



ISH Young Breeders National Competition And Educational Event for Breeders of All Ages 2019

The **ISH Young Breeders National Competition** is jointly organised by Teagasc and Horse Sport Ireland. The 2019 competition is generously supported by Ravensdale Lodge Equestrian Centre.

Breeders, producers and other interested parties of all ages are most welcome to attend from 2pm (registration opens 1.30pm). The competition for the young breeders will merge with an education focus for all participants in the afternoon/early evening. Highly respected and experienced industry professionals Jack Doyle (Coach and previously international showjumper), Andrew Hughes (Ennisnag Stud), Philip Scott (Barnfield Equestrian) and Richard Sheane (Cooley Farm) will share their insights and knowledge in open discussion on conformation and athleticism assessment, relating to potential for sport, breeding and market.

It is not a requirement to be an active breeder to partake in the competition.

The ISH Young Breeders National Competition takes place at **Ravensdale Lodge Equestrian Centre** on **Saturday January 26th 2019 starting from ~8:30am (review timetable below)**.

The aims of the Young Breeders Competition are to:

- Encourage young people to become actively involved in assessing and recognising desirable traits in performance horses.
- Improve young people's knowledge of horse breeding and build their knowledge and skill to enable them make informed decisions when developing their own breeding enterprise or investing in stock to produce.
- Opportunity for participants to engage with leading industry experts
- Provides an opportunity for networking with other young people with similar interests

The results of the 2019 National Competition will be used to select a panel from which two teams of four will be selected to represent the Irish Sport Horse Studbook in the World Breeding Federation for Sport Horses (WBFSH) Young Breeders World Championship 2019 to be held in Stadl Paura Austria from the 19th to 22nd July 2019.

At the National Competition eight individuals will be selected in the Junior (16 to 19 years on 1/1/2019) age category and a further eight in the Senior (20 to 25 years on 1/1/2019) age category to go forward for further training and selection. A team of four in both age categories will be chosen to travel to Austria. There is no category for the Youth (14/15 years on 1/1/2019) age category at international level so this age group is confined to national competition only.

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Terms and Conditions ISH Young Breeders National Competition January 26th, 2019

Competition Participants

Young people interested in the breeding, producing, presentation, and judging of horse conformation and athleticism traits are invited to participate in this competition.

The competition will consist of three age groups, two of which are eligible for selection to qualify for the WBFSH International Young Breeders Competition 2019:

Youth	Persons aged 14 or 15 years on the 1 st of January 2019	Eligible for the National Competition only
Junior	Persons aged 16-19 years on the 1 st of January 2019	Eligible for the National Competition and World Championship team selection
Senior	Persons aged 20-25 years of age on the 1 st of January 2019	Eligible for the National Competition and World Championship team selection

Breeders Educational Discussion

Breeders, producers and interested individuals of all ages are invited to join with the young competition participants and the judges to discuss the conformation, athleticism traits, market expectations and sport and/or breeding potential of a selection of sport horses from 3pm.

Entry fee and Booking

The entry fee for this competition is €35 for competition participants (including lunch and supper). Competitor supporters must pay on the day The fee for and €20 for all other participants (including supper). Competitor supporters can purchase their food tickets directly at the venue on the day.

Booking by competitors and by those attending the Breeders Discussion must be made in advance at <https://teagasc.clr.events/> (there is a separate booking form for competitors and for the Discussion attendees).

Closing date for competition entries is Thursday, January 17th 2019.

Closing date for all other spectators/ attendees is Monday January 21st 2019.

Venue

The competition venue is Ravensdale Lodge Equestrian Centre, Anaverna, Ravensdale, Dundalk, Co. Louth Eircode: A91 EKP2

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Programme for the National Competition & Breeder Discussion

Start time for the National Competition may be as early as 9.00am with 8.30am registration, or dependant on numbers registered we may issue a slightly later start time – this will be advised to all competitors on January 18th after the close of competition entries.

Start time for the Educational Demonstration Discussion Merged with the National Competition is 3pm

Time	Activity	Participants
8.30am*	Registration Opens	Competition Participants
9.00am – 9.15am*	In Hand Demonstration & Tips	Competition Participants & their supporters
9.30am*	In Hand Presentation Commences	Competition Participants & their supporters
12.30pm – 1pm	Theory Test	Competition Participants
1pm – 2pm	Lunch	
1.30pm – 2pm	Registration Opens for Educational Session for breeders of all ages	General Public
2.00pm	Conformation Assessment (prejudgement and competition horses)	Competition Participants, their supporters; general public
3.00pm	Loose Movement & Jumping Assessment (prejudgement and competition horses)	Competition Participants, their supporters; general public
4.00pm – 4.30pm	Supper Break	
4.30pm – 5.30pm	Discussion on horses assessed – their traits; & commercial, sport and/or breeding potential	Competition Participants, their supporters; general public
5.30pm	Prize Giving	Competition Participants, their supporters; general public
6pm	Closing Remarks	

*It may be possible to assign a later start time; dependent on the number of competitors registered; the registration time will be confirmed once online registrations close (by Jan 18th).

