



News for December 2022



Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II riding her beloved Royal Canadian Mounted Police Service mare Burmese (1962-1990). Burmese was gifted to The Queen by the RCMP in 1969. She carried her safely for 18 consecutive years while Trooping the Colour, and was said to be her favourite horse throughout this period. The Queen was a great supporter of many breeds of horses and ponies, including the Irish Draught, and she often used ID stallions on her mares.

Welcome to the December newsletter. This year has seen Eastern Europe descend yet again into brutal armed conflict. The devastating human, environmental, political and economic consequences are having an impact not only in Ukraine but throughout Europe and many other countries around the world.

Even in the relative safety of this country, one consequence has been even higher levels of fuel and food poverty. The current economic recession will have an impact on many people's ability to care for themselves, their families and their animals. Although trivial in comparison with not having enough to eat or not being able to heat your home, it has certainly had an impact on our Society, and in particular, on the veterinary costs for our inspections.

As horse owners and riders, we should be sensitive to the fact that many of our members are on restricted incomes. Some people will find themselves struggling to pay for vets' fees, livery, bedding and feed. After a buoyant market in recent years, it will become more difficult to sell horses, with a resulting increase in equine welfare issues.

It is not within our charity's objects or means to assist financially, but we can help indirectly. Members who decide to sell their horse can advertise free of charge on our website, and the rates are inexpensive for non-members. Not everyone has access to social media, but through our website, email and Facebook pages, we do have the capacity to help spread the word (with the owner's permission, of course), if someone needs urgent assistance with their animals.

Charities, both human and animal, face extreme challenges over the next couple of years. Being a charity Director can be both exciting and slightly daunting, but we currently have an excellent team on the Council. The ability to work equitably with others from all walks of life is the most important quality. If this is something you could offer, and you have some time to spare, why not consider applying for election to the Council? The Society needs a diverse group of trustees, especially younger people. In this issue, we explain what is involved and how we have formed workgroups together with our members to focus our skills and interests in specific areas.

I am pleased to be working with Lucinda Starling on this issue. The News Sheet now sits within the remit of the Public Relations, Marketing and Education group, of which Lucinda is a member. Due to other Society commitments, particularly with the Breeding, Registrations and Inspections and Governance groups, this issue will be my last as the Editor. If you have any news items to be included in the next issue, please email marketing@idhsqb.org.uk

I wish you all a peaceful Christmas and a prosperous 2023. *Heather Chaplin, Editor.*

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We would like to wish all our Members a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year



Carol Malin: Society Administrator

Carol has been our Society Administrator and an integral member of our team for the past 16 years. During that time, Carol's cheerful and helpful telephone manner has been familiar to many of our members.

Following a major review of all our work systems, Carol has decided to enjoy a more relaxed life in semi-retirement in South West Wales. We wish Carol and her partner Neil a very happy life together and look forward to seeing them at shows and other Society events. Thank you, Carol, for all your work over the years.

For details of how to contact the IDHS (GB) for general enquiries, membership, registrations and passports: please see page 11.

Membership reminder – due on 1 January 2022

We value your membership. Our Society would be non-existent without its members. Membership allows you to vote, stand for Council, apply to be considered for the judges' panels, register stock, show in our affiliated shows, advertise stallions in our publications and have your horses inspected. Most importantly, it also allows you to have a say in how your Society is run.

You can renew your membership online through our website: [How to join](#)

If you have previously instructed us to collect your fee by Direct Debit, you do not need to do anything.

Yearbook 2022 – a message from the Editor

Dear Members,

The publication of the 2022 Yearbook has been delayed due to unforeseen circumstances. We will ensure that all our members receive a copy early next year. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

James Noblett - Chairman and Yearbook Editor.

Have you considered becoming a Trustee?

The following members of Council retire on 31 March 2023, and are eligible for re-election if they choose to stand again: Heather Chaplin, Alun Davies, Brian Gates and Ellen Walton.

