



## **IDHS (GB) Sport Horse Register rules and classifications**

Our Irish Draught Sport Horse Register is managed by the Society to help promote top-quality sport horse production for competition, breeding and leisure. We issue sport horse passports to animals with proven Irish Draught pedigree (minimum ID breeding of 25%).

We also overstamp passports issued by other PIOs, for example Sport Horse Breeding of Great Britain, if the horse meets our pedigree requirements for this register.

The Society also issues Irish Draught horse passports for full-pedigree Irish Draught horses (please see separate guidance), and identity-only (Utility) passports for animals with no proven pedigree.

### **General rules for the IDHS (GB) Sport Horse Register**

Our rules comply with the Equine Identification Regulations (2018) and the Minimum Operating Standards (MOPS) issued by Defra (June 2021).

Animals with proven pedigree (whether Irish Draughts or Sport Horses) are never issued with Utility passports.

Whether an animal is registered in the Breed Register or Sport Horse Register depends on its pedigree. This article concerns the Sport Horse Register only.

To register a foal or older horse in the Irish Draught Sport Horse Register, the breeder must submit:

- a valid application form, available from our website at [www.idhsqb.org.uk](http://www.idhsqb.org.uk)
- an identity marking chart, completed by a veterinary surgeon, showing the microchip number;
- a covering certificate obtained from the stallion owner;
- a DNA sample *if required* (e.g. if we are being asked to update a foal identity document issued in Ireland, where DNA is required, or it is a filly eligible for Supplementary Grade-Up), which must, if provided, be taken by a veterinary surgeon;
- the breeder does not need to be a member of the IDHS (GB) to register a sport horse;
- foals must be registered within six months of birth or December 31, whichever is the later.

Sport horse stallion owners may purchase covering certificates from the Society Administrator on payment of £4 per certificate. Homemade covering certificates are never accepted.

The IDHS (GB) does not issue foal papers. If you sell a foal, either within this country or for export, it must be fully registered with the IDHS (GB) before the sale. It is an offence to sell an equine without a passport.

### **Imported Irish Draught Sport Horses**

#### **Naming and changes of ownership (transfers)**

The IDHS (GB) updates passports issued by Horse Sport Ireland with your chosen name (if the horse has not previously been named). We can also carry out transfers of ownership for Irish-bred horses living in the UK. There is a form on our website for this purpose.

#### **Updating foal identity documents for foals born in Ireland**

A full passport is a requirement for showing and inspection in this country. Any progeny born to a horse that still has its foal papers will not have any pedigree displayed in their own passports.

Owners thinking about importing a foal from Ireland on foal identity papers (a basic identity document issued in some countries pending DNA results) are strongly advised to wait until Horse Sport Ireland has received the DNA and issued the full passport before importing the animal to the UK. That way, you will have a full Horse Sport Ireland passport and you can then have this over stamped when your foal arrives in this country.

If you have to import your foal on foal papers, you can apply to our passport administration office for a full (pedigree) passport, *provided that* the foal has already arrived in the UK at the time of the application. The Society will never issue a first passport for initial registration for any equine born outside the UK while that animal is still overseas. It must have at least a foal identity document in order to import it into the UK.

Applications to update Irish foal papers are made on our usual Irish Draught or Sport Horse registration application form, using one of our marking charts. The owner has to be a full member of our Society to register an Irish Draught, but not to register a sport horse, but members do receive a discount to register a sport horse.

For imported Sport Horse foals, covering certificates and DNA results will be confirmed with Horse Sport Ireland. The foal identity document must be sent to us so that it can be rescinded before a full passport is issued, as a horse must not have two passports in circulation at the same time.

Equines born in other countries and imported into the UK must by law be over stamped by a relevant passport-issuing organisation within a specified time scale (30 days from clearing Customs), so that they are logged on the government's Central Equine Database. Over-stamping and transfer into the correct ownership are both legal requirements.

Over-stamping your horse with the IDHS (GB) also allows Irish Draught and ID Sport horses to be shown or inspected in Great Britain.

## **General rules for all sections of the Irish Draught Sport Horse Register**

On 23 November 2014, the IDHS (GB) Council agreed the following categories of registration in the Irish Draught Sport Horse Register. The following rules are effective for all animals born in or after 2015.

- The register as a whole provides a place for the registration of all part-bred stock with documented Irish Draught ancestry, combined with any other breed or breeds. It is divided into three categories.
- Owners should read the Sport Horse registration guidance notes and apply on the Sport Horse Register application form, both available on our website at [www.idhsgb.org.uk](http://www.idhsgb.org.uk)
- A covering certificate from an official Passport Issuing Organisation (PIO) is essential. Covering certificates for Irish Draught and ID Sport Horse stallions registered in Great Britain can be obtained from the Society's Administration Office on payment of £4 each.
- Animals registered with other PIOs can be over-stamped on to the IDHS (GB) Sport Horse Register, provided that the owner submits an over-stamping application and fee, and the horse meets the 25% minimum documented ID breeding requirement.
- Animals eligible for the ID Sport Horse Register must *never* be given identity-only (Utility) or Irish Draught (Main Studbook) passports.

