



Irish Draught mare inspections: guidance notes for 2024

It is essential that mare owners read this guidance and the separate **Conditions of Inspection** document carefully before applying for inspection. When you complete the application form, you will be asked to confirm that you have read these documents. If you have any questions, please email inspections@idhsqb.org.uk.

The purpose of inspection

Mare inspections offer owners an evaluation of their breeding stock. Irish Draught mares are invited for inspection, where they will be vetted and then assessed on their pedigree, type, conformation and movement.

Mares for inspection must be of three years and older at the inspections held before 1 September, and two years old or older at inspections from 1 September onwards. This is because two year old fillies may need more time to mature. There is no upper age limit.

Assessment for athleticism is voluntary for mares. We are currently offering two opportunities per year for mares to come forward for assessment of their athleticism.

Both combined stallion and mare inspection venues (10 April and 6 September in 2024) will welcome mares as an equally valuable part of our inspection programme. We have in fact invited mares to our stallion inspections for many years. We are now making greater efforts to encourage mares to come to those venues for grading, and/or to be assessed in the jumping lane.

Our combined inspections for stallions and mares in 2024 will be held at Onley Grounds Equestrian Complex near Rugby.

The advantages of having your mare inspected

Having your mare inspected will, if she passes the veterinary examination, entitle her:

- to be shown in hand at our affiliated shows,
- Irish Draught progeny to be shown in hand;
- Irish Draught progeny to come forward for inspection, provided that they are sired by a Class 1, RID or Class 2 stallion.
- Mares which attain Class 1 can be assessed for Merit Awards and with a foal at foot by a Class 1 or RID stallion, can come forward for inspection for Hornby Premiums.

Irrespective of whether she is classified as Class 1 or Class 2, inspection reassures prospective purchasers that your mare has passed a basic level veterinary examination and has been evaluated in terms of her conformation, type and movement traits. This may potentially increase your mare's value and that of her Irish Draught progeny.

General rules for the inspection

- Application forms for mare grading inspections and Hornby Premium inspections are available on the website and are updated at least annually. They must be returned by the relevant closing dates together with all the required information and fee for grading.

- There is no fee for a Hornby Premium inspection. Fees for grading are set annually, usually in October. The Council sets these fees, not the Inspection Management Team.
- When you express an interest in inspection, we check your mare's eligibility. 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, or her dam may be Supplementary Grade-Up.
- In addition to the above, from March 2024 to December 2026, there is an **Inspection Amnesty** in place in Ireland and the UK which enables stallions and mares by or out of Class 4/Uninspected animals to come forward for inspection. Please see our Conditions of Inspection document for details of this and the **Kinship classification** system in operation for Irish-bred mares.
- If you are unsure, please ask. We also check your membership and whether or not the mare is recorded in your name on our database, and whether she has been overstamped (if imported).
- For Supplementary Grade-Up inspection, your mare must be registered in the Sport Horse Register or as AID, and must meet the following pedigree requirements. She 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).
- Two year old fillies are statistically less likely than more mature mares to attain Class 1, unless they are very mature. You should assess your filly's development and conformation in relation to the Breed Objective and Description (please see Appendix 4). Every animal is different – ultimately the decision has to be yours. Two year old fillies may not come forward in the spring and summer, as they may be disadvantaged by immaturity. Inspections from 1 September are open to them.
- There is no upper age limit for inspection. Acquired injuries are accepted so long as the mare is sound enough to walk, trot and canter loose, on both reins. If there is a significant veterinary issue, you will be asked to provide a history from your own vet.



Margaret Brooks's Corringdon Maeve was the only two year old presented for inspection in 2022. She achieved Class 1. No two year olds came forward in 2023.

- A merit system provides additional merits for mares that meet the veterinary and inspection requirements and achieve Class 1. Information about Merit Awards is on our website.
- Mares that meet the requirements of the veterinary examination and the inspection will be classified as Class 1.
- Those mares which achieve average scores of 80 or higher for conformation and movement will be awarded an additional Bronze merit in Conformation and Movement.
- Class 1 and Grade-Up mares may opt to have their athleticism assessed by means of a loose jumping demonstration. This is entirely voluntary. It may take place either immediately after the mare has been graded (included within the inspection fee), or at a later date (on payment of a reduced additional fee).
- Mares that achieve a score of 70 or higher in their athleticism demonstration will receive a Bronze Merit in Athleticism. These merits may assist mare owners with demonstrating the added value of their mare when selling them or their progeny.
- In Great Britain, from 2021 onwards, all mares which achieve a Bronze Merit on inspection (either in athleticism or conformation and movement) will receive a special rosette, kindly donated by Mary Wilson.
- All mares and stallions which achieve a Silver or Gold Merit will receive a special rosette kindly donated by Ann and Gerard Western. Information about merit Awards is on our website or can be emailed to you by the relevant team (merits@idhsgb.org.uk).

