



Irish Draught Horse Society of Great Britain (IDHS (GB)) Stallion inspection guidelines and procedures 2022

Applications

Application forms for stallion selections are available from the IDHS GB website at www.idhsgb.org.uk.

Applicants in Ireland have **two options** with regard to veterinary procedures, but we can only offer one option in Great Britain. This is due to differences in the two countries' rules regarding the regulation of veterinary surgeons and is outside our control.

Both options are described below, because some stallion owners in Ireland do wish to bring horses forward for inspection in Great Britain.

Please note that in addition to the usual health certificates, all owners are required to provide evidence of genetic testing for Warmblood Fragile Foal Syndrome (WFFS). This is a one-off exercise which can be done with a hair sample. This also applies to Class 2 stallions that did not have this test done when they came forward for their first inspection.

The choice of laboratory is up to the owner, but Animal Genetics in Cornwall offer this service.

[Animal Genetics | Genetic Testing Services](#)

Option 1: (British or Irish stallions).

The horse is examined by a vet who is listed on the 'HSI Radiography Panel' in Ireland or, in Great Britain, is a vet who sees equines as part of their normal practice.

The vet should be asked to carry out the pre-inspection vetting, complete the report form (this forms part of your application) and x-rays. The vet also takes samples for WFFS, EVA, EIA and CEM testing. The resulting health certificates also form part of the application.

The stallion will undergo a full clinical veterinary examination on the day of inspection.

Option 2: (Stallions resident in Ireland only)

Applicants from Ireland can opt to have their stallion undergo the veterinary examination prior to the inspection at one of HSI's Designated centres (i.e. see HSI's application form on their web site at www.horsesportireland.ie).

This option allows Irish applicants to have the stallion prepared for inspection with the knowledge that he has met the majority of the veterinary requirements in advance.

All applications for inspection and re-inspection must be returned before the closing date, which is 15 June 2022. Applications must contain the following:

- Completed and signed application form and accompanying documentation if necessary
- Relevant inspection fee (please see the application form)
- The following documents must be submitted with the application form: -
 - 'Pre-inspection Veterinary Examination of Stallions' completed in full and signed and stamped on each page by a Veterinary Surgeon

- WFFS, EVA, EIA and CEM certificates
- Digital X-rays taken not more than six months prior to the inspection date, by a veterinary surgeon listed on the Horse Sport Ireland Radiography Panel, or in Great Britain, a vet who sees equines as part of their normal practice. X-rays must be submitted as **JPEG files** and not on disk.
- Horses coming forward for re-inspection do not need to have their x-rays repeated.

Late or incomplete entries cannot be accepted, because there is a significant amount of administration to do.

Following the receipt of completed applications, the inspection administration team will keep in touch with stallion owners with the details of the inspection, stabling arrangements and a draft timetable. The timetable may change a couple of times before the inspection day and you will be sent updates as necessary.

Before the inspection:

Your horse's passport **must** be up to date. This means that the horse must be named, in the correct ownership and the passport overstamped. You must also be a member of the Society. Your horse **MUST** be vaccinated to FEI guidelines. He cannot come forward for inspection unless this work has been done.

Passports for horses resident in Great Britain (whether or not they are Irish-bred) are processed by:

IDHS (GB) PASSPORTS, Holme House, The Dale, Ainstable, Carlisle CA4 9RH

Email: passports@idhsgb.org.uk

Tel. 01768 870523 (Available 9-00am to 5-00pm, Monday – Friday)

Fees:

Naming: £30 inc VAT

Change of ownership: £20 inc VAT

Overstamping: £30 inc VAT

Any two of the above: £40

All three of the above: £50.

HOW TO APPLY TO HAVE YOUR STALLION INSPECTED :

Please pay your inspection fee online on our web site at www.idhsgb.org.uk then post your completed, signed application to:

IDHS GB Inspections, Middle Munty Farm, Churchstanton, Taunton, Somerset TA3 7RH
Tel. 01823 601625 (calls before 6.00 p.m. please).