Carol Rudd has decided to stand down from the Council after 10 years of dedicated hard work, particularly on the Show Team, Virtual Dressage, the North West Irish Draught and Hunter Show, website development and the Inspection Management Team. Carol's sad departure means that there will be five vacancies on the Council. If you wish to nominate a member to stand for election to the Council of the IDHS (GB), please complete the nomination form on our website:

<https://idhsgb.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/Council-nomination-form-v3-2022.pdf>

- and send it to reach the Administration Office at the address on the form, no later than **12 noon on Tuesday 31 January 2023**.

The person you wish to nominate must complete the second part of the form indicating his or her willingness to stand for election, complete the questionnaire and identify two referees. The questions will be used to structure a phone or Zoom discussion with the applicant prior to any postal vote.

If you would like to find out more about being a trustee, please contact any of our current trustees from the list below and they will be pleased to discuss this with you.

There are many misconceptions about what is involved in being a trustee. The Charity Commission website has some useful guidance available, together with rules about who cannot become a trustee. Here are a few things to consider if you would like to apply:

Diversity and equalities: We welcome prospective trustees from all backgrounds, provided they are aged 18 or over and meet the Charity Commission's requirements. We do not discriminate on the grounds of age, gender reassignment, marital status, pregnancy, disability, nationality, ethnicity, religious faith (or none), sex or sexual orientation. We freely admit that we have some work to do to increase our diversity in terms of gender, age and ethnicity. There are currently six men and nine women on the Council, from all three countries which form Great Britain. We have only three trustees under the age of 50, and ideally we would like to attract applications from younger people to bring some fresh ideas and additional creativity to our work.

Team work: The Council is in the process of developing workgroups and sub-groups to cover all aspects of our work. Some workgroups are well established, and others are relatively new. Workgroups and sub-groups are listed below, together with contact information for the trustees assigned to each group. These groups are relatively fluid, and new sub-groups can be created when there is a business need.

Most of our workgroups include non-trustees. This brings fresh energy and additional skills to our work, and helps to ensure that our members are fully involved. It therefore follows that one of the most important attributes of any intending trustee is the ability to work together as part of a team.

The new groups and sub-groups are an exciting development which gives the Society greater capacity to work on promotional and educational activities, which have often been prioritised out in the past due to lack of time and resources. By tapping into the expertise within our membership, we can work much more effectively and equitably. This is an ideal opportunity for members who are not sure if they want to commit to becoming a trustee to gain experience of working with us as an integral part of a team, for the good of the Irish Draught breed.

Time: Some trustees work very long hours, and we are seeking to share out the workload fairly. There is an expectation that all trustees will participate in work projects throughout their time on the Council. Joining or remaining on the Council just to be a 'presence' is not an option. Every trustee has different personal and business commitments, so it is not realistic to expect that they can devote a set amount of time every week to Council work. However, intending trustees should be able to offer at least some regular time for Council business.

Confidentiality and data protection: All trustees are bound by the need for strict confidentiality, not only during their term on the Council, but after they have left office. This is because we often have to work with sensitive business and personal information relating to individual members and sponsors, as well as confidential inspection-related information. It is a legal requirement under the UK General Data Protection Regulation that we keep personal data private. To this end, all trustees must sign and adhere to confidentiality and non-disclosure agreements and have adequate home and IT security. Trustees will receive training to ensure that they understand their obligations.

Computer access: Trustees receive all their information, agendas, reports and Minutes electronically. Printed paper is kept to a minimum and we do not normally post material to trustees. It therefore follows that trustees need a computer or tablet on which they can read documents, most of which are in Word and Excel, and a printer is also useful. We frequently meet by Zoom, so Zoom needs to be enabled.

Expenses: Our Articles of Association state that no trustee can earn money from the Society. This would, for example, preclude a trustee from being paid for time spent carrying out administration tasks. If a trustee becomes a paid employee, they would have to leave their role as a trustee. Out-of-pocket expenses are payable in certain limited circumstances, at the Council's discretion. However, trustees *cannot* claim expenses for attending Council meetings, General Meetings, shows and events such as the Stallion Inspections. The majority of our meetings are by Zoom, so this does not incur any expense.