Updating your horse's passport

Before inspection, all mares must be:

- Named (you must return Irish passports to HSI for naming please, do not send it to us)
- Correctly transferred into the owner's name (we can do this for Irish and British passports)
- If they have an HSI passport, they must be over stamped by our office before coming forward for inspection.

Owners **MUST** be **members** of the Society. If you wish to have a mare inspected and cannot join the Society, for example because your membership has been declined, you can still have a mare inspected on payment of an additional fee equivalent to a membership fee.

Please submit all requests for passport work to our Administration Office in Carlisle, and not to the Inspection Administration team.

Equally, please do not send your inspection applications to our passport administrators, as they will only have to send it on to the inspection team.

IDHS (GB) and HSI passports for horses living in Great Britain can be updated by:

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

Email: passports@idhs.gb.org.uk

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

How to obtain information and keep in touch

Expressions of interest can be emailed to the inspection management team at inspections@idhs.gb.org.uk. Once we have your contact details, we will keep in touch and update you when there is a change in information. Please tell us the full registered name of your mare and your full name, address, email address and phone numbers.

Please communicate by email and NOT by Messenger or Whatsapp. We do not have the resources to monitor social media and we don't want your message to be missed.

If you *don't* want to hear from us in future, please email and ask us to remove your contact information and we will do so straight away.

The fees have remained the same for 2024.

We have changed the criteria for assessing whether venues are viable. The viability of each venue is assessed on how much the event will cost to run, and whether we are likely to receive sufficient applications to cover the anticipated costs. There are some venues which will always cover their costs, and others which never will, but we have to average this out because otherwise, there will be some parts of the country which never have a mare inspection.

Withdrawing from inspection - mare owners who withdraw very late are likely to be asked to pay an administration charge of £120, because their withdrawal could make the difference between a venue being viable or not. It is not fair on other mare owners to cancel a venue because someone has withdrawn, so it may have to run at a loss. Possible exceptions to the administration fee are very serious and unavoidable circumstances.

Applications for mare inspections MUST be returned before the relevant closing date.

Inspection fees – rates include VAT @ 20%

Applications, closing dates and fees

A valid application comprises the application form and the full inspection fee.

The closing dates are:

Spring combined inspection: 10 February 2024 for mares and stallions.

Summer mare inspections - June – 6 September - 15 May 2024.

- Mares must be three years old or over for all inspections up to 31 August each year, but can be two years old for any September dates.
- Athleticism assessments are available at both the 10 April and 6 September inspections.

Inspection Fees for 2024:

Type of inspection	Fee	What the fee covers
Uninspected Irish Draught fillies and mares, plus re-inspection of Class 2 fillies and mares.	£240	The basic fee includes inspection, optional athleticism assessment (held at Onley Grounds only) and vetting on the day.
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.
Administration fee	£120	Non-returnable administration charge if you withdraw your mare within six weeks of the inspection date. There may be some exceptional (very serious) circumstances which would allow us to waive this charge.

In view of the high cost of postage, application forms can now be downloaded in Word, completed digitally and emailed to: inspections@idhsgb.org.uk

How to send in your application:

Please scan the form and do not photograph it on your phone. Photographed forms are very difficult to read and print out. If we can't read it or print it, we will contact you and ask you to post it.

Postal applications (please weigh the envelope and don't use Special Delivery or 'signed for' services) should be sent to:

IDHS (GB) Inspections, Middle Munty Farm, Churchstanton, Taunton, Somerset TA3 7RH.

Telephone: 01823 601625 (up to 4 p.m. only please). Email: inspections@idhsgb.org.uk

HOW TO PAY:

The fees for inspection, membership and stabling can be paid securely online at www.idhsgb.org.uk.

