshire College

Many people choose to arrive on the evening prior to the inspection. Whether or not stables are available this coming year will depend on the College's own policies. We hope to make them available at least for the stallions on the day.

A stable booking form will be sent to you before the closing date. This must be submitted with the fees, with your application form. If you do not require a stable, please notify us on the application.

There will be a small team on site until about 6 p.m. on the night before the inspection. When you arrive, please check in your horse with the administration team (please see contact details at the end of this document), as this will save time on inspection day.

### **What to expect on the day of your inspection**

If arriving on the day, please get there by the time specified on your confirmation letter. As soon as possible after arrival, please report to one of the inspection administrators.

**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 stallion's passport.** This will be used by officials and vets during the inspection.
- **A temporary cover note** will be issued for every passport retained by us. This is valid for 45 days.
- **The exception to this** is a stallion that are undergoing veterinary treatment or about to be exported. A temporary passport document does not cover you for certain types of treatment or movement/export between countries.
- All applicants are asked to sign a **disclaimer form** on the day to confirm that they have understood the inspection rules.

### **Photographs**

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

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

All stallions for inspection must be stood up correctly with all four limbs fully engaged (i.e. not resting a foot) and should show the horse to its best advantage. The stance should be open, so that three or four legs can be seen from the side.

If you wish to use photographs for publicity purposes, please ask the photographer's permission and always credit each use.

### **Vetting on the day of the inspection:**

**You must wear a face covering during the veterinary examination, as one person will have to be within two metres of the vet while handling the stallion.**

The stallion will be checked for basic soundness (usually walk and trot up only) on the day of inspection, but will **not** receive a more extensive vetting unless a problem is identified.

A stallion that fails the pre-inspection vetting or the inspection day veterinary check will not be allowed to come forward for inspection.

## During the inspection

1. The steward will advise you when to bring your stallion out for his inspection.
2. The handler will be asked to stand the stallion up for a few minutes to enable the inspectors to view his conformation on a hard surface. For this purpose he will need to be taught to stand correctly.
3. The stallion 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 stallion will be taken into the indoor school fitted with any boots required. The stallion will then be let loose. The handler will not be assisting the arena party, but must stand in the diamond-shaped area in the arena away from the inspection team.
5. The arena party will then work the stallion in walk, trot and canter on both reins. Stallions will then be guided towards the entrance to the jumping lane for the first jump effort.
6. The increasing heights and spreads for each effort are listed on the diagram within this guidance.
7. Each stallion will make a minimum of five jumping efforts and may be asked to complete the lane six or seven times to give him sufficient opportunity to show himself to his best advantage.
8. Inspectors may stop a stallion completing the jumping phase if they feel it is in the best interests of the stallion to do so; for example, if he is insufficiently fit or prepared to complete the task safely.
9. After the stallion has jumped, the handler will be asked to catch his or her stallion. S/he will hold the horse or walk around quietly in the arena, as directed by the inspection team. The inspection team members will complete the score sheets for that part of the inspection.
10. All stallions will undergo a ridden assessment with their own rider. They will be required to show three correct and balanced paces and will also be assessed on obedience and rideability.
11. There will be three fences to jump under saddle. The layout of the fences will be the decision of the inspection team. The fence heights will be agreed by the owner and the inspectors, according to the stallion's level of training.
12. If any animal shows signs of aggression or becomes too difficult to handle safely during their inspection, the handler will be asked to return to the stallion to the stables to settle and return to the arena at the conclusion of the day. If they remain aggressive or difficult to manage safely, the inspection team may decide to terminate the inspection to protect the horse, owner and officials on the day. In such circumstances, no refund of fees will be allowed.
13. Sport Horse stallions will be scored using a score and comment sheet designed for the purpose. Scores are the only way to evaluate data objectively and determine pass or fail, to evaluate progress and conduct statistical analyses (e.g. compare results of different animals and inspections at a later date). A linear profile will also be completed for comparison purposes.