List of fees from 1 January 2023

Veterinary fees and fuel costs have increased dramatically over the past nine months. After considerable discussion, the Council has reluctantly been forced to raise all fees by at least 10%.

The inspection fees have been increased substantially to reflect the very high cost of running these events across three countries. We have never received any government subsidies.

In 2022, we charged £180 inc. VAT for each mare's inspection, £90 of which was to cover the vetting and £90 for the expenses associated with travelling around the country to 15 venues. The average vet's fee was £115 per mare and the highest was £155 per mare, so it was clear that urgent action had to be taken for 2023. It is still cheaper to have a shared veterinary visit than to pay for a vet to come to the owner's home.

Membership fees are due on 1 January each year. There are three categories of membership; full, joint full and associate. These are described below.

Young people under 21 years of age are deemed to be full members, but continue to pay a reduced membership fee until the 1 January after their 21st birthday.

Single full membership: This entitles members all members, regardless of age, to:

- subsidised class entry fees at the Annual Breed Show
- reduced class entry fees at the North West ID and Hunter Show
- the right to register purebred stock
- subsidised DNA fees
- the right to enter stallions and mares in inspections
- the right to receive notice of and attend any General Meetings
- a Yearbook sent by surface mail (all other communication is by email, to save on postage costs).

Members aged 18 years and over have the additional rights to one vote at a General Meeting, and to put forward written resolutions at a General Meeting.

MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS

By description	New fee
Single full membership	£50
Single full membership paid by direct debit	£45
Joint full membership 2 members at same address	£75
Joint full membership paid by direct debit - 2 members at same address	£70
Young person's membership Under 21 on 1 Jan	£25
Associate membership	£30
Joining fee	£10
Re-joining fee If subs are not renewed by 28 Feb in current year	£10
Administration fee <i>For those who prefer to receive all communication by surface mail</i>	£15

REGISTRATION FEES – rates include VAT @ 20%

By description	New fee
Irish Draught Purebreds (Members)	£45
Irish Draught Purebreds (Non-members)	£90
Irish Draught Sport Horses (Members)	£45
Irish Draught Sport Horses (Non-Members)	£60
Duplicate Passport	£60

Utility Passport	£35
Transfer of Ownership	£25*
Overstamping of other Societies' Passports	£35*
Naming	£35*
DISCOUNT- any two items marked *	£50
DISCOUNT- any three items marked *	£60
DNA Parentage testing (Member)	£55
DNA Parentage testing (Non-Member)	£60
CPR Prefix Registration	£60
CPR Prefix Extension	£25
Royal Mail special delivery	£10

Inspection fees – rates include VAT @ 20%

Description	New fee	Notes
Irish Draught Colts and Stallions – assessment for Class 1	£600	The fee includes inspection, vetting on the day and evaluation of x-rays, plus updating the passport with the outcome. It does not include the pre-inspection veterinary examination, x-rays, WFFS genetic test or CEM, EVA and EIA tests.
Re-assessment of Class 2 stallions (New X-rays not required)	£450	The fee includes inspection, vetting on the day and updating the passport with the outcome. It does not include the pre-inspection veterinary examination, endoscope, WFFS genetic test (if not previously done) or CEM, EVA and EIA tests.
Irish Draught Sport Horse Colts and Stallions – assessment to be an Irish Draught Sport Horse stallion	£450	The fee includes inspection and trot-up veterinary assessment on the day, plus updating the passport with the outcome. It does not include the five-stage veterinary examination prior to the inspection, WFFS genetic test or CEM, EVA and EIA tests.
Non-refundable fee to be retained by the Society if the stallion fails his x-rays or withdraws on other grounds	£150	This is the cost to the Society of having the x-rays read, or for administration costs if a stallion withdraws from inspection once his application has been processed.
Uninspected Irish Draught fillies and mares, plus re-inspection of Class 2 fillies and mares.	£270	The basic fee includes inspection, optional athleticism assessment (held at Moreton Morrell only) and vetting on the day. It also includes £120 non-returnable administration charge. There will be a £30 discount as an incentive for mares that attend venues where veterinary costs can be kept to a minimum. The venues to which this applies will be confirmed early in 2023.
Athleticism assessment of Irish Draught Purebred Mares previously classified as RID, Class 1 or Supplementary Grade Up.	£170	The fee includes initial linear profiling, a brief trot-up veterinary assessment and jumping lane assessment.
Additional fee for late applications	£30	This is payable in addition to the basic mare inspection fee if the application is submitted less than six weeks before the inspection date.

