



Irish Draught mare inspections: Conditions of Inspection 2024

When you complete your application form, you will be asked to sign to confirm that you have read this document before applying for inspection. This document contains the general rules for inspection laid down by our parent body in Ireland.

If you have any questions which are not answered below or in our inspection guidance document, please email inspections@idhsgb.org.uk

CONDITIONS OF IRISH DRAUGHT HORSE STUDBOOK MARE INSPECTIONS

- The owner must be a full and current member of the Irish Draught Horse Society (GB)
- Horses bred overseas or registered with another passport-issuing organisation (PIO) must have had their passports overstamped (endorsed) by the IDHS (GB)
- The horse must have been formally 'named' and transferred into the correct ownership.
- Vaccinations MUST comply with current FEI/Showing Council guidelines (please see Appendix 1 below)
- Your application must be complete and the fee paid, preferably using our secure online facility. This is easy to use and a great help to our inspection managers.
- Mares must be adequately trained and fit to take part in all aspects of the inspection, including the athleticism phase (where applicable)
- Mares must be fit to be handled at the inspection, including handling by veterinary surgeons appointed by the Society.
- The Society and its veterinary advisors reserve the right to refuse to carry out an inspection of any mare which is not in a suitable condition for inspection, or in instances where it may be unsafe to proceed with the inspection.
- Mares should be clean, tidy and fitted with a bridle. Plaiting or braiding looks attractive, but is not essential.
- Please avoid dressing the mare's feet or legs with oil because it makes the limbs more difficult for the vet to handle.
- All horses will be measured by the examining veterinary surgeon immediately before the inspection. These measurements shall be regarded as official measurements for the purpose of classification in the Irish Draught Horse studbook and the IDHS (GB) Breed Register.
- Mare owners must bring the mare's **passport** and all the necessary equipment to the inspection. The passport must be handed in before the vetting commences.
- Mares will be photographed at the inspection and these photographs may be used in the Society's publications or website. The Society reserves the right to commission professional video-recording of inspections for administrative purposes.
- For safety reasons, foals MUST be led during the inspection.
- Blood and urine samples may be taken on the day of inspection and may be subject to screening for substances listed on the FEI 'Equine Prohibited Substances' list (see www.feicleansport.org).
- Failure to satisfy the above conditions may result in a mare being disqualified from inspection/classification.

Please note that incomplete applications may be returned.

The relevant IDHS (GB) application and guidance documents and payment facilities are on our website at www.idhsgb.org.uk

Eligibility for Class 1 inspection:

Irish Draught Horse mares must be registered in the Main Section of the Irish Draught Horse Studbook in Ireland or in the IDHS (GB) Breed Register.

Mares must be sired by a stallion that is classified as 'Class 1, RID (GB), Class 2, Grade 2 GB, RID (Canada) or RID (USA), or (for the period of the Amnesty only) Class 4. They must be out of a dam that is classified as RID, Class 1, Class 2, AID or Grade-Up, or (for the period of the Amnesty only) Class 4 in the Irish Draught Horse Studbook or the IDHS (GB) Breed Register.

The progeny of Irish Draught Horse stallions or mares of Class 3 (Section 2 – S2 of the Irish Draught Studbook in Ireland) are **not** eligible for inspection.

The progeny of Class 4/Uninspected mares and stallions: Amnesty clause

The Amnesty clause pertains to **stallions and mares** that are by a Class 4 Irish Draught stallion or are out of a Class 4 Irish Draught mare. These animals are currently deemed eligible to be presented for inspection for Classes 1, 2, and 3 in the Irish Draught Horse Studbook.

The Irish Draught Inspection Amnesty ran from 2017 to 2021 and was re-introduced in March 2024. Please see section (5.1.4) of the Irish Draught Studbook Rules.

[HSI-Breeding-Programme-for-the-Irish-Draught-Horse-Studbook-App_Feb24.pdf](https://www.horsesportireland.ie/HSI-Breeding-Programme-for-the-Irish-Draught-Horse-Studbook-App_Feb24.pdf)
([horsesportireland.ie](https://www.horsesportireland.ie))

The amnesty will be in place for a three-year period and is for animals coming forward for inspection during that time.