Payment options: online at www.idhsgb.org.uk (preferred)

If you are paying for a discounted venue, please use the 'Miscellaneous Payments' option and state clearly that it is for a mare inspection at your chosen venue.

BACS: Barclays Bank: Sort Code: 20-03-18, Account: 00700487.

Banking reference: For mares, please use your surname plus 'MARE - INSP' as the reference – e.g. 'Bloggs MARE - INSP'.

This year, we have had to introduce a financial incentive for timely applications. Inspection venues in all three countries, Scotland, Wales and England, are spread over a six-month period to accommodate as many people's needs as possible. Some venues in areas where there are relatively few Irish Draught mares (mainly the South of England and Wales) may not be confirmed until final applications have been received on 15 May 2024. It would be very helpful to all mare owners if you could apply as soon as possible so that these venues can be confirmed at an earlier date.

We reserve the right to alter or cancel any venue where insufficient applications have been received to ensure financial viability.

If we have to cancel a venue, for example because there are insufficient mares to make it viable, then the full fee will be refunded to any applicants who cannot transfer to another venue. No administration charge will be made in this instance.

Venues and dates for the 2024 mare inspections are on a separate list on our website. This will not be finalised until after the closing date, but it will be updated regularly. This list will change as more information becomes available.

Preparing your mare for her inspection

Some mares are prepared at home, and others are sent to professional producers for preparation. Either way, please allow adequate time for your mare's preparation. The details of what she will be asked to do on the day are included in the separate *Conditions of Inspection* document and are in line with Horse Sport Ireland rules.

There are things that all owners can do to maximise their mare's chances of achieving a good inspection outcome. Apart from preparing her to walk and trot obediently in hand and importantly, to stand still to command, she needs to be able to demonstrate loose movement in all three paces, on both reins. If you have opted to apply for an athleticism assessment, she will need to negotiate a jumping lane confidently, to the specifications in Appendix 1 below.



It will help your mare if she can be introduced to working loose before she comes to the inspection venue. If she is confident on the day, she will relax and enjoy herself, and this can benefit the quality of her movement.

Please make sure that your mare is in good, fit bodily condition. Excess weight may cause long-term damage to her limbs and can have a negative impact on her movement and athleticism.

Good foot balance is extremely important for your mare's way of going. She can be shod or unshod, but if her feet are not correctly balanced, it may be hard for her to show her movement to her best advantage.

Your mare should be shown in a bridle. During the vetting, she must accept being handled all over her body and his limbs. If she has a foal at foot, the foal **MUST** be fitted with a headcollar and led at all times.

On the day, your mare will need to be in clean condition but not necessarily plaited up. Please do not remove leg hair or sensory hairs (whiskers). Please also avoid dressing the mare's feet with oil, because it makes handling the feet and limbs difficult for the vet.



An example of a beautifully-presented mare – Fiona Menzies and Sable, Onley 2022

About a month before the inspection, you will receive a provisional timetable with your vetting and inspection times. We try to ask you in advance what time of day (approximately) you would prefer, as some people long distances to the inspection. You will need to arrive at least 30 minutes before your vetting time. Please let us know if there is a problem with your allocated times.

What happens at the inspection?

First, you will need to hand in your passport to the administration team. They will welcome you and explain the layout of the venue and answer any questions. You will be asked to sign two copies of the disclaimer form. This is a requirement of Horse Sport Ireland.

The administration team will advise you about when and where to take your mare, and whether there is any change to the running order. If you are worried about any aspect of what is expected, please just ask, as we are always willing to help.

A veterinary examination for possible hereditary conditions will be carried out on the day by a Society-appointed vet, who should not be the animal's usual vet. This applies to all the mares coming forward for classification for grading, whether or not they have been inspected before.

The vetting takes about 20 minutes and starts with a microchip check and measuring the height, girth and bone. These measurements form the animal's official inspection record and appear on the report.



If there are any veterinary issues, these will be discussed in private with you and the inspection team. Sometimes the Society's veterinary advisor has to be consulted by phone.

Please be assured that veterinary issues are rare. Very occasionally, a mare may need to be referred to a specialist for further examination. This is because the vet may observe a potential condition, but cannot diagnose this without specialised techniques which cannot be carried out on the day.

If your mare has acquired blemishes due to injury, or splints, these will not in themselves prevent her from passing the vetting. The vetting is to screen for heritable conditions.