The David Cosby Award

This prestigious award is kindly donated by Mr David Cosby, a founder member of our Society. It is given each year to a member of the Society who has contributed over a period time and has given exceptional service to our members and the breed.

This year, the David Cosby Award has been presented to a very long-standing member, Mrs Gaynor Mitchell from Ormskirk in Lancashire. Many members will recall that Gaynor was an excellent Chair of the Society for many years. She led us through the challenging and lengthy process of negotiation and harmonisation with Ireland and subsequently participated in the Task Force in Ireland, which reviewed the classification, registration and inspection rules. Gaynor was able to negotiate with Horse Sport Ireland to achieve parity and acceptance into the Main Studbook of 22 named RID GB stallions and all our Grade 2 ID stallions, thus bringing them into the international breeding herd and helping to protect the interests of our stallion owners and breeders.

Gaynor purchased the Class 1 stallion Hillviewfarm Milligan, bred by Vicky Mathews, as a youngster and kept him until the end of his very long and productive life, achieving considerable success with him at stud and through his progeny. Highly respected for her open, kind and fair approach to our members, Gaynor continues to support our Society as a judge and inspector. Since her retirement from the Council, she has managed our Merit Awards, which helps to promote our breed by encouraging members to compete with their horses.

The David Cosby Award was presented to Gaynor by our Chairman, James Noblett, our outgoing Chair, Susan Benson and trustee Ellen Walton.

Improvements to Equine Identification and Traceability in England – consultation results and Government response

For details of the outcome of this consultation regarding equine identification documents and procedures, please see this link: [Improvements to equine identification and traceability in England: consultation results and government response - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/improvements-to-equine-identification-and-traceability-in-england)

Council Work Groups

In May 2022, the Council established the following Workgroups. Each group is open to both trustee and non-trustee members, chosen for their skills and expertise. Members can work across several groups to help with specific projects. This creates flexible, responsive and creative team-working. The trustee group members are listed below. To contact a group, please use the group email listed below.

Public relations, marketing & education group – marketing@idhs.gb.org.uk

Please note that the pr@idhs.gb.org.uk email address will continue to function at least until 31 December 2022.

Julie Cornthwaite – Lancashire - 07811 219239.

Norma Grubb – Yorkshire - 01845 567005 / 07785 933 833

Tony Phillips – Lincolnshire - 01406 710943 / 07983 507761.

Carol Rudd – Cheshire - 01625 873662 / 07860 102256.

Lucinda Starling – Wiltshire - 01672 705107 / 07973 962923 – (News Sheet Editor from 1 January 2023)

Nigel Wakefield – Nottinghamshire - 079590 896937.

Ellen Walton – Yorkshire - (01430 810692 / 07949 022401)

Mary Wilson - Wiltshire - 01672 520869 / 07442 019283.