14. At the conclusion of the inspection, the inspection team will then speak with the owner or handler for a few minutes to explain the decision made. The decision is provisional, subject to further cross checking of all the inspection paperwork.
15. The results will be confirmed by letter within four weeks of the inspection. The owner will be sent a photocopy of the score sheets. The score sheet and inspection team comments will be made public if the stallion passes his inspection.

### Classification of stallions after inspection

- (a) **‘Passed’**  
If the stallions pass vetting and inspection, they are accepted as ‘Passed IDHS (GB) inspection criteria for Irish Draught Sport Horse Breeding’ and their passports stamped accordingly.
- (b) **‘Performance’**  
A stallion achieving a certain level in open competition will be deemed to be an IDHS (GB) Performance Sport Horse Stallion.
- (c) **‘Elite’.**  
A stallion achieving a certain level in open competition will be deemed to be an IDHS (GB) Elite Sport Horse Stallion.

The required levels in each of the disciplines are listed in the table below.

Points	Passed Performance	Passed Elite
<b>British Showjumping</b>	<b>350</b>	<b>750</b>
<b>British Eventing</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>45</b>
<b>British Dressage</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>250</b>

A stallion that passes the vet on the day but does not achieve the standard required for the inspection will be identified as **‘Does not meet IDHS (GB) inspection criteria for Irish Draught Sport Horse Breeding’**.

### Over-stamping/endorsement

Stallions from other registers can, as at present, be over-stamped on to the IDHS (GB) Sport Horse Register, provided that the owner submits an application with the relevant over-stamping fee and the stallion meets documented breeding requirements.

Stallions that are registered in other studbooks and have been over-stamped by the Society, must meet the equivalent of IDHS (GB) inspection and performance requirements before they can be considered for inclusion in the IDHS (GB) Stallion lists.

Covering books will not be provided for stallions that do not meet IDHS (GB) inspection or veterinary requirements.

Owners should complete the application form available on our website for this purpose. The application will be submitted, via the Inspection Administration Manager, to the Council for a decision.

### Inspection appeal procedures

Owners who are not satisfied with the results of the inspection will be given the opportunity to represent the stallion for **one repeat inspection**, under a different inspection team, at a future date.

Sport Horse stallions do not have to repeat the pre-inspection vetting (so long as they passed the vetting the first time), but they must be examined on the day to ensure that they are sound enough to inspect.

In addition to the single opportunity for re-inspection, the owner may appeal **in writing within 28 days** of their last inspection date.

The IDHS (GB) reserves the right to charge a fee for an appeal inspection outside the normal inspection programme.

### **Veterinary Examination Appeal**

Owners of stallions that do not meet the requirements of the veterinary examination on the day can appeal the results of the examination, providing that they apply in writing to the Inspection Administration Manager or Chief Inspector within 28 days of the veterinary examination. The stallion 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 stallion was failed at the initial inspection. The cost of the examination must be borne by the owner of the stallion.

***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 stallions is inherently hazardous and we cannot eliminate all risk. If you see any particularly risky situations developing, please report them to one of the administrators, 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 access to trained first aiders on the day, but for any significant medical incident, you will need to seek help off site. Please ask for assistance if you become unwell or need help in any way.

Please take care to observe all coronavirus precautions which are there for your safety and the safety of our staff and officials.

### **Veterinary emergencies**

We will have at least one vet on site during the inspection (08.30-17.00). At other times, you will need to call the emergency veterinary service.

**The vets on call are at the Avonvale Equine Practice: contactable on 01295 670501. Website: <http://avonvaleequine.co.uk/>**

### **INFORMATION ABOUT THE ARENA AND JUMPING LANE**

*Please ensure that you prepare your stallion according to the jumping lane dimensions in the diagram below.*