Please don't use Facebook or messaging apps to ask specific questions about the inspections, because we don't want to miss your question! Please email inspections@idhsgb.org.uk or ring the number above.

COVID -19

Depending on the risk level and government advice at the time, all persons attending inspection venues *may* be asked to produce evidence of compliance with COVID-19 vaccination and possibly evidence of a rapid-flow test not more than 24 hours before the inspection day.

Duration of Inspections

Stallion inspections are carried out at Moreton Morrell over a one or two day period. This year, the dates are 1-2 September. There may be more inspections on the second day, if there is capacity.

Stabling

Overnight stabling and stand-in stabling for the inspection day will be available. Once the stabling fees are confirmed, applicants will receive a booking form. You are encouraged to pre-book these facilities and pay online at www.idhsgb.org.uk

There will be a deposit for each stable of £20, which will be returned if the stable is left clean (but not otherwise!). **Please** muck out your stable after use, because the inspection organisers have many other tasks to do. If everyone mucks out their own stable, it helps to ensure the smooth running of the inspections.

Please let the inspection administration team know roughly what time of day you intend to arrive and what time (morning or afternoon) you would prefer for your stallion's inspection. We cannot guarantee any specific time, but we try to accommodate your requests. Please tell us on the stable booking form, or by emailing inspections@idhsgb.org.uk

Owners may bring shavings with them (not straw) and/or purchase extra shavings on site. All feed and hay must be supplied by the stallion owner.

We request stable door grilles for your stallion's safety, and the safety of others. If you definitely do not want a grille, please let us know.

Check In

All owners must report to one of the inspection administrators upon arrival at the centre in order to check in. You must check in not later than one hour before your scheduled veterinary time.

At this time, all owners must present the stallion's passport and sign the disclaimer forms, retaining one copy. We retain the passport for the duration of the inspection. The passport is stamped with the inspection grade and returned to you before you leave.

Please note stallions that have not been checked in **cannot** be presented at the first stage of the vetting and inspection, even if they are late.

Familiarisation with the Jumping Pen

The jumping pen will be available to stallion owners between the hours of 17.00 – 18.00 on the evening before the stallion inspection (31 August).

Stallions will be allowed to receive a five-minute familiarisation period to walk down the jumping lane. The lane will be fully set up, but with the poles on the ground. Jumping is not permitted during the familiarisation period.

Only one handler and stallion may enter the indoor school. This will be strictly monitored and will be available on a first come, first served basis. This facility must be pre-booked with the administration team on inspections@idhsgb.org.uk

Presentation

All stallions are expected to be presented at show standard and must be sufficiently trained and fit to take part in all aspects of the selection. The stallion should be in good (not fat) condition, be well groomed and have well-maintained hooves.

Hoof oil is not permitted because it makes the limbs and feet difficult for the vet to handle. Stallions' manes should either be plaited or pulled. Each stallion must be presented in a correctly fitted bridle.

Handlers are required to wear clothing appropriate to showing, or as a minimum trousers and a shirt. Hard hats are strongly encouraged when handling stallions.

Riders are required to wear appropriate competition attire during the ridden stage. Comfortable footwear must be worn in order to present the animal correctly. In cases 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.

Inspection Panel

The inspection panel will consist of three senior inspectors (including the Chairperson) with sufficient knowledge, training and experience to produce a linear profile sheet and a set of overall scores for each stallion from their collective deliberations.

At least one of the stallion inspectors will be a representative from Horse Sport Ireland. The other two inspectors will also have completed Horse Sport Ireland training and will have substantial experience of mare inspections before they are allowed to inspect stallions.

The inspection team will be supported by an experienced administrator, who records the linear profile and ensures that the relevant paperwork is completed and checked.