## **There are three categories of the Irish Draught Sport Horse Register:**

### **1. Traditional Irish Draught Sport Horse Register (TSR)**

- For male and female horses with at least two generations (parents and grandparents) of documented, or otherwise proven breeding (e.g. through DNA), of which a minimum of 25% must be an inspected and graded Irish Draught (RID, or Class 1 or 2).
- The remainder must be documented Thoroughbred, Connemara or Traditional Irish Sport Horse.
- The definition of a 'Traditional Irish Sport Horse' is an animal with documented Irish Draught, Thoroughbred or Connemara blood only, in any proportions.
- Animals eligible for this register will have 'Traditional Irish Draught Sport Horse' recorded on their passports.
- Within the TSR, there are some female animals that are eligible for inspection for the Supplementary Grade Up Register. Please see the rules for the Irish Draught Horse Breed Register/Main Studbook. These fillies and mares retain their sport horse number and status throughout life. After inspection, if

accepted into the SGUR, they will also be deemed to be part of the Breed Register/Main Studbook. This is the only point of cross-over between the Breed Register/Main Studbook and Irish Draught Sport Horse Registers.

## **2. Irish Draught Sport Horse (SPR).**

- For horses with a minimum of 25% of documented or otherwise proven Irish Draught breeding, going back at least two generations.
- The non-Irish Draught portion does not qualify the animal for TSR. It may be any other breed. For example, Irish Draught X Warmblood, Arab, Iberian breeds, native pony breeds (other than registered Connemara).
- Animals eligible for this register will have 'Irish Draught Sport Horse' recorded on their passports.

## **3. Irish Draught Part-Bred (PBR)**

- This register is solely for the progeny of SHR and TSR animals, where the foal is less than 25% ID.
- The non-Irish Draught portion of the pedigree may be any other breed.
- Animals eligible for this register will have 'Irish Draught Part-Bred' recorded on their passports.

## **Legacy (historical) classifications for ID Sport Horses in the UK**

Some older passports may show the classifications Grade 1, Grade 2 and Grade 3. These classifications are not current.

### **AID**

- AID mares are accepted by Horse Sport Ireland as being equivalent to Supplementary Grade Up mares, although they retain their AID grade. Most of these animals are three quarters Irish Draught. The grade is now closed, so mares are no longer inspected for AID.
- The progeny of AID mares by a RID, Class 1, Class 2 or 'old' Grade 2 (GB) stallions are eligible for Class 1 on inspection.
- Foals out of AID mares by a RID, Class 1, Class 2, Class 3 or Uninspected/Class 4 stallion will therefore be registered as 'Uninspected/Class 4' in the IDHS (GB) Breed Register (Main Studbook).

### **SID**

Any remaining SID mares were born before 2000, when this register closed. They typically had one RID parent, but the other parent was often of unknown breeding. Some were straight half-bred mares with a Thoroughbred sire or dam.

## **Showing Irish Draught Sport Horses**

- TSR, SPR and PBR horses must be shown in Sport Horse Classes..
- AID mares and geldings are shown in purebred classes alongside Breed Register/Main Studbook mares.
- Sport horse fillies and mares that are eligible for inspection for Supplementary Grade-Up must be shown in Sport Horse classes.
- Inspected and classified Supplementary Grade-Up mares must be shown in Irish Draught classes, not Sport Horse classes.

## **Eligibility for inspection**

- AID mares are eligible for Hornby Premium inspection, provided that they have a foal at foot by a RID or Class 1 stallion.
- Sport Horse mares with one Class 1 or RID parent and the other parent to be a General Studbook Thoroughbred or registered Connemara are eligible for Hornby Premium inspection, provided that they have a foal at foot by a Class 1 or RID stallion.

- Sport horse stallions may be inspected. Stallion inspections are held each year. Sport Horse stallions must be aged four years and over, with a minimum of 25% documented Irish Draught breeding.
- Further information is on our web site or from the Inspection Administration Team: email [inspections@idhsgb.org.uk](mailto:inspections@idhsgb.org.uk)
- Stallions do not have to pass the IDHS (GB) Sport Horse Stallion inspection to have progeny accepted into the Irish Draught sport horse register.
- However, mare owners wishing to breed a sport horse are advised to ensure that the stallion they are considering has passed a veterinary examination and/or inspection with their own studbook, our Society, Sport Horse Breeding of Great Britain: <http://www.sporthorsegb.co.uk/> or another recognised sport horse breeding organisation.
- Exceptional stallions that meet Irish Draught Sport Horse pedigree requirements and which have proven performance or progeny performance, may, at the Council's discretion, be accepted for over-stamping and inclusion in our stallion lists without further inspection.
- Currently, sport horse mares are only inspected if they meet the requirements for the Supplementary Grade-Up Register (please see TSR section above). The inspection process is equivalent to that for purebred ID mares and they will be linear profiled.

### **Do sport horse foals need to be DNA tested?**

- DNA testing for sport horse foals is *recommended* for fillies and for colts likely to remain entire, but it is not a requirement, with the exception of fillies that are eligible for Supplementary Grade Up on inspection.
- DNA testing will be required when there is no covering certificate and the person registering the foal wishes to have a pedigree passport.
- Sport horses registered by Horse Sport Ireland will have been DNA parentage tested and this result should be recorded on our database when they are over-stamped by our Society.
- If we are being asked to update foal identity papers into a full passport, the animal will retain its Irish UELN and Irish-bred identity, even though the full passport will be issued by us. Therefore it is appropriate that the same rules are followed as for horses that remain in their country of birth, Ireland. DNA will have already been requested for these animals, so it should be recorded on the passport and on our database.

### **Do I need to be a member of the IDHS (GB) to register a Sport Horse?**

No, but you would be very welcome to join! Please contact our passport administration office for membership details.

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December 2022*