2023

Irish Draught and Irish Draught Sport Horse Registration Rules

Irish Draught Registration Rules

Contents

1 The Registry 3
2 Guiding Principle 3
3 Date of Effect 3
4 Definitions 3
5 Purpose 4
5.1 Basic Objective of Inspection 4
5.2 Characteristics of the Breed 4
5.2.1 Height 4
5.2.2 Bone 5
5.2.3 Head 5
5.2.4 Neck 5
5.2.5 Front legs 5
5.2.6 Shoulders 5
5.2.7 Hind legs 5
5.2.8 Action 5
5.2.9 Colour 5
6 Sections of the Irish Draught Horse Studbook 5
6.1 The Main Section of the Irish Draught Horse Studbook 5
6.1.1 Classes for Irish Draught Stallions 6
6.1.2 Classes for Irish Draught Mares 6
6.1.3 Classes for Irish Draught Geldings 6
6.1.4 Classes for Irish Draught Foals 7
6.2 The Supplementary Section of the Irish Draught Horse Studbook 7
6.2.1 Classes for the Supplementary Section of the Irish Draught Horse Studbook 7
7 Registration 7
7.1 Eligibility 7
7.2 Definition of “Purebred Irish Draught” 7
7.3 Proof of Pedigree 7
8 Inspection for Breeding Stock Approval (Main Section) 8

8.1 Eligibility 8
8.2 Amnesty for female and gelded progeny of uninspected mares (temporary measure) 8
8.3 Classification 9
8.3.1 Class 1 9
8.3.2 Class 2 9
8.3.3 Class 3 9
8.3.4 Uninspected (Class 4) 9
8.3.5 Safety and animal welfare 9
8.4 Approval of Irish Draughts in the Irish Draught Sport Horse Studbook 10
9 Inspection for the Irish Draught Grade-up Register (Supplementary Section) 10
9.1 Eligibility 10
9.2 Qualification 10
9.3 Classification 10
10 Re-Presentations/Appeals Procedures for Selection (Inspections) 10
10.1 Stallions that do not meet the radiograph requirements 11
10.2 Horses that do not meet the Clinical Veterinary Requirements 11
10.3 Horses that do not meet the conformation, movement, or athleticism requirements 11
10.4 Horses that are excused due to veterinary, safety or animal welfare concerns 11
11 Recognition of Performance 12
12 Cross-Registration/Endorsement into and from the IDHSC Studbooks 12
12.1 Table of Equivalences 12
12.2 Cross-Registration/endorsement into the IDHSC Studbooks 12
12.3 Cross-Registration/Endorsement into sister society studbooks 13

Irish Draught Registration Rules

1 The Registry

The Irish Draught Horse Society of Canada ("IDHSC" or "The Society") registers and recognizes purebred and Irish Draught Sport horses through a three-step process:

1. **Registration**, which provides independent confirmation of the horse's breeding. This is accomplished through DNA testing or blood-typing and results in horses being classified as Irish Draught Class 4 (uninspected);

2. **Inspection (selection),** which provides independent evaluation that the horse conforms to the Irish Draught Horse breed standard. This is only open to registered horses meeting pedigree requirements, is accomplished through formal inspection of the horse, and results in horses being classified as Irish Draught Class 1, Irish Draught Class 2, Irish Draught Class 3, and potentially, Approved Irish Draught Sport Horse. Certain Approved Irish Draught Sport Horse mares may also be classified for entry into the Irish Draught Supplementary Grade-up Register.

3. **Recognition of Performance (merit)**, which provides specific recognition for performance success of mares, geldings and stallions holding the required levels of approval for breeding.

2 Guiding Principle

"A single, worldwide standard for Irish Draught registration and selection."

The IDHSC is dedicated to the preservation of the Irish Draught Horse, a rare breed. In recognition of the endangered status of the breed, the Society actively supports the worldwide studbook for the Purebred Irish Draught and close cooperation among the Irish Draught Horse Societies worldwide (Ireland, United States, Great Britain, Australia and others).