Irish Draught Stallion Inspection process

Irish Draught stallions must be a minimum of three years of age to be presented for inspection. The inspection will include the following elements:

1. Veterinary examination
2. Conformation assessment
3. In-hand gait assessment on a hard surface and in an indoor arena
4. Free gait assessment in jumping pen
5. Athleticism/jumping assessment in jumping pen (required for all three year olds) and under saddle (optional – Class 1 only, four years and upwards)

Veterinary Examination

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

Measurements (height, bone and girth) will be taken during the veterinary examination and will be considered to be the official measurements of the stallion for classification and studbook purposes.

Stallions that are entered for the Stallion Inspections are subject to the FEI Anti-Doping and Equine Controlled Medication rules. Blood and urine samples may be taken from your stallion for this purpose.

For Applicants undergoing Option 1 Only:

At the inspection, stallions will undergo a full five-stage veterinary examination by a veterinary surgeon appointed by IDHS (GB). The examination will consist of the following:

Stage 1. Preliminary examination: 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 both before and after flexion of the individual limbs.

Stage 3. Strenuous exercise: Lungeing on lead at a working canter to assess wind and heart function. Heart & lungs auscultated on pull-up.

Stage 4: A period of rest: Recovery and management of stress associated with stage 3 can facilitate eye examination as pupillary dilation has occurred during exercise. Final heart auscultation.

Stage 5. The second trot and foot examination: Assessing maintenance of soundness as follow-on from the previous stages.

For Applicants undergoing Option 2 Only:

Stallions will undergo a soundness trot-up.

Any stallion presented with an obvious veterinary condition may be subject to further examination by the appointed veterinary surgeon on the day of inspection.

Conformation Assessment

Handlers must present stallions to the inspectors in the indoor arena for their conformation assessment using linear scoring. Stallions must be able to stand correctly and quietly in order for the inspectors to make their assessment. No boots or leg wraps of any description are permitted at this stage of selection. The linear score sheet for Irish Draught Horse inspections contains 45 characteristics, covering conformation, movement and athleticism traits.

In-hand gait assessment on a hard surface and in the indoor arena

The stallion will be required to stand for a visual inspection on a hard surface. When requested, the handler will walk the horse away from the inspection panel, around the marker and return to the panel. The handler will then repeat the process in trot, however, in trot the stallion should continue to trot past the inspection panel.

Free gait assessment in jumping

Handlers must lead the stallion in walk in a figure of eight around the two diamond shaped markers in the indoor arena. The handlers must then safely release the stallion and stand in one of the diamond shaped markers.

A trained arena team will be on hand to direct the stallion through its free gait, athleticism and jumping assessment.

Stallions will be shown loose on both reins in trot and canter. If you have chosen loose jumping on the application the jumping lane will be opened once the stallion's free gaits have been assessed. The stallion will be guided down the lane by the arena team for the free athleticism/jumping assessment.

All owners/handlers are given the option of catching and releasing their stallion between each jumping effort during the loose jumping element of the inspection.

If you have chosen that the stallion will present under saddle on the application form, he will leave the jumping pen once his free gaits have been assessed. This applies only to four year olds and over.

5. a) Free athleticism assessment in jumping pen

Each stallion will normally be required to jump through the jumping lane at least six times. The jumping lane consists of three fences. The inspection panel may use their discretion as to the number of attempts they wish to assess each horse over the obstacles and the height of the fences; however, the maximum height of the fences for 3 year old stallions will be 1.00m.

If in the opinion of the inspection panel a horse is jumping in an unnatural manner, the inspection panel reserves the right to award zero points for their assessment of the stallion's athleticism/jumping ability.

5. b) Athleticism assessment under saddle

The owners of stallions that are 4 years or older that have chosen to do this element under saddle on their application form will have their stallion's athleticism assessed by jumping the stallion over a course of fences at 1.00m level under saddle.