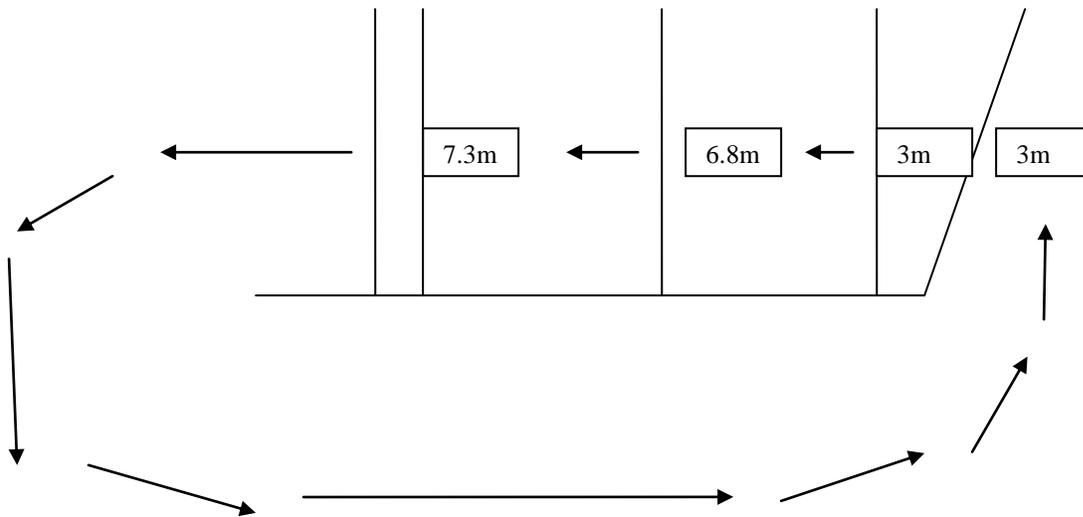
***The heights of the jumps in the table below are for sport horse stallions only. Please do not use this information for Main Studbook stallions.***

The size of the indoor arena is 60m x 23m. The three inspectors and one or two administrators will be in the arena, as will the arena party and their team leader.

Stallions will all be asked to show walk, trot and canter on both reins and will be asked to negotiate the jumping lane a **minimum** of five times. Heights and spreads for the first five attempts are below.

A diagram of the lane is below. This is not to scale. Stallions 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 stallions approach the lane. Coloured jump poles are used. The sides of the lane will comprise 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
Jumping effort 5	0.75m	0.75m	1.0m front pole 1.10m back pole 1.10m width

### FAMILIARISATION WITH THE ARENA AND JUMPING LANE

Stallions 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.

## Refreshments

Please bring your own food, as there are few, if any, facilities on site.

## Toilet facilities

The venue has good WC facilities, including those suitable for disabled people, in the courtyard adjacent to the lorry park.

Please bring antiviral wipes with you and wipe down the toilet and door handles before and after using the toilet. If everybody does this, there should be no need for others to clean the toilets during the day.

## Use of public photos and video taken at the inspections

The IDHS (GB) has authorised certain individuals to photograph horses and film the event.

**In the interests of confidentiality, filming other people's stallions in the veterinary area is not permitted under any circumstances.**

If you decide to film any part of the inspection, you are strongly advised to ask the owner's permission before doing so. The Society cannot be held responsible for the actions of spectators if they film and publicise other people's horses without consent.

In addition, taken out of context, photos and clips which generate discussion on the internet can create embarrassing or adverse publicity for the stallion or owner, even if that was not the intention.

Final results will not be placed on our website until they have been fully checked and confirmed.

## Contact details for the inspection management team:

**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

**REGISTRATION AND INSPECTION ADMINISTRATION MANAGER:** Contact point for all queries relating to inspection applications. **Mrs Heather Chaplin (Trustee)**, Middle Munty Farm, Churchstanton, Taunton, Somerset TA3 7RH. Tel. 01823 601625 HeatherMChaplin@aol.com

### INSPECTION ADMINISTRATORS:

**Mrs Sue Benson (also a trustee and our Chairman)**  
**Mrs Carol Rudd (trustee)**

**SOCIETY ADMINISTRATOR:** General information, DNA queries, membership applications.  
**Miss Carol Malin**, The Irish Draught Horse Society (GB),  
PO Box 91, Newcastle Emlyn, SA44 9AT Tel: 0345 2300 399 (Mon - Wed 9.00am - 5.00pm)  
Email: admin@idhsgb.org.uk