Show and event development group

Sub-groups:

The IDHS (GB) National Championship Show team: showteam@idhs.gb.org.uk

Jane Imbush (Show Director, non-trustee)

Sue Benson (non-trustee)

Julie Cornthwaite – Lancashire - 07811 219239

Anne-Marie Durno (non-trustee)

Charlotte Evans (non-trustee)

Brian Gates – Dumfries and Galloway- 01461 700434 / 07771 822775

Heather Glendenning – Yorkshire - 07856 109251

Bryony Kirkland (non-trustee)
 Nat Owen-Burns (non-trustee)
 Tony Phillips, Lincolnshire - 01406 710943 / 07983 507761.
 Carol Rudd – Cheshire - 01625 873662 / 07860 102256.
 Ann Western (non-trustee).

The Judges' Assessment Team: judges@idhsgb.org.uk

Victoria Cobham (non-trustee) – Society Vice President – Lincolnshire.
 Julie Cornthwaite – Lancashire - 07811 219239
 Mark Fitton (non-trustee) – Greater Manchester
 Norma Grubb – Yorkshire - 01845 567005 / 07785 933 833.
 John Newborough – Society President – Lincolnshire.
 Nigel Wakefield – Nottinghamshire - 079590 896937.
 Ellen Walton – Yorkshire - (01430 810692 / 07949 022401)

Governance and Finance group – governance@idhsgb.org.uk

Heather Chaplin – Somerset - 01823 601625 / 07392 299912
 Alun Davies – North Wales - 01690 710265 / 07771 928147
 Helena Davies – Pembrokeshire - 07976 984207
 Brian Gates – Dumfries and Galloway- 01461 700434 / 07771 822775 treasurer@idhsgb.org.uk
 James Noblett – Cheshire -07909 992274
 Justin Scale – Pembrokeshire - 07831 721852.

Breeding, Registrations and Inspection Workgroup – inspections@idhsgb.org.uk

Sub-groups:

Registration management:

Heather Chaplin (01823 601625 / 07392 299912)
 Brian Gates (01461 700434/07771 822775).

Inspection Management:

Chief Inspector: Mary Wilson (01672 520869 / 07442 019283)
 Inspection administration manager: Heather Chaplin – Somerset - (01823 601625 / 07392 299912)
 Sue Benson – non-trustee - Yorkshire - (01274 07968 715597) – inspection administrator
 Caroline Collinssplatt – non-trustee - Wiltshire – genetic diversity reports
 Carol Rudd – Cheshire - 01625 873662 / 07860 102256) – inspection administrator
 Ellen Walton – Yorkshire - (01430 810692 / 07949 022401) – inspection administrator
 Our inspection work is supported by a large group of volunteers all over the country.

Merit Awards: headed by Gaynor Mitchell (non-trustee) - 01695 573406 / 07909 517578 coosheenstud@gmail.com

Please send applications to Gaynor. Specialists in each discipline are:

Dressage: Gaynor Mitchell.	Eventing/Endurance: Mary Wilson
Showing: Sue Benson	Show Jumping: Ann Weston

General Meeting

The Council is planning to hold a General Meeting for our members on Sunday 26 March 2023. The meeting will be held at Stallion AI Services Ltd & Cryogenetics Ltd, Chapel Field Stud Ash Lane, Whitchurch SY13 4BP. There will be a buffet lunch, so we will need numbers in advance, please. An afternoon programme will be announced in the New Year.

If you wish to attend, please contact our Administration Office: admin@idhsgb.org.uk or ring 01768 870 523.

200 Club

Helena Davies is now coordinating the 200 Club. Helena can be contacted on 01239 612328 / 07976 984207 or pembrokestud@hotmail.co.uk

Here are the lucky winners of the 200 Club prize draws so far this year. A fourth draw will take place at Christmas.

SUMMER 2022

Mr & Mrs Turpin	Cumbria	1st
Miss Karen Hague	Lincolnshire	2nd
Mrs Ina Waller	Surrey	3rd

AUTUMN 2022

Mrs Carol Luxton	Devon	1st
Miss Louise Morton	Staffordshire	2nd
Mrs Pauline Somers	West Yorkshire	3rd

If you would like to join the 200 Club draw, please visit our website at <https://idhsgb.org.uk/members/200club/> and click on the link on the right hand side of the screen. You will be guided through an online application form where there are three payment options of £12 (one chance), £24 (two chances) or £36 (three chances) to win a prize in each draw. This is a great way to support our Society.