Note: Stallions are permitted to wear front tendon boots for the free gait assessment or the free athleticism/jumping assessment. If, in the opinion of the inspection panel, the movement of the horse is affected in any way, the selection panel reserve the right to request the removal of the front boots.

The use of boots/bandages on the hind legs is not permitted.

The elements of the inspection may not necessarily be carried out in the same order as they are outlined above.

The IDHS (GB) reserves the right to terminate any inspection for health and safety reasons. For example, stallions that are unfit or insufficiently prepared for jumping may not (at the inspectors' discretion) be allowed to continue on welfare grounds.

Photographs

Photographs of each stallion will be taken during the inspection process by a photographer appointed by the IDHS (GB). Photographs for stud cards and other private use can be purchased direct from the photographer.

Some photographs will be published in IDHS (GB) and/or HSI publications. Some are required for the official record of that stallion.

Stallions that are not photographed at the inspection may be deemed not to have completed the selection process. IDHS (GB) reserves the right not to classify these stallions.

Video footage of the selection may also be recorded and used by the IDHS (GB) and/or Horse Sport Ireland.

Stewards will advise when and where the photographs can be taken.

Results of the inspection

The provisional results of the inspection will be announced publicly on the day along with a brief synopsis explaining the decision of the inspection panel. The final results will be emailed to the stallion owner following the inspection and will be made available for public access on the IDHS (GB) and Horse Sport Ireland websites. They may also be published in IDHS (GB) and Horse Sport Ireland publications.

Optional athleticism assessment for additional bronze merit in showjumping

The owners of stallions that are 4 years or older and meet the requirements to be classified as 'Class 1' can opt to have their stallion's athleticism assessed by re – presenting their stallion, whereby they jump the stallion over a course of fences including one double at 1.00m level under saddle.

Stallion owners must indicate on the application form if they wish their stallion to be assessed for a bronze merit for their own performance in showjumping.

Stallions that achieve the required minimum in the athleticism assessment (70) will be awarded a bronze merit for their own performance in the discipline of showjumping.

Note: Irish Draught stallions that are classified as ‘Class 1’ can also obtain a bronze merit for their own performance in the discipline of showjumping by achieving two double clear rounds at 1.00m level at national competitions.

Owners and producers: accommodation and meals

The inspection management team cannot become involved in booking accommodation for owners and friends.

Please use online resources such as:

[Booking.com | Official site | The best hotels, flights, car rentals & accommodations](#)
[United Kingdom Hotels | Find & compare great deals on trivago](#)
[Tripadvisor: Over a billion reviews & contributions for Hotels, Attractions, Restaurants, and more](#)
[laterooms uk - Search \(bing.com\)](#)

Basic student accommodation is sometimes available through the College. These are single study bedrooms usually occupied by students at the College. Self-catering only.

Please enquire at the College reception:

Address: Moreton Morrell, Warwick CV35 9BL.
Tel. 0300 456 0047
Email: info@wcg.ac.uk

APPENDIX 1: EQUINE INFLUENZA (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

Equine Influenza and Tetanus vaccinations are a compulsory requirement for all horses registered with the Irish Draught Horse Society (GB), in order to bring your horse forward for inspection or to show him/her at our affiliated shows.

Inspection venues will NOT admit unvaccinated horses, unless an agreement is made that all the horses attending a given venue will be unvaccinated.

The requirement for the first three vaccinations is as follows:

- The first two vaccinations must be 21 – 92 days apart, with a third booster between 150-215 days after the second dose.
- Thereafter, there should normally be an annual booster vaccination within 365 days, but the current FEI ruling for certain competition horses is for a six-monthly booster as opposed to an annual booster.

This rule may be subject to change, in line with guidance from the FEI/BEF. Any changes affecting our affiliated shows and inspections will be notified via the Society’s web site at www.idhsgb.org

Newly-vaccinated horses:

Your horse must, as a minimum:

- Have had the first two initial doses of equine influenza vaccine
- The administration of these doses must be recorded on her passport before you bring your horse to the venue.
- The second dose must be given not less than seven days before travel to the inspection.