In support of these objectives, the IDHSC will attempt to maintain consistency with other societies in the following order of precedence:

1. The Irish Horse Register (Ireland)
2. The Irish Draught Horse Society of North America (United States)
3. The Irish Draught Horse Society of Great Britain
4. (other societies)

Organizations registering, inspecting and holding the studbooks for the Irish Draught Horse in Ireland, the United States, Great Britain, Australia and other countries recognized by the holder of the Studbook in Ireland are considered to be "sister societies"

3 Date of Effect

These rules take effect as of **April 1, 2023**

4 Definitions

The following definitions are provided to assist readers in understanding this document:

- Board/Board of Directors: In these rules, “the Board” or “the Board of Directors” refers to the Board of Directors of the Irish Draught Horse Society of Canada.
- Inspection: also known as selection. The process by which eligible horses are reclassified into Class 1, Class 2, Class 3, the Grade Up register and potentially, Approved Irish Draught Sport Horse.
- Merit: Additional recognition of a horse’s achievement through its own competition record or that of its progeny. Only Class 1 and Class 2 horses are eligible for Merit.
- Partbred/Partbred Irish Draught: Also known as “Irish Draught Sport Horse”. A horse with verified minimum 12.5% (1/8) but less than 100% Irish Draught blood.
- Selection: Also known as inspection. The process by which eligible horses are reclassified into Class 1, Class 2, Class 3, the Grade Up register and potentially, Approved Irish Draught Sport Horse.
- Sister Society: another organization operating an Irish Draught Horse studbook recognized by the Studbook of Origin. Currently, in addition to the operator of the Irish Draught Studbook in Ireland (Horse Sport Ireland), these societies are the Irish Draught Horse Society of Great Britain and the Irish Draught Horse Society of North America.
- Studbook of Origin: The Irish Draught Studbook of Ireland (managed on behalf of the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine by Horse Sport Ireland)

5 Purpose

The Irish Draught Horse Studbook of Canada is one of two studbooks maintained by the IDHSC. The IDHSC’s Irish Draught Studbook records Canada’s purebred Irish Draught horses, records their classification and recognizes horses that are approved for breeding, and geldings that are considered exemplary of the breed (Class 1 and 2 Irish Draughts).

5.1 Basic Objective of Inspection

To breed Irish Draught horses with conformation, movement and temperament that conform to the breed standard, which will make good quality, sound and versatile horses.

5.2 Characteristics of the Breed

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.

5.2.1 Height

Ideally Irish Draughts should stand between 158cms (15.2hh) and a maximum of 170cms (16.3hh) at maturity.

5.2.2 Bone

Approximately 23 centimetres (9 inches) of strong, clean, flat bone.

5.2.3 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.

5.2.4 Neck

Good length of rein with head well set on, neck should be correctly muscled and well shaped.

5.2.5 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.

5.2.6 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.

5.2.7 Hind legs

Strong gaskins, well shaped clean hocks set into short shins. Should not be cow-hocked or wide apart at the hocks.

5.2.8 Action

Should be straight and free not heavy or ponderous. Movement should be active and strong, showing good flexion of joints and freedom of the shoulders.

5.2.9 Colour

Any strong whole colour including bay, grey, chestnut, black, brown and dun. Excessive white markings are not desirable.

6 Sections of the Irish Draught Horse Studbook

The Irish Draught Horse Studbook comprises two sections:

a) The Main Section
b) The Supplementary Section

6.1 The Main Section of the Irish Draught Horse Studbook

The Main Section of the Irish Draught Horse Studbook records all registered Irish Draught Horses.

6.1.1 Classes for Irish Draught Stallions

There are six classes for Irish Draught stallions as follows:

a) **Registered Irish Draught (RID)**: This class is for Irish Draught stallions that were approved for breeding prior to 2012. This class is now closed.
b) **Purebred Irish Draught (ID)**: This class is for Irish Draught stallions that as of 2012, had not passed inspection. This class is now closed.
c) **Irish Draught Class 1 (ID C1)**: This class is for Irish Draught stallions that pass both veterinary and conformation/movement/athleticism phases of inspection.
d) **Irish Draught Class 2 (ID C2)**: This class is for Irish Draught stallions that pass only the veterinary phase of inspection.
e) **Irish Draught Class 3 (ID C3)**: This class is for Irish Draught stallions that did not pass the veterinary phase of inspection[2].
f) **Uninspected (ID C4)**: This class is for Irish Draught stallions that have not yet been inspected or that are not eligible for inspection.