N.B.: This amnesty does not extend to animals whose year of birth is within the three-year amnesty time frame, i.e. born between 2024-2026.

This amnesty is effective immediately and the triennial period will expire on the **31st December 2026**.

HSI's Head of Breeding, Innovation and Development will review the amnesty on a triennial basis (every three years). The next review will take place in advance of the 2027 breeding season.

Kinship classification rules for Irish-bred Irish Draught mares

The parent studbook has introduced a novel kinship classification method for targeting rare breed mares within the Irish Draught Studbook in Ireland (see section 5.1.2.1 of the Studbook Rules).

Where the mare meets the kinship percentage for the year in question, she will be classified as 'Class 1'.

The studbook managers will confirm the 2024 kinship threshold and inform interested breeders where they can apply in due course.

Unfortunately, this facility is not yet available for British-bred horses. If your mare is Irish-bred (i.e. with a UELN starting 372414...) and she has been assessed by the geneticist at Horse Sport Ireland as meeting the kinship threshold, please ask HSI to confirm this in writing to our Inspection Management Team well before the inspection.

Mares which meet the kinship percentage will still have to be vetted and come forward for linear profiling, but the inspectors will not make a judgement about their grade.

Eligibility for Grade-Up Register Inspection:

To be eligible for classification in the Supplementary Grade-Up Register Section of the Irish Draught Studbook, mares must be classified in the main section of the Irish Sport Horse Studbook or the IDHS (GB) Sport Horse Register.

One parent (either the dam or the sire) must be classified as CLASS 1, RID or 'RID GB'. The other parent will be a sport horse.

The mare must have three grandparents classified as CLASS 1, RID or 'RID GB', in other words she will be three quarters Irish Draught. Her fourth grandparent must have **documented pedigree** and can be:

- a Thoroughbred registered in Weatherby's General Stud Book (not the Weatherby's non-TB Register)
- a registered Connemara Pony
- a registered Irish Sport Horse with a recorded pedigree of Thoroughbred/Irish Draught/Connemara pony descent ONLY.

Horses that are eligible for classification in the Main Section of the Irish Draught Studbook or the IDHS (GB) Breed Register cannot be classified in the Supplementary Section (Grade Up Register) of the Register.

Mares that are classified in the Supplementary Section (Grade-Up Register) will retain their original classification in the Irish Sport Horse Studbook or the TSR (traditionally-bred) section of the IDHS (GB) Sport Horse Register and their passports will reflect that they are also classified in the Supplementary Section (Grade Up Register) of the Irish Draught Horse Studbook or our Breed Register.

These mares are very important to the breed. They can potentially produce a Class 1 stallion or mare, if put to a Class 1, RID or Class 2 Irish Draught stallion. They are eligible for Merit awards. They can also come forward for a Hornby Premium inspection with a foal at foot, provided that the foal is by a Class 1 or RID stallion.

CLASSIFICATION OF IRISH DRAUGHT HORSE MARES FOLLOWING INSPECTIONS

1. Classification of all horses will be completed after the inspection. In the vast majority of cases, passports are stamped on the day.
2. Classification is confirmed once any appeal or specialist veterinary referral has been completed. The inspection management team will issue the bar chart. We try to do this as quickly as possible but this process may take up to four weeks, depending on workload. Results will not appear on the website until this work is complete.
3. Horses that meet the pedigree and veterinary requirements and achieve minimum required scores in conformation, type and movement will be classified as Class 1 in the Irish Horse Register and in the Irish Draught Horse Society GB breed register.
4. Class 1 mares and geldings that achieve average scores of 80 or higher for both movement and conformation will be awarded a Bronze Merit in conformation and movement.
5. Horses that meet the pedigree and veterinary requirements but which do not meet the inspection requirements for Class 1, will be classified as Class 2 in the Irish Draught Horse Society GB Breed Register.
6. Horses that do not meet the veterinary requirements will be classified as Class 3 in the parent studbook in Ireland and in the Irish Draught Horse Society (GB) Breed Register.