At some stage during proceedings, your mare will be photographed on both sides, front and rear view. This is for the Society's records. You are welcome to the photos after the inspection, but they are not likely to be of professional quality, so you are advised to take your own too!

When your mare is seen by the inspectors, they will want to see her standing, walking and trotting in hand on a hard surface. They will also see her loose in an arena, which may be indoors or outdoors, depending on the venue. If she has a foal at foot, the foal and the mare will need to be turned loose together in the arena.

At larger venues where we have an arena team, they will guide your mare into walk, trot and canter on both reins. If your mare has been trained in a specific way, please do tell us when we ask you to turn her loose. At smaller venues, you will probably be asked to move your mare around for the inspectors.

Under no circumstances are mares to be struck with any object, including a lunging whip, while being inspected. They should be encouraged to move in a relaxed way, not harried. It helps enormously if you can practice this with your mare beforehand and teach her verbal commands.

The order in which these inspection elements take place can vary. The administrator records the inspectors' decisions on a linear profile form and records their comments on the mare's conformation, type, movement and (if applicable) athleticism.

You will be told the inspection outcome at the time. Inspectors or the administrator will explain to you your mare's classification and give brief reasons for the outcome, but cannot get into detailed discussions on the day.

After the inspection, usually within four weeks, the inspection management team will send out a confirmation letter, bar chart (a pictorial representation of the linear profile) and report showing the mare's strengths and weaknesses. The bar chart provides owners with a detailed description of their mare's strengths and weaknesses. Compared with stallions' bar charts, this can be invaluable when making breeding decisions.

There may also be a genetic diversity report, although the inspection management team does not always have time to prepare these. They are for information purposes only and is not a professional genetic analysis.

If there is anything you do not understand about the inspection report and linear profile, please email inspections@idhsqb.org.uk and one of the inspector members of our team will contact you to explain it to you.

Health and Safety

Mare inspections are all supported by a risk assessment and the Society has public liability insurance, but we strongly recommend that you have public liability insurance too, just as you would for a show.

Health and safety is the responsibility of all of us. Anything to do with horses is inherently hazardous and we cannot eliminate all risk. If you see any particularly risky situations developing, please report them to one of the administrators, stewards or at combined stallion and mare inspections, to the stable manager.

If you are physically unable to run your mare up for the inspectors and vet, and you cannot bring anyone with you who can do this, please let us know when you apply, so that we can make sure there is someone on hand to help. It can be dangerous to you and others if you are not physically able to manage your horse safely. It is sensible to ask for help, and no one will think any the less of you or your mare if you do so.

First Aiders

If you hold a current First Aid qualification from a recognised body, and you intend to come to the inspections and are willing to help someone in need for First Aid if necessary, please contact the inspection management team to let us know.

If anyone in your party needs first aid, please report to any official on site on the day, or to a member of college staff. For some venues, we do have access to trained first aiders on the day. For any significant medical incident, we always request external qualified medical support.

Publicity

Mare inspection results are sent to Horse Sport Ireland and are published on our website and in our Yearbook. When mare owners sign their application forms, they sign to agree to this publicity. Their names are published, but not contact details.

Owners and producers: accommodation

The inspection management team never books accommodation for owners and other connections. Try the following price comparison sites:

<https://www.booking.com/>

<https://www.expedia.co.uk/>

<https://www.trivago.co.uk/>

Refreshments

At large combined venues, we will inform you about catering facilities in advance. At Onley, there is a café and a farm shop on site, and under the terms of our contract, we are not permitted to offer any public refreshments.

If you live locally, you may wish to bring your own food. At smaller mare inspection venues, the administration team often bring light snacks, homemade cakes etc., but this does depend on whether they can store food safely in transit. You are therefore advised to make sure that you have sufficient food and drinks available for your trip.

Use of public photos and video taken at the inspections

In the interests of confidentiality, we ask that you do not video (especially using audio recording) from within the arenas, the administration area and veterinary area.

If you want to video your horse, please do this from the public gallery at venues with an indoor school, and from outside the arena if it is an outdoor school. Filming within the arena is strictly forbidden for confidentiality and health and safety reasons.

You are advised not to film other people's horses unless you have the owner's permission beforehand. The Society cannot be held responsible for the actions of spectators if they film and publicise other people's horses without consent.