Web site, Facebook announcement page and our members' Facebook group

Please visit our web site at www.idhsgb.org.uk for up-to-date information on our activities, policies and news. There are also forms to download for registration and inspection matters. If you click or tap the various headings, you will have access to detailed information and also, contact details for people who can help with specific questions. The web site hosts **free** for sale and wanted ads for members. Advertising is in a set format to help ensure accuracy.

We have two Facebook pages. One is our original Facebook page for news and public announcements about events: <https://www.facebook.com/IDHSGB>

There is also a moderated Facebook group page for members and non-members to enjoy: www.facebook.com/groups/928909631249104/

The moderated Facebook group is open to members and non-members who are willing to accept some basic ground rules. These rules are designed to ensure that visiting the page is a pleasant and friendly experience for all.

If you have a specific question about any of our procedures or rules, please contact the trustees responsible for that area of work by using the group email addresses below. If you use Facebook Messenger, your question may be missed, and if you use the Facebook page, you may receive the wrong advice entirely!

Merit Awards

In consultation with British Showjumping, we have just updated our list of classes at each height that count towards Merit Awards in Showjumping. These classes are:

1m – Senior Discovery 1st round, Joshua Jones UK Discovery Championship, British Novice 2nd Round, 95cm Amateur 2nd round & Final, 1m Open

1.10m – Senior Newcomers 1st round, Senior Discovery Championship Final, 1.05m Amateur 2nd round & Final, 1.10m Amateur 1st round, 2nd round & Final, Winter Novice Qualifier, Winter 6yr old Qualifier, Blue Chip Power Championship, Blue Chip Star Championship, 1.10m Open

1.20m – Big Star Championship Qualifier, Foxhunter 1st Round, Blue Chip Karma Performance Championship, Winter 7yr old Qualifier, Silver League National Final, 1.20m Open

1.30m & above – International Stairway, International Trial, Area Trial, Big Star Championship Final, Talent Seekers Qualifier & Final, National 1.40m, National Grade B Qualifier & Final, HOYS Grade C Qualifier & Final, National 1.30m, Foxhunter 2nd round, Foxhunter Masters & Final, Newcomers Championship, Winter National 1.35m, Winter Grand Prix, Winter Grades B & C, Winter Grade C.

For more information regarding Merit Awards in the different Disciplines, please see our website at www.idhsgb.org.uk.

Merit Shows and Regional Shows for 2023

1-3 June 2023 – Royal Bath and West Show 2023. The Showground, Shepton Mallet, Somerset. [Royal Bath & West Show 2023 \(bathandwestshowground.com\)](http://bathandwestshowground.com) (Merit Show)

16-18 June 2023 – Royal Three Counties Show, Malvern, Worcestershire. Royal Three Counties Show 2023 | Three Counties Showground (Merit Show)

Sunday 9 July 2023: The Wessex Horse Show, featuring Irish Draught classes. Chard Equestrian Centre, Somerset. Schedules are available online. Show Secretary: Lindsey Millar: klmandjml@aol.com

11-14 July 2023 - Great Yorkshire Show Great Yorkshire Show - Official Website (Merit Show)

Sunday 16 July 2022: The Midlands Irish Draught Show, Stourport Riding Centre, Upper Poollands Farm, Hartlebury Road, Stourport-on-Severn, DY13 9JD. Please contact Dan Ash for details: enquiries@stourportridingcentre.co.uk

Sunday 30 July 2023: The North West Irish Draught & Hunter Show at Myerscough Arena in Lancashire. North West Irish Draught and Hunter Show | Facebook General enquiries – please contact Carol Rudd on 07860 102256.