7. 'Uninspected' is the term used for animals registered in Great Britain from 2014 onwards, for uninspected Irish Draught horses. These were formerly known as Class 4, a term which will appear on passports for horses born between 2012 and 2014 inclusive. This change in terminology is in line with the Task Force recommendations 2014.
8. Passports issued since January 2016 (including duplicate passports for older horses) are riveted and cannot be dismantled to change information, including the terminology used for Class 4 horses. As inspection grades are not a regulatory issue, Defra have indicated that a sticker may be issued by our passport providers to amend inspection grades on the pedigree pages of passports. Owners must never amend passports because it will invalidate them.
9. The inspection classification awarded on the day will be stamped into the mare's passport by the inspection administrator and will be signed off by a trustee or a member of staff at our administration office.
10. The exceptions to this will be animals referred for further follow-up veterinary examination due to a condition detected on the day, where the final classification will not be known until that examination is complete and a report has been received.
11. Temporary passport documents will be issued only when there is no alternative but to retain the passport. This cannot be done for horses brought over from Ireland who are returning there immediately after the inspection, because these documents are not valid for international travel.

CLASSIFICATION OF RID AND AID MARES FOLLOWING LINEAR PROFILING

1. Mares that are classified as 'RID' in the Irish Draught Studbook in Ireland or in the IDHS (GB) Breed Register will be classified as 'Class 1' following the linear profiling process.
2. Mares that are classified as 'AID' in the Irish Draught Studbook in Ireland or the IDHS (GB) Breed Register will be classified as 'Grade Up' following the linear profiling process.
3. 'RID' or 'AID' mares that are presented for linear profiling with an obvious (heritable) veterinary condition will be disqualified.

CLASSIFICATION OF EXISTING CLASS 1 AND GRADE-UP REGISTER IRISH DRAUGHT HORSE MARES FOLLOWING SUBSEQUENT PRESENTATION FOR JUMPING MERITS

1. Class 1 and Grade-Up mares that participate in the loose jumping phase of the inspection and achieve a score of 70 or higher will be awarded a Bronze Merit in showjumping.
2. Class 1 and Grade-Up mares that participate in the loose jumping phase of the inspection and do not achieve a score of 70 or higher will remain classified as 'Class 1' or 'Grade-Up Register'.
3. Class 1 mares that are required to undergo a veterinary inspection after being presented for jumping merits with an obvious veterinary condition will be classified as 'Class 3' if they fail to meet the veterinary requirements.
4. Grade-Up register mares that are required to undergo a veterinary inspection after being presented for jumping merits with an obvious veterinary condition will retain their original classification in the Irish Sport Horse Studbook or IDHS (GB) Sport Horse Register if they fail to meet the veterinary requirements.

Note: Class 1 Irish Draught mares or Grade-Up register mares will not be required to undergo a veterinary examination unless the mare is presented at inspection for jumping merits with an

obvious veterinary condition. Mares that are presented with an obvious veterinary condition will be required to undergo a complete veterinary examination.

INSPECTION APPEALS

Inspection result appeal

Owners who are not satisfied with the results of the inspection will be given the opportunity to represent the horse for one repeat inspection, under a different inspection team, at a future date. The mare or gelding will have to be vetted again. The full inspection fee is payable.

In addition to the single opportunity for re-inspection described above, the owner may appeal in writing **within 28 days of the inspection outcome letter**.

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

Veterinary Examination Appeal

Owners of horses that do not meet the requirements of the veterinary examination can appeal the results of the examination, providing that they apply to the Society **within 28 days of the veterinary examination**. The horse may be re-examined by a mutually-agreed specialist for a second opinion.

To save time and expense, owners must NOT make their own arrangements for a second veterinary opinion without consulting the Society first. The second examination will only be carried out in respect of the condition for which the horse was failed at the initial inspection. The cost of the examination must be borne by the owner of the horse.

The decision of the appeal vet is final.

Please note that the relevant IDHS (GB) application and guidance documents and payment facilities are on our website at www.idhs.gb.org.uk

Last updated: 7 March 2024

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IDHS (GB).*