Competitor Attire

For the discipline 'presenting a horse in hand' participants may wear dark uniform-colored slacks with a dark block- coloured jumper and a tidy shirt with a collar. If weather conditions are inclement then clearly appropriate jacket is permissible. Riding hats (standard PAS015) and gloves must be worn for this discipline by both the handler and the assistant handler person. Jodhpur boots or similar sturdy footwear must be worn. No jeans, tracksuits, or runners are permissible. For all other disciplines participants may wear a suitably clean, tidy coat/jacket.



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Horses

Competitors must bring a suitable horse or pony for the in-hand discipline.

Competitors who do not have access to a suitable horse or pony should make contact with wendy.conlon@teagasc.ie (087/9879083). Effort will be made to accommodate where possible. Note that the competition requires the handler to also work with an assistant handler, so horses and ponies should be accustomed to being followed by assistant handler holding a lunge whip, and be safe to work with in this way. Horses or ponies who pose a risk to competitors will be stood down from the competition.

Competitors are not required to have bred or to own the animal. All animals must be registered in a DAFM approved studbook. Passports must be available for inspection at registration.

Equine premises number and UELN studbook registration number for the animal must be provided with the entry.

If an individual horse/ pony is to be used by multiple competitors (max three) this MUST be acknowledged on the application form, naming all the concerned competitors aligned with an individual animal so that this may be accommodated in the timetabling of the in-hand discipline.

All animals must be turned out to show standard and be shown in a snaffle bridle with a single pair of reins.

Prizes

There will be prizes for the overall first, second and third in all three age groups. Prizes will also be provided for first, second and third in the individual discipline areas of assessing conformation; assessing athleticism; and presenting a horse in hand within each age group. Remember that eight persons in both the junior and senior age categories will win the opportunity to potentially be selected to travel to Austria in July and represent the ISH Studbook at the WBFSh International Young Breeders World Championships.

Disciplines

The Young Breeders competition will consist of the following four disciplines:

1. Theory test
2. Judging conformation traits
3. Judging the gaits of horses loose in the arena and loose jumping
4. Presenting a horse in hand (two elements)
5. Handler
6. Assistant Handler

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1. Theory Test: Each participant will answer 20 multiple choice questions on breeding, stable management, feeding, health, and sport. The questions will be taken from a prepared bank of questions available in advance on the Teagasc website (<https://www.teagasc.ie/rural-economy/rural-development/equine/ish-young-breeders-programme/training-material/>). Each question carries one point. The final mark will be multiplied by 5 to give the score out of 100. Participants can reach 100 points if all the questions are answered correctly.

2. Judging Conformation Traits

Two horses will be pre-judged by the judges and their scores given to competitors with brief discussion on reasons for allocating scores provided by the judges. Three horses will be judged on their conformation by the judges and participants independently. Conformation Score Sheet can be found on the Teagasc website <https://www.teagasc.ie/rural-economy/rural-development/equine/ish-young-breeders-programme/training-material/>.

In the judging of mares 100 points are reached when a participant gives exactly the same scores as the judges. Each deviation is subtracted from 100

3. Judging horses for loose movement and loose jumping

Two horses will be judged as pre-judgement horses and their scores given to competitors with brief discussion on reasons for allocating scores by the judges. Three horses will then be judged by the judges and competitors independently. Score sheet can be found on the Teagasc website <https://www.teagasc.ie/rural-economy/rural-development/equine/ish-young-breeders-programme/training-material/>.

In the judging of gaits of loose horses 100 points are reached when a participant gives exactly the same scores as the judges. Each deviation is subtracted from 100.

4. Before this section of the competition begins there will be a demonstration to show participants the way the judges expect a horse to be presented.

Part of the presentation is the introduction of the young breeder and the horse in the following way:

“My name is (name), my assistant today is (name), I present a (age) years old (breed)(sex) by (sire) out of (dam) by (dams sire)!”

Dimensions of the triangle: short sides at least 15 - 20 meters, long side 25 - 30 meters.

Purpose

The overall purpose of the in-hand discipline is to present the horse in a way that makes the horse look and act in the best possible way both standing still and moving. The horse will be shown in a bridle and reins.

The handler must behave discreetly in order to let the attention be concentrated on the horse. An ‘assistant handler’ will assist in following the horse. Assistant handler persons to accompany each competitor will be chosen by a draw from the other competitors. The

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assistant handler persons will also be scored out of 10 for their effectiveness in reading the situation and assisting to produce a harmonious presentation and a further 10 marks for being in the right place at the right time. This mark will be multiplied by 2 to give a score out of 40.