Saturday and Sunday 2 & 3 September 2023: the IDHS (GB) National Championship Show (formerly the Annual Breed Show) at Onley Grounds Equestrian Complex, Willoughby, Rugby, Warwickshire, CV23 8AJ. We will once again be running qualifiers at many affiliated shows for major Championships. The schedule is available online at www.idhsgb.org.uk (Merit Show).

There is an exciting, refreshed timetable which will spread the main classes and championships over the two days. We hope that you will join us and make a full weekend of the event.

Trophies should be returned, clean and in good condition, to Tony Phillips. Please note the change of return address when you receive the request to return your trophy.

4-8 October 2023: Horse of The Year Show [Horse of the Year Show \(hoys.co.uk\)](http://Horse of the Year Show (hoys.co.uk))

Stallion and mare inspections 2022

Due to space limitations here, full details of the stallion and mare inspections in 2022 will appear in the Yearbook and on the website.

Stallion inspections 5 April 2023 and 24 October 2023 – contact inspections@idhsgb.org.uk

Application forms and guidance notes for the 2023 Stallion Inspections have now been uploaded to the website. Please read the guidance notes carefully before applying, or initiating the veterinary examinations.

Next year, we plan to offer two dates for the Stallion Inspections. The stallion inspections on **5 April 2023** will be held at Warwickshire College, Moreton Morrell, near Warwick. The closing date for all applications is **31 January 2023**.

It would therefore be extremely helpful if stallion and colt owners who want to bring a horse forward in 2023 email the inspection team on inspections@idhsgb.org.uk as soon as possible to indicate their interest and which date they would like to attend. Your name will then go onto our email list and you will receive regular updates.

The venue for the **24 October stallion inspections** may also be at Moreton Morrell, but because this is term-time at the College, we are looking at other options. We are committed to running both dates in principle, but as responsible trustees, we cannot allow the Society to lose money.

Please note that regrettably, the stallion inspection fees have had to increase by 50% this year to cover our costs. Unlike Horse Sport Ireland, we do not receive government subsidies to support our inspections, and in this country, the horse is not deemed to be an agricultural animal. This is why our fees are substantially more than theirs. Please see the List of Fees for details.

Mare inspections 2023 - contact inspections@idhsgb.org.uk

In view of the substantial rises in fuel costs and veterinary charges during 2022, when the highest vets' bills came close to the total amount of the inspection fees for some venues, we have had to radically review the way in which we carry out mare inspections in 2023.

The full fee for a mare inspection is now £270 inc VAT. This includes vetting on the day. The Inspection Management sub-group and the Council carried out a due diligence exercise and reluctantly concluded that this level of increase was necessary. Many of us are also mare owners and we can also see the situation from our members' perspective. Mare owners who applied last year, then withdrew but did not request a refund, will be asked to pay the balance of £90 if they want to bring their mare forward next year.

Mare inspections are available at a discounted level of £240 at certain venues where we are confident that we can control veterinary costs. These venues will include the two inspection dates at Warwickshire College and the venue before the National Championship Show at Onley. There may well be other discounted venues, but it will depend on numbers forward and the projected costs. This is intended to be an incentive to encourage owners to come to these venues, but we are aware that owners who live in the furthest reaches of the UK will find this difficult.

In previous years, some owners have withdrawn quite close to the inspection date and in some cases, this made the venue unviable for the mares still attending and for the Society. The Council has decided to retain £120 administration fee to help ensure that a venue can still run if several mares withdraw. To reduce the risk of people needing to withdraw, for example because the mare is still at stud, we will plan most of our inspections next year in the late summer and autumn.

There will be no expression of interest forms this year, but you are encouraged to email the inspection team to ask to be placed on an email contact list to receive updates on the inspections.

Application forms are now on the website. They must be returned with the fee by the closing date. Late applications (within six weeks of the inspection date) will incur a £30 additional fee.

Please check your mare's eligibility before you apply. To be inspected for classification in the **Breed Register**, your mare must be by **and** out of parents who have attained either RID, Class 1 or Class 2 at inspection. There is no Inspection Amnesty in place, and therefore the progeny of uninspected stock are not eligible for inspection at this time.