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

The Inspection Management Team may arrange to have an official person video recording the inspections. If this is likely to take place, participants will be consulted beforehand.

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.**

F.E.I. Equine Influenza rules:

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

Inspection venues will often NOT admit unvaccinated horses. Smaller venues may be willing to do so, but there has to be agreement with the owner of the premises.

If your vaccines are not recorded on the passport, there is no evidence that the horse has received them. Please check your passport and ask your vet to update it if the vaccines are not recorded there.

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. The FEI ruling up to September 2022 for certain competition horses was for a six-monthly booster as opposed to an annual booster. This was reviewed in September and a temporary accommodation to 1 April 2023 was made to reflect the shortage of vaccines at that time.

This rule may therefore be subject to change, in line with further anticipated 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.uk

Newly-vaccinated horses:

Your horse must, as a minimum:

- Have had the first two initial doses of equine influenza vaccine
- 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 annual 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, a 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. Animals with no passport, unvaccinated or obviously unwell horses will not be permitted to enter the premises.

APPENDIX 1: SAMPLE BAR CHART – Class 1 mare

	Conformation trait	Description	Obvious			Average			Obvious			Description
			a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	
1	Body Shape	rectangular				d	e					square
2	Head appearance	fine					e					plain
3	Head/neck connection	light						f				heavy
4	Length of neck	long						f				short
5	Muscling of neck	heavy			c							poor
6	Position of neck	vertical					e					horizontal
7	Height of withers	high					e					flat
8	Position of shoulder	sloping						f				straight
9	Barrel	deep			c							shallow
10	Line of back	strong						f				weak
11	Line of loins	strong					e					weak
12	Shape of croup	sloping				d						flat
13	Length of croup	long					e					short
14	Forearm	strong					e					weak
15	Cannon bone length	short						f				long
16	Substance of legs	heavy					e					light
17	Stance of forelegs	over at knee					e					back at knee
18	Stance of pastern	sloping			c							upright
19	Heels	high						f				low
20	Stance of hind legs	sickle				d						straight
21	Knees (front view)	big					e					small
22	Stance of forelegs	toed in					e					toed out
23	Shape of feet	wide						f				narrow
24	Quality of legs	clean					e					blurred
25	Hindquarters/gaskins	strong					e					weak
26	Stance of hind legs	cow-hocked				d						bow-hocked
27	Type	breed			c							not breed

		standard										standard
Movement												
28	Walk: length of stride	long				d						short
29	Walk: correctness	toed in				d						toed out
30	Trot: length of stride	long					e					short
31	Trot: correctness	correct					e					incorrect
32	Trot: elasticity	elastic					e					stiff
33	Trot: impulsion	powerful					e					weak
34	Trot: balance	carrying					e					pushing
35	Canter: length of stride	long				d						short
36	Canter: impulsion	powerful			c							weak
37	Canter: balance	carrying		b								pushing
Athleticism (not performed by this mare)												
38	Reflexes:	quick										slow
39	Technique: forelegs	bent										stretched
40	Technique: back	rounded										hollow
41	Technique: haunches	open										tight
42	Scope:	much										little
43	Elasticity:	supple										stiff
44	Care:	careful										not careful
45	Attitude:	much										little

Measurements: Height: 160 cms / 15.3hh **Girth:** 211 cms / 83.1" **Bone:** 23 cms / 9"

Example of upper beam scores:

	Conformation <i>Min. required for Class 1 is 70</i>	Type <i>Min. required for Class 1 is 65</i>	Movement <i>Min. required for Class 1 is 70</i>
Score/100	70	75	Walk: 70 Trot: 70 Canter: 80
Totals:	70	75	Average: 73.33

Example of the Chairperson's report:

Conformation: Deep barrel, good Irish Draught head, pasterns slightly weak.

Type: Good Irish Draught type.

Walk, trot and canter: Adequate walk and trot with a very balanced canter.

Overall comments: A very well-presented mare with lots of presence.

APPENDIX 2: ARENA AND JUMPING LANE (COMBINED STALLION/MARE VENUES)

Please note that jumping is **entirely voluntary** for mares. The information in Appendix 1 is only relevant for mare owners if you present your mare for a Bronze Merit Award in

Athleticism. Assessments for athleticism are only held at the combined venues because we have the arena team and jumping lane there to facilitate this.

