



Horse Sport Ireland Young Handler Championship Series 2018 Information Note

Horse Sport Ireland is pleased to announce details of their sponsorship for the inaugural Young Handler Championship Series 2018. The aim of this Championship is to assist in the development of the skills of young handlers to prepare and present horses for show and sale.

The Economic Contribution of the Sport Horse Industry to the Irish Economy 2017 highlighted that since 2012 the involvement of young breeders (≤ 30 yrs) in the sport horse industry has declined from 8.1% to 3.7% in 2016. In 2016 just 0.19% of breeders were less than 20 years of age. The Championship is aimed at encouraging more young breeders/producers to become involved in the industry. It will also provide a unique opportunity for young handlers that are new to the industry to become involved in breeding initiatives and to gain contact and information/education and encourage long term involvement in the breeding industry.

Competition Format

The Championship will run over five qualifiers held at existing shows or events within the five Irish Horse Board regions and will take place from June to September to allow for maximum participation. The top three young handlers from each qualifier will be eligible to compete in the final.

Young Handlers may enter one of two age categories:

- Junior: 14 – 18 years
- Senior: 19 – 25 years

Each young handler will be required to do the following:

- Use a suitable horse or pony to compete. The young handler is not required to have bred or to own the animal. All animals must be registered in a Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM) Approved Studbook.
- Turn out the horse/pony for competition.
- Understand and discuss the horse/ponies pedigree and performance pedigree.
- Discuss the animal's performance history and progeny if applicable in competition/breeding.
- Exhibit the horse/pony on a triangle in walk and trot.
- Give a short description to promote the animal to the judge(s).
- Create a short video to accompany the description to highlight the animal's attributes (as if for sale).

Prize Money

There is a total of prize fund of €25,000 for this Championship, with a prize fund of €3,000 for each qualifier and a prize fund of €10,000 for the final. The prize breakdown for each section (Junior and Senior) will be as follows:

Qualifier Prize Breakdown		Final Prize Breakdown	
1 st	€500	1 st	€1750
2 nd	€350	2 nd	€1250
3 rd	€250	3 rd	€1000
4 th	€175	4 th	€550
5 th	€125	5 th	€250
6 th	€100	6 th	€200
Total:	€1,500	Total:	€5000

Terms and Conditions

- There are two age categories for the competition. Junior: 14 years to 18 years (as of 1st January 2018) and Senior: 19 to 25 years (as of 1st January 2018). Proof of age will be requested.
- Competitors are permitted to enter more than one regional qualifier but once qualified for the final cannot compete again.
- Competitors will show a horse – mare or gelding three years old or over. The animal must be registered in a DAFM approved studbook. Passports must be available for inspection at the show.
- The horse must be unique within each age category (i.e. can only be used by one competitor in each age category at the qualifier).

- The horse will not be judged, however must be turned out to show standard.
- Horses must be shown in hand.
- No colts allowed.
- Horses need not be the property or bred by the handler; however, the handler will be required to provide full details regarding pedigree and performance of the animal.
- Equine premises number and UELN Studbook Registration number for the animal must be provided with the entry.
- Entry fee must not exceed €20.
- Horses shown in this class may compete in other classes at the show.
- All exhibitors must remain in the show ring until prizes are presented, otherwise prizes are forfeited.
- Entries should be made directly to Secretary of the Show as per the application.
- All exhibitors should ensure they have adequate insurance cover to exhibit their horse. Each qualifier will be run under public liability insurance the designated venue. Horse Sport Ireland bear no involvement to the running of the event. Please note that Horse Sport Ireland shall not be responsible or liable for any loss or damage, (indirect, incidental, consequential) in any form incurred by any person, whether or not foreseeable and regardless of the form of the act in which such a claim may be brought, with respect to the Horse Sport Ireland's role as Sponsor.
- The privacy & protection of your data is very important to HSI & your details & information supplied in the entry application will only be used for studbook purposes, breed improvement research and future promotion. Please note competitors may be videoed for social media and other media outlets for studbook purposes on the day of the competition.
- These rules should be read in conjunction with the general rules of the show.
- In exceptional cases substitution horses may be presented but have to meet the criteria as outlined.
- The competition will be judged under the following headings:
 - Control of horse
 - Skill in showing – horse in walk, trot and stand for conformation assessment
 - Courtesy and Sportsmanship
 - Turnout and attire of both handler and horse
 - Knowledge of breeding of horse and potential

Marks for the competition

(Competitor is required to show horse in hand unaided.)

- Control of horse (marks 1 -10)
- Skill in showing
 - Enter Arena (marks 1-10)
 - First open stance (marks 1-10)
 - Horse in walk (marks 1-10)
 - Trot (marks 1-10)
 - Second open stance (marks 1-10)
- Courtesy and sportsmanship (marks 1-10)
- Turnout of horse (marks 1-10)
- Turnout of handler (marks 1-10)
- Marketing Horse (3 elements) (marks 1-20)
 - 1. Knowledge of breeding of horse including dam line
 - 2. Discuss potential for horse
 - 3. Produce a short marketing video of horse
 - Video to include:
 - Name, age and pedigree of horse
 - Photograph of horse standing in open stance
 - Horses loose paces (trot and canter)
 - Video should be between 30 – 45 seconds in duration. It should be shown to the judges on the day of the show by means of a smartphone

Overall Impression (marks 1-20)

Total marks = 130

