

Instructions for Sport Horse Veterinary Inspection

Thank you for participating in the inspection of the Irish Draught and Irish Draught Sport Horse. The inspection process needs to be thorough, consistent and coordinated with the Irish Draught Inspectors who will be considering the horses relative to breed standard. The inspection of the stallion is much more rigorous than for mares and will need considerable attention as is required on the veterinary form.

General Format

Generally, veterinarians are asked to accompany the inspection team and make themselves available to confer with the Inspectors during the inspection process should they ask.

Horses should be inspected by the veterinarian *prior* to the Irish Inspectors to ensure that the horse is sound. Should the veterinarian find the horse to be unsound, the horse may be excused from the inspection with a deferral, however, once the horse is brought forward to the Irish Inspectors, a veterinarian's deferral is not possible.

Veterinary Guidelines for Stallions

1. The veterinarian or assistant should first check the IDHSNA registration papers of each horse for markings and/or microchip to ensure the horse presented matches the paperwork. If there is any significant discrepancy, the vet should take a hair sample for DNA testing and complete a new marking chart for the horse.
2. The Veterinarian will perform a physical examination the goal of which is to reveal any grossly obvious defects that may be heritable, and/or serious conformational defects that may compromise future soundness. The veterinarian inspection of the stallion includes examination of the horse in-hand and at a walk, trot on a hard surface, and at liberty in an arena. Examine cardiopulmonary system prior to, and immediately following the "at liberty" portion of the inspection. Note abnormal respiratory noise, heart murmur or arrhythmia. Palpate throat for evidence of surgical scars. Perform brief ocular exam, brief oral exam, palpation of joints and tendons and visual examination of hooves. Palpate scrotum for presence of two grossly normal, completely descended testes. Palpate for evidence of inguinal or umbilical hernia
3. The Veterinarian will observe the stallion for soundness. Horses may be walked and jogged on a hard surface for observation. Stallions must be sound for inspection. At this time, a stallion may be deferred for unsoundness. The veterinarian's finding of soundness to continue to the inspection phase will be final. Observations will be noted on the provided Veterinarian Inspection sheet.
4. The Veterinarian will record height and bone measurement.
 - Measure and record height at highest point of withers. Horse should be standing on a firm, flat surface, with weight evenly placed on all four limbs and the front limbs square
 - Measure circumference of proximal metacarpus just distal to the flare of the splint bones. The measuring tape should be pulled snug, but not so tight that it indents the superficial flexor tendon. If metacarpal exostoses are present, perform the measurement on the opposite limb. If exostoses are present in both limbs, measure distal to the bump.

Note: Diagnosis of lameness or degrees of lameness does not fall within the scope of this soundness examination, therefore, flexion tests should not be performed as part of the examination. At this point, the horse may be deferred for unsoundness to be inspected at a later date. The site veterinarian's finding of soundness to continue to the inspection phase will be final.

Veterinary Guidelines for Mares and Geldings

1. The veterinarian or assistant should first check the IDHSNA registration papers of each horse for markings and/or microchip to ensure the horse presented matches the paperwork. If there is any

significant discrepancy, the vet should take a hair sample for DNA testing and complete a new marking chart for the horse.

2. The Veterinarian will examine mares and geldings in-hand only. (Mares and geldings are not required to free jump.) A cursory visual inspection of the mare or gelding will be performed to note heritable defects and conformational defects (curbs, spavins etc) and determine any unsoundness or gross conformational faults. Observations will be noted on the provided Veterinarian Inspection sheet. Any observations of a defect that might cause the mare or gelding to fail and require diagnostic tools not available at the Inspection site will require the owner to have the horse examined by a board certified veterinarian within 30 days of the Inspection at the owner's expense. The Inspectors may pass a horse contingent upon further satisfactory testing.
3. The mare or gelding will be trotted up for soundness. Note evidence of unsoundness or gross ataxia. See Note below.
4. The Veterinarian will record height and bone measurement.
 - Measure and record height at highest point of withers. Horse should be standing on a firm, flat surface, with weight evenly placed on all four limbs and the front limbs square
 - Measure circumference of proximal metacarpus just distal to the flare of the splint bones The measuring tape should be pulled snug, but not so tight that it indents the superficial flexor tendon. If metacarpal exostoses are present, perform the measurement on the opposite limb. If exostoses are present in both limbs, measure distal to the bump.

Note: Diagnosis of lameness or degrees of lameness does not fall within the scope of this soundness examination, therefore, flexion tests should not be performed as part of the examination. If the veterinarian believes that the mare or gelding has a permanent lameness or unsoundness due to an injury, the vet may report those findings to the inspectors, and the team will need to rule on whether or not the mare or gelding may be inspected. Horse owners are encouraged to bring paperwork to support a injury-related lameness claim. A mare will be excused if she demonstrates an acute lameness or unsoundness not stemming from an obvious injury. At this point, the mare/gelding is either passed on to the inspection phase or deferred to be inspected at a later date. The site veterinarian's finding of soundness to continue to the inspection phase will be final.

See forms below.

IDHSNA VETERINARY INSPECTION
Sporthorse Stallion Form

Horse: _____ Owner: _____

Observation*	Y	N	Remarks
Cardiac arrhythmia or murmur	Y	N	
Abnormal respiratory noise	Y	N	
Surgical scars	Y	N	
Lameness on arena surface	Y	N	
Lameness on hard surface	Y	N	
Abnormal ocular exam	Y	N	
Abnormal incisor occlusion**	Y	N	
Umbilical or inguinal hernia	Y	N	
Abnormal genitalia	Y	N	
Limb abnormalities*	Y	N	
Other significant findings or continued remarks from above:			
Height:		Bone:	

*Any abnormality that cannot be diagnosed by visual (or auscultory) and manual examination alone should be noted as "suspect" and deferred for additional diagnostics.

**Malocclusions one half the width of the incisor with head in neutral position allowed.

Signature: _____ Date: _____



IRISH DRAUGHT HORSE SOCIETY OF North America
 Purebred and Sporthorse Mare and Gelding
VETERINARY INSPECTION Form

HORSE:				REG:	
GENDER:		COLOUR:		D.O.B:	
HEIGHT:		GIRTH:		BONE:	
COMMENTS & OBSERVATIONS:					
SIGNATURE:				DATE:	
	(Veterinary Name & Address)				