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. If you do not prepare your horse adequately, it is unfair on her and she will not perform to her optimal ability.

The size of the indoor arena at Onley is 60m x 20m. 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.

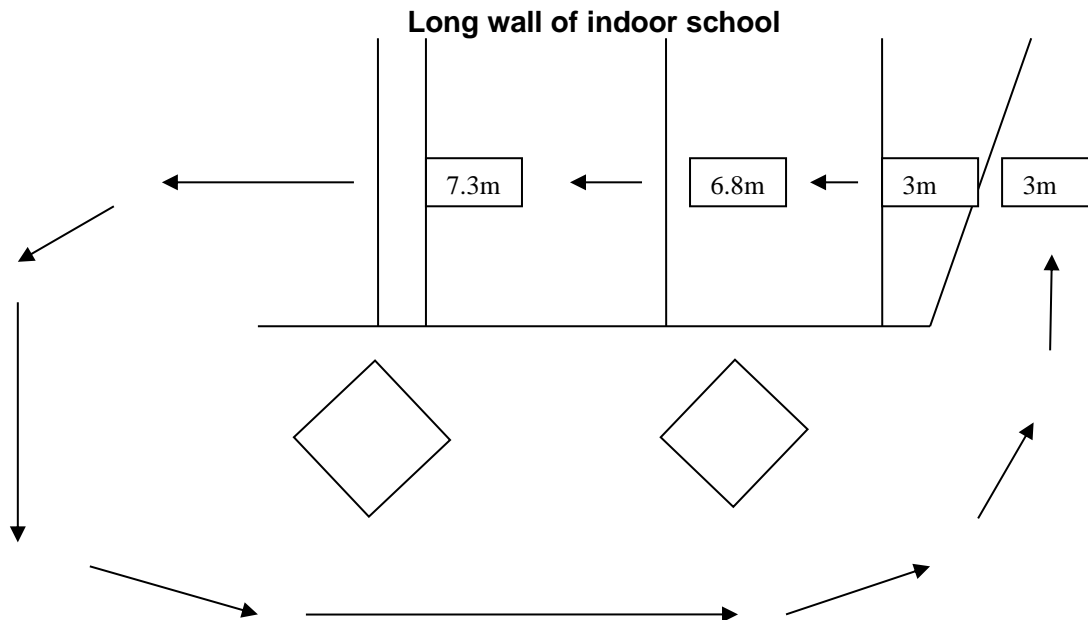
Fences are placed as follows: fence A is 6m from the end wall and 3m from the centre of the placing pole; fence B is 6.8m from (A) and fence C is 7.3m from fence B.

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 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. However, this facility is not always available as it is very expensive to set up.



	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
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Familiarisation with the jumping lane

Mares (and stallions) undertaking the jumping lane will be able to **walk** down the lane **with the poles down** from 17.00 to 17.30 the evening before the inspection, OR (if you arrive on the day, or after 17.30) from 07.30 to 08.00 on the day of inspection. This facility **MUST** be pre-booked, and an official **MUST** be present to ensure safe movement of all horses around the site. Under no circumstances must horses be schooled down the lane.

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

Team email: inspections@idhsgb.org.uk

Mary Wilson (Trustee, Inspector, Inspection manager), Tel. 01672 520869 Mobile: 07729 516465.

Heather Chaplin (Trustee, Inspector, Inspection Manager) Tel. 01823 601625 / 07392 299912.

Sue Benson – Trustee, Inspection manager.

Graham Chaplin - Inspection manager and non-elected officer.

Mark Mortimer – Inspector and non-elected officer.

Carol Rudd - Inspection manager and non-elected officer.

Ellen Walton – Inspector and inspection manager.

ARENA TEAM MEMBERS:

We are lucky to have a number of willing volunteers who have trained specifically to handle horses during the loose phase of their inspection. The makeup of the team on the day, and their leader, depends on their availability.

SOCIETY ADMINISTRATION OFFICE :

Postal address: IDHS (GB), Holme House, The Dale, Ainstable, Carlisle CA4 9RH

Email: admin@idhsgb.org.uk (general enquiries, membership)

Passport-related enquiries: passports@idhsgb.org.uk

Telephone: 01768 870523 (available 9-00am to 5-00pm Monday – Friday).

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: 5 December 2023

Heather Chaplin, Inspection management team