6.1.2 Classes for Irish Draught Mares

There are six classes for Irish Draught mares as follows:

a) **Registered Irish Draught (RID)**: This class is for Irish Draught mares that were approved for breeding prior to 2012. This class is now closed.
b) **Purebred Irish Draught (ID)**: This class is for Irish Draught mares that as of 2012, had not passed inspection. This class is now closed.
c) **Irish Draught Class 1 (ID C1)**: This class is for Irish Draught mares that pass both veterinary and conformation/movement/athleticism phases of inspection.
d) **Irish Draught Class 2 (ID C2)**: This class is for Irish Draught mares that pass only the veterinary phase of inspection.
e) **Irish Draught Class 3 (ID C3)**: This class is for Irish Draught mares that did not pass the veterinary phase of inspection.
f) **Uninspected (ID C4)**: This class is for Irish Draught mares that have not yet been inspected or that are not eligible for inspection.

6.1.3 Classes for Irish Draught Geldings

There are six classes for Irish Draught geldings as follows:

a) **Registered Irish Draught (RID)**: This class is for Irish Draught geldings that were inspected and approved prior to 2012. This class is now closed.
b) **Purebred Irish Draught (ID)**: This class is for Irish Draught geldings that as of 2012, had not been approved through inspection. This class is now closed.
c) **Irish Draught Class 1 (ID C1)**: This class is for Irish Draught Geldings that pass both veterinary and conformation/movement/athleticism phases of inspection.
d) **Irish Draught Class 2 (ID C2)**: This class is for Irish Draught geldings that pass only the veterinary phase of inspection.

e) **Irish Draught Class 3 (ID C3)**: This class is for Irish Draught geldings that did not pass the veterinary phase of inspection.
f) **Uninspected (ID C4)**: This class is for Irish Draught geldings that have not yet been inspected or that are not eligible for inspection.

6.1.4 Classes for Irish Draught Foals

There are two classes for Irish Draught foals as follows:

a) **Purebred Irish Draught (ID)**: This class is for Irish Draught foals that as of 2012, had not been approved through inspection. This class is now closed.
b) **Uninspected (ID C4)**: This class is for Irish Draught foals that have not yet been inspected or that are not eligible for inspection.

6.2 The Supplementary Section of the Irish Draught Horse Studbook

The Supplementary Section of the Irish Draught Horse Studbook records mares whose progeny by an RID, Class 1 or Class 2 Irish Draught stallion are eligible for entry into the uninspected class (Class 4) of the Main Section of the Irish Draught Horse Studbook, and eligible to be presented for inspection.

6.2.1 Classes for the Supplementary Section of the Irish Draught Horse Studbook

There are two classes in the Supplementary Section of the Irish Draught Horse Studbook:

a) **Appendix Irish Draught (AID)**: This class is for mares that were classified as AID prior to 2012. This class is now closed.
b) **Grade-up Register**: This class is for Irish Draught Sport Horse mares that meet pedigree and inspection requirements as described in paragraph 8.

7 Registration

7.1 Eligibility

a) Registration is open to all horses with purebred Irish Draught blood as defined in paragraph 7.2. Irish Draught blood must be proven as per paragraph 7.3.
b) Horses will be registered regardless of when or how they were conceived, (e.g., via live cover, artificial insemination, embryo transfer, etc.), provided they meet the requirements for Irish Draught parentage.

7.2 Definition of “Purebred Irish Draught”

A horse is considered a purebred Irish Draught if, as per paragraph 6.3 its parents are:

a) any combination of ID, RID5, Class 1, Class 2, Class 3, Uninspected Irish Draught horses; OR
b) an RID, Class 1 or Class 2 stallion, and an AID mare; OR
c) an RID, Class 1 or Class 2 stallion, and a mare listed in the Irish Draught Grade-up Register.