Booster vaccinations:

- Must be within date
- There must be seven clear days before the booster is due, and if just given to the horse, seven days clear before travel.

- The additional or 6-month vaccine can be done at any time. No clear days are required, other than the annual stipulation.
- Any equine companion animals travelling with the horse must also be vaccinated.

If your horse develops a cough, snotty nose or seems unwell, do not travel him or her and stay at home. Contact your vet for advice.

Vaccination records on passports will be checked on arrival. Horses must not be unloaded before this has been done.

Animals with no passport, unvaccinated or obviously unwell horses will not be permitted to enter the premises.

APPENDIX 2: ARENA AND JUMPING LANE

Note: Horses are permitted to wear front tendon boots for the free gait assessment or the free athleticism/jumping assessment. If, in the opinion of the panel, the movement of the horse is affected in any way, the panel reserve the right to request the removal of the front boots. The use of boots/bandages on the hind legs is not permitted.

Please ensure that you prepare your horse according to the jumping lane dimensions in this document.

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.

Each stallion or mare (only if she is undertaking the athleticism assessment) will normally be required to jump through the jumping lane at least six times. The jumping lane consists of three fences. The selection panel may use their discretion as to the number of attempts they wish to assess each horse over the obstacles and the height of the fences, however the maximum height of the fences for 3-year-olds will be 1.00m.

If in the opinion of the selection panel a horse is jumping in an unnatural manner, the selection panel reserves the right to award zero points for their assessment of the horse's athleticism/jumping ability.

The panel reserves the right to terminate the athleticism assessment on welfare grounds if the horse is insufficiently prepared for the task.

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. We do not use Heras panels around the lane in Great Britain, because they are not designed for equestrian use.

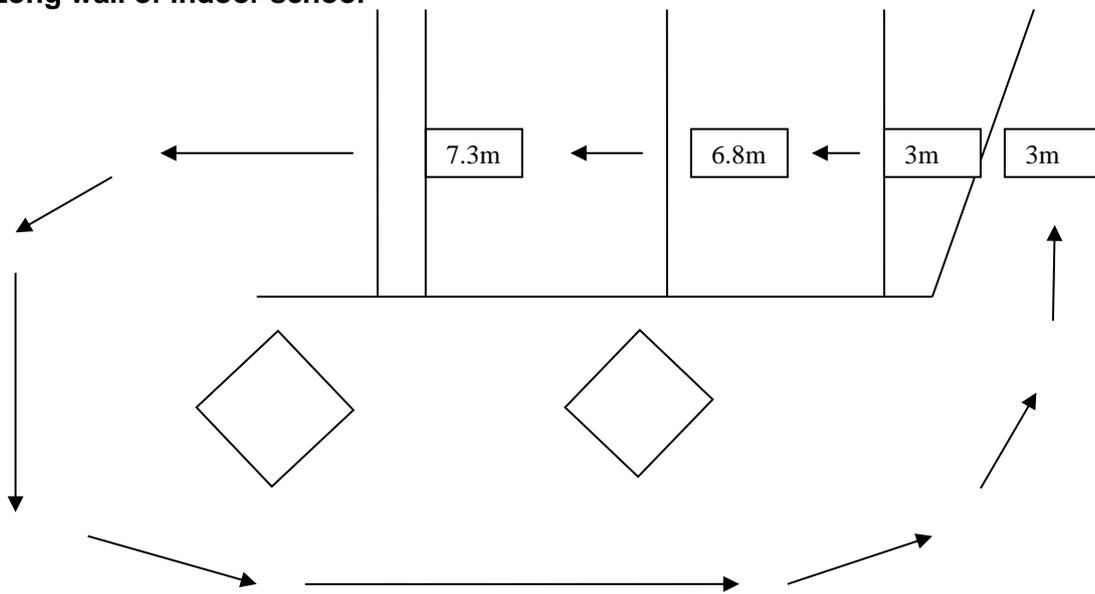
Fences are placed as follows: fence A is 6m from the end wall and 3m from the centre of the placing pole; fence B is 6.8m from (A) and fence C is 7.3m from fence B.