Please be aware that unnecessary punishment or use of the whip may lead to disqualification in this discipline.

Please see details on how to prepare for this aspect of the competition on the Teagasc website <https://www.teagasc.ie/rural-economy/rural-development/equine/ish-young-breeders-programme/training-material/>.

The judges want the handler to present the horse to best advantage. In the walk as well as in the trot the horse should be given the opportunity to show its movements as freely as possible. On the turns the handler may reduce speed without the horse losing rhythm. In the standing position the horse should be presented in open presentation to the judges. The judges are looking for a harmonious presentation which shows the horse off to its best.

The scores

A maximum of 10 marks will be given for each position. The marking sheet can be viewed on the Teagasc website <https://www.teagasc.ie/rural-economy/rural-development/equine/ish-young-breeders-programme/training-material/>. The six in hand phases are averaged (rounded to one decimal place) and multiplied by 100 to give a final score out of 100

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CODE OF CONDUCT

This code of conduct applies to all young breeders and any other support personnel.

National Rules

Each young breeder, and his or her parent or guardian, where applicable, is responsible for reading the rules of the National Competition and is obligated to comply with and be bound by them.

Co-operation with the Organisers

Each young breeder, and his or her parent or guardian, where applicable, and any other support personnel is required to co-operate with the organisers in carrying out its functions. This includes the requirement to treat all organisers with respect and courtesy and to follow all instructions issued by, and respond in reasonable time to requests from, any Horse Sport Ireland or Teagasc personnel.

Appeals

If a young breeder, and his or her parent or guardian, where applicable, or any support personnel has a complaint to make about any aspect of the competition or selection procedure, including the training regime, he or she must first address the complaint to Team Manager Wendy Conlon. If he or she is unhappy with the response, he or she can raise the matter with Breeding Director of Horse Sport Ireland Alison Corbally. Complaints can be made in writing within seven days of the event and posted to Lorraine McMahon at Horse Sport Ireland; or forwarded by email to wendy.conlon@teagasc.ie or Lmcmahon@horsesportireland.ie. Any young breeder, and his or her parent or guardian where applicable, or any support personnel who does not follow this procedure by raising issues with other parties will be in breach of these terms and conditions.

Cheating

Cheating will not be tolerated. When participating in the various aspects of the competition including theory test, assessment of conformation, and assessment of athleticism traits each participant should keep their eyes on their own answer sheets only. Anybody found to be cheating in any way including accessing phones during the theory test; having brought answers into the theory test; looking at another competitors answer sheets at any time; or conversing with another competitor during these phases of the competition will be given a verbal warning. If the competitor is found to be cheating on a second occasion they will be disqualified from the competition.

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QUALIFYING FOR SELECTION FOR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS 2019

Eight individuals will be selected in the Junior (16 to 19 years on 1/1/2019) age category and a further eight in the Senior (20 to 25 years on 1/1/2019) age category to go forward for further training and selection. A team of three in both age categories will be chosen to travel to Austria. There is no category for Youth (14 /15 years on 1/1/2019) age category at international level so this age group is confined to national competition only.

The highest seven scoring participants overall in the junior and in the senior age categories will be panelled. The judges in consultation with the team manager have the freedom to propose as the eight individual in each age category a person who has impressed at training events over the course of 2018 training season (must have attended a minimum of three training days). Alternatively the top eight at national competition may be accepted.

Panel members must be prepared to attend compulsory training sessions in 2019 prior to the World Championships. Panellists must also be prepared to fund accommodation, food and contribute towards transportation transfers in Austria.

Panel members will be expected to attend a **minimum of three out of four** training/selection days.

Proposed dates are **March 9th, March 23rd, April 6th and April 20th**.

Proposed venues for selection training are:

- Edward Doyle's Farm Kildare
- Kilconnell Stud Tipperary
- Marion Hughes Farm Kilkenny
- West Clare Equestrian Centre Clare

Panellists must inform Wendy Conlon, Teagasc (wendy.conlon@teagasc.ie / 087 9879083) **by February 8th** of their availability to attend the selection/ training dates in March/ April and to travel to Austria from **July 18th – 23rd 2019**, should they be selected. If a panellist is not available either for training (minimum three dates) or the world championship competition itself then the place will be deferred to the next best candidate from the national competition results.

Costs:

Panellists must also be aware that they must contribute a fee of €20 per training day attended in March and April.

Those chosen to represent the Irish Sport Horse Studbook will be required to fund the cost of their accommodation, food and any additional excursions in Austria. These costs will be specifically identified in the coming weeks.