7.3 Proof of Pedigree

Horses must have their parentage verified by DNA testing, or if verification cannot be done by DNA

testing, blood typing shall be used.

8 Inspection for Breeding Stock Approval (Main Section)

8.1 Eligibility

a) Other than as described in paragraph 7.2, only horses that are fully registered or cross-registered with the Society as purebred Irish Draughts and have proven parentage as follows are eligible for inspection:

- The horse's sire must be recorded as RID, Class 1 or Class 2 in the IDHSC Irish Draught studbook, in a sister society's Irish Draught studbook or in the Irish Draught Studbook of Origin; and
- The horse's dam must be recorded as RID, Class 1, Class 2, AID or Grade Up Register in the IDHSC Irish Draught Studbook, in a sister society's Irish Draught studbook or in the Irish Draught studbook or origin.

b) For clarity, other than as described in paragraph 7.2, any progeny of a Class 3 or Uninspected (Class 4) sire or dam are not eligible for inspection.

c) In cases where a Class 4 stallion or mare with progeny is subsequently inspected and reclassified into Class 1 or Class 2, the progeny's eligibility for inspection will be adjusted to reflect the new classification of the sire or dam.

8.2 Amnesty for female and gelded progeny of uninspected mares (temporary measure)

Recognizing that a large number of purebred horses have not been inspected, and in response to the fact that Canada's herd of Irish Draughts has not had the same opportunity for inspection as other countries, the IDHSC has adopted a temporary measure of granting the right to be inspected to progeny of certain uninspected mares. This amnesty is a temporary measure and may be repealed by the Board at any time.

Under the amnesty, female and gelded progeny of uninspected Irish Draught Mares by RID, Class 1 or Class 2 stallions that meet the following conditions are eligible for inspection for Class 1 status:

a) The horse being presented for inspection under the amnesty:

- must be a mare or a gelding. Stallions are not eligible for inspection under the amnesty.
- if imported to Canada, must be resident in Canada prior to termination of the amnesty program in the originating country.

b) The sire of the horse being presented under the amnesty:

- must be classified as RID, Class 1 or Class 2 in the IDHSC Irish Draught studbook, in the Irish Draught studbook of any of the sister societies, or in the Studbook of Origin.

c) The dam of the horse being presented under the amnesty:

- has not been inspected and is classified as ID or uninspected (Class 4) in the Irish Draught Horse Studbook in Canada, in the Irish Draught studbook of any of the sister societies, or in the Studbook of Origin.

- the recorded pedigree of the dam must show:
  - her sire is classified RID, Class 1 or Class 2 in the Irish Draught Horse Studbook in Canada, in the Irish Draught studbook of any of the sister societies, or in the Studbook of Origin, and
  - her dam is classified as RID, Class 1, Class 2, AID or Grade up in the Irish Draught Horse Studbook in Canada, in the Irish Draught studbook of any of the sister societies, or in the Studbook of Origin.
  - If imported to Canada, must be resident in Canada prior to termination of the amnesty program in the originating country.

d) The progeny of "Class 3" or "Uninspected (CLASS 4)" Irish Draught Horse stallions are not eligible under this amnesty.

e) Because the amnesty inspection follows the mare inspection process, any progeny of a gelding granted Class 1 or Class 2 under the amnesty remains ineligible for inspection. Note this might arise if the progeny was sired prior to gelding or sired after gelding via artificial insemination.

8.3 Classification

In order to be classified in Class 1, Class 2 or Class 3, horses must undergo an inspection process according to rules and procedures set by the Society. The inspection process includes components assessing veterinary, conformation, type, movement and athleticism requirements.

8.3.1 Class 1

These horses have been inspected and found to meet veterinary requirements as well as the required standards for conformation, type, movement and athleticism.

8.3.2 Class 2

These horses have been inspected, have been found to meet the veterinary requirements, but found to not meet the at least one of the required standards for conformation, type, movement and athleticism.