The owner or handler stands in the left hand diamond and the inspection team in the right hand diamond on the diagram below.

Athleticism Assessment under Saddle

The owners of stallions and mares that are 4 years or older that have chosen to do this element under saddle on their application form will have their horse's athleticism assessed by jumping over a course of fences.

Long wall of indoor school



	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

APPENDIX 3: The inspection management team: contact details and roles

Mailbox: inspections@idhsqb.org.uk

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
- Liaises with the stallion inspection venue
- Coordinates helpers for the stallion inspections
- Liaises with BEF and other equestrian bodies.

REGISTRATION AND INSPECTION ADMINISTRATION MANAGER:

Mrs Heather Chaplin (Trustee), Middle Munty Farm, Churchstanton, Taunton, Somerset TA3 7RH. Tel. 01823 601625 (before 6 p.m. please). Email: chaplinheather51@gmail.com

- Responds to members' queries about inspection and registration
- Liaises with Defra with regard to legislation and the Minimum Operating Standards

- *Attends 826 group meetings of British Passport Issuing Organisations*
- *Ensures that the Society is compliant with the Horse Sport Ireland and liaises with them regarding registration and inspection rules*
- *Organises and leads the application process and administrative support for the stallion and mare inspections*
- *Liaises with the Society's veterinary advisor and the veterinary radiograph panel*
- *Ensures accurate processing of inspection results*
- *Ensures that members are supported in dealing with veterinary issues arising during inspection*
- *Leads the process of producing bar charts after the inspections.*

INSPECTION ADMINISTRATORS:

Mrs Sue Benson: (trustee and chair until 31 March 2022)

- *Provides administrative support at the stallion and mare inspections.*

Mrs Carol Rudd (Trustee), 55, Anglesey Drive, Poynton, Cheshire. SK12 1BU. Tel. 01625 873662 Mobile 078 102256. Email: carol@aerialwired.co.uk

- *Provides administrative support for the stallion and mare inspections*

Mr Graham Chaplin

- *Provides administrative support for the stallion and mare inspections*

Veterinary Clerks:

Mrs Anne Beattie – Scotland and Northern England

Mrs Sarah Bright-Phillips – Eastern England, Annual Breed Show

Mr Graham Chaplin – Southern England, Wales, Midlands, Stallion inspections

Mr James Noblett – Stallion inspections

Mrs Shirley Roberts: South-West England

Mrs Ann Weston – Scotland.

SOCIETY ADMINISTRATOR:

Miss Carol Malin, The Irish Draught Horse Society (GB) Administration Office,
PO Box 91, Newcastle Emlyn SA44 9AT

Tel.: 03452 300 399 (Mon – Wed 9.00am - 5.00pm) Email: admin@idhsqb.org.uk

- *This is the number to ring for general enquiries*
- *DNA kits*
- *Covering certificates*
- *Receives and circulates information from Defra and the 826 Group to relevant trustees.*

Stallion inspection arena and stable management team: Membership varies.

PASSPORT ADMINISTRATION:

IDHS(GB) PASSPORTS

Holme House, The Dale, Ainstable, Carlisle CA4 9RH Email Tel 01768 870523 (Available 9-00am to 5-00pm Monday – Friday)

Email: passports@idhsqb.org.uk

- *Registrations*
- *Transfers*
- *Overstamping*
- *Duplicate passports for British-bred horses*
- *Membership*

Appendix 4: 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.

Last updated: 19/03/2022

Heather Chaplin

Inspection administration manager

IDHS (GB)