For **Supplementary Grade Up inspection**, your mare must have one RID or Class 1 parent and three RID or Class 1 grandparents. The other quarter of the pedigree must be documented General Stud Book Thoroughbred, registered Connemara or Traditionally-bred Irish Sport Horse (no Warmblood or breeds other than ID, TB and Connemara).

Owners should be members of the Society, unless they pay an additional fee. Mares must be in the owner's name and overstamped before coming forward for inspection.

5 April 2023 at Moreton Morrell will be the only spring mare inspection next year. This is an ideal opportunity to have your mare assessed for a possible Bronze Merit Award in Athleticism, or to have her inspected before the show season starts.

Mare applications will be accepted at both of the stallion inspection venues on a first come, first served basis.

PROVISIONAL venues and closing dates are:

Date	Venue	Closing date	Fee
Wednesday 5 April	Warwickshire College, Moreton Morrell	15 February 2023	£240
TBC	Inchcoonans Equestrian Centre, Perth, Scotland	15 May 2023	TBC
Friday 1 September	Onley Grounds, Willoughby, Rugby, Warwickshire CV23 8AJ	15 May 2023	£240
W/C Monday 4 September	South and South Eastern England South West of England South Wales	15 May 2023	TBC
12-14 September TBC	Black Dyke Equestrian Centre New Hill Farm Stud in Worsley, Greater Manchester	15 May 2023	TBC

	Brough, Yorkshire North Wales		
24 October 2023	With the Stallion Inspections: likely to be Warwickshire College, Moreton Morrell	15 July 2023	£240
Any mare grading venue, NCS or Regional Show	Hornby Premium inspections for Class 1/RID or AID/Supplementary Grade Up or TB/ID traditionally-bred Sport Horse mares with their own foal at foot by a Class 1 or RID stallion.	15 May 2023	No fee

Updating Horse Sport Ireland passports for horses living in Great Britain

On 10 June, we received guidance from Defra and DAFM on the procedures for updating Horse Sport Ireland passports if (and only if) the horses are living in the UK. We offer the following services for those horses:

- Naming, re-naming (Irish passports only), changes of ownership, addition of microchip numbers and other minor changes. You may still send your passports to Ireland for these updates if you wish to do so.
- Overstamping: If you have imported an Irish Draught or Irish Draught Sport Horse from the Republic of Ireland (or any other country outside the UK), you MUST ensure that the passport is over-stamped by a Passport Issuing Organisation (PIO) in the UK, so that the animal's record can be included on the Central Equine Database.
- Duplicate passports where the original is lost, stolen or damaged. This can only be issued by us if the horse is living in Great Britain.
- Upgrading Irish foal papers (identity documents) to a full passport once DNA parentage testing has been confirmed. If you want an Irish full passport for your Irish-bred foal or young horse, please arrange to have this work done before you import the animal. Once it is in Great Britain, it must have an IDHS (GB) full passport.

If you have any questions about this, please email passports@idhsqb.org.uk

How to contact the IDHS (GB):

General enquiries, membership, registration and passports:

Please direct all enquiries to: IDHS (GB) Office, Holme House, Dale, Ainstable, Carlisle CA4 9RH.

Tel. 01768 870 523. Office hours: 09.00 – 17.00 Monday-Friday.

Email address for membership and general enquiries: admin@idhsqb.org.uk

Email address for registrations, overstamping, naming, transfers of ownership, duplicate passports: passports@idhsqb.org.uk

How to contact Horse Sport Ireland:

First Floor, Beech House, Millennium Park, Osberstown, Naas, Kildare, Ireland Tel. 00-353-45 850850 Email: info@horsesportireland.ie

Next News Sheet: March 2023.

News Sheet Editor (spring edition onwards): Lucinda Starling - 01672 705107 / 07973 962923

Please email your news item to marketing@idhsqb.org.uk.

*Heather Chaplin, December News Sheet editor
6 December 2022*