8.3.3 Class 3

These horses have been inspected and found to not meet the veterinary requirements. Note that in most cases, the inspection process will not evaluate these horses for conformation, type, movement or athleticism.

8.3.4 Uninspected (Class 4)

These horses and foals have not been inspected. Note as per paragraph 7.1, not all Uninspected (Class 4) horses are eligible for inspection.

8.3.5 Safety and animal welfare

The IDHSC reserves the right to excuse a horse from the inspection process if there is agreement among the inspection party (technical delegate, inspectors, veterinary) that there is a safety or animal welfare concern. In these cases, based on advice from the inspection party, the IDHSC Board will assign the horse an interim classification other than Class 1. This classification will only

be revised in accordance with paragraph 10.4.

8.4 Approval of Irish Draughts in the Irish Draught Sport Horse Studbook

a) In cases where the inspectors consider it appropriate and in their sole discretion, stallions, mares and geldings achieving Class 1 or Class 2 that are suitable sport horse breeding stock quality may, with the owner's agreement, be also classified Approved Irish Draught Sport Horse.
b) Any Irish Draught Horse achieving Class 1 or Class 2, and silver merit will be automatically also classified as an Approved Irish Draught Sport Horse.

9 Inspection for the Irish Draught Grade-up Register (Supplementary Section)

9.1 Eligibility

Irish Draught Sport Horse mares shall be eligible for inspection for the Grade-up Register if they meet all of the following pedigree requirements:

a) the mare is not eligible for registry in the Irish Draught Horse Studbook; AND
b) one parent is classified Registered Irish Draught (RID) or Class 1; AND
c) the other parent is registered in the main section of the relevant studbook; AND
d) three of the mare's grandparents are any combination of Registered Irish Draught (RID) or Class 1 Irish Draught; AND
e) the fourth grandparent is registered in the main section of the relevant studbook as Jockey-club (or equivalent) registered Thoroughbred, Connemara Pony, or Irish Draught Sport Horse/ Irish Sport Horse with recorded pedigree of Jockey-club (or equivalent) registered Thoroughbred/ Irish Draught/ Connemara Pony descent only.

In exceptional situations and following a recommendation by the registration officer, when there is a question as to a mare's eligibility for inspection for the grade up register, the Board may consider reviewing the pedigree and other attributes of a horse submitted for inspection and may in its sole discretion grant or refuse inspection.

9.2 Qualification

a) Mares must undergo and pass a formal inspection according to rules and procedures set by the Society.
b) To be approved for the Grade-up Register, mares must exemplify the guidelines of the Irish Draught breed standard and offer potential for improvement to the breed.

9.3 Classification

Mares that have been inspected and found to meet the requirements for the Grade-up register will receive the Classification "Approved Irish Draught Sport Horse / Irish Draught Grade-up Register"

10 Re-Presentations/Appeals Procedures for Selection (Inspections)

When horses are presented for inspection and do not achieve Class 1, the inspection decision may be appealed or the horse may be re-presented for inspection once, as described in the following sections.

10.1 Stallions that do not meet the radiograph requirements

Owners of stallions that are deemed by the IDHSC Radiography Veterinary Panel to not meet the radiograph requirements may appeal the findings of the examination once. The conditions of the appeal are as follows:

a) the owner of the horse must apply to appeal the findings of the radiographic examination within one month of the original finding in writing to the registration officer of the IDHSC;
b) the appeal will involve the examination of the original radiographs by a second Radiography Veterinary Panel chosen by the IDSHC.
c) the second Radiography Veterinary Panel may require a new set of radiographs be taken; and
d) the full costs of the re-examination will be borne by the owner of the stallion.

The decision of the second Radiography Veterinary Panel shall be final.

10.2 Horses that do not meet the Clinical Veterinary Requirements

Owners of horses that do not meet the clinical veterinary requirements may appeal the findings of the veterinary examination once. The conditions of the appeal are as follows:

a) the owner of the horse must apply to have the horse re-examined within one month of the original examination in writing to the registration officer of the IDHSC;
b) the owner of the horse shall arrange, at their own expense, to have the horse examined by a veterinary practice nominated by the IDHSC;
c) the re-examination shall only be carried out in respect of the condition(s) for which the horse originally failed the clinical veterinary examination

The decision of the veterinary practice nominated by IDHSC, in respect of each examination shall be final.

10.3 Horses that do not meet the conformation, movement, or athleticism requirements

Horses that do not meet the conformation, type, movement, or athleticism requirements for Class 1 may be re-presented on one occasion at a subsequent inspection date. The conditions of the re-presentation are as follows:

a) the re-inspection shall only be carried out in respect of the criteria for which the horse originally did not meet requirements; and
b) the cost of the second inspection shall be borne by the owner.

The decision of the second inspection panel shall be final.

10.4 Horses that are excused due to veterinary, safety or animal welfare concerns

Horses that are excused from the inspection process due to safety or animal welfare concerns under section 7.3 may be re-presented on one occasion at a subsequent inspection date. The conditions of the re-presentation are as follows:

a) the cost of the second inspection shall be borne by the owner.

b) the owner may submit a rationale to the IDHSC Board to adjust the horse's interim classification. The IDHSC's Board decision on adjusting the interim classification will be final.
c) the interim classification will be replaced by the decision of inspectors at the second inspection.

The decision of the second inspection panel shall be final.

11 Recognition of Performance

Horses that have been classified as Irish Draught Class 1 or Class 2 are eligible to be assigned additional recognition ("merit") for performance as per the Recognition of Performance Rules published from time to time by the IDHSC.

12 Cross-Registration/Endorsement into and from the IDHSC Studbooks

The harmonized studbooks have agreed to recognize registration, selection and performance recognition accorded through one another's studbooks. This allows for freer movement of genetic materials globally, supporting conservation efforts of Irish Draught societies worldwide.

12.1 Table of Equivalences

The following table identifies sister society and Studbook of Origin classifications equivalent to IDHSC classifications:

Canadian Classification	Foreign Classification[6]		
	Ireland / Studbook of Origin	**IDHSNA**	**IDHS(GB)**
RID	RID	RID	RID
AID	AID	AID	AID
ID	ID	ID	ID
Approved IDSH (must have required pedigree)	ISH NA/1, ISH Approved (stallion) ISH Select (mare)	RIDSH, SID	IDSH
IDSH (must have required pedigree)	ISH	IDSH	Partbred Irish Draught
Class 1 Irish Draught	Class 1 Irish Draught	Class 1 Irish Draught	Class 1 Irish Draught
Class 2 Irish Draught	Class 2 Irish Draught	Class 2 Irish Draught	Class 2 Irish Draught
Class 3 Irish Draught	Class 3 Irish Draught	Class 3 Irish Draught	Class 3 Irish Draught
Class 4 Irish Draught Uninspected	Class 4 Irish Draught Uninspected	Class 4 Irish Draught Uninspected	Class 4 Irish Draught Uninspected
Irish Draught Grade-up Register	Irish Draught Grade-up Register	Irish Draught Grade-up Register	Irish Draught Grade-up Register

12.2 Cross-Registration/endorsement into the IDHSC Studbooks

a) Members' horses that have been previously registered and/or inspected with a sister society may be cross-registered or endorsed into the appropriate studbook in Canada, provided the

horse meets the requirements of the rules of the IDHSC and sufficient documentary evidence is provided to the satisfaction of the IDHSC, including:

- original registration documents from the sister society;
- proof of pedigree as described in section 7.3;
- horse identification documents; and
- inspection documentation (where applicable).

b) When there is a question as to a horse's eligibility for cross-registration or endorsement by the relevant IDHSC studbook, the Board may review the pedigree and inspection results of the horse and may in its sole discretion grant or refuse cross-registration.

12.3 Cross-Registration/Endorsement into sister society studbooks

In support of its guiding principle, the IDHSC will assist members in efforts to have their Irish Draught or Irish Draught Sport Horses cross-registered into or endorsed by other registries or studbooks.

Irish Draught Sport Horse Registration Rules

Contents

1 Guiding Principle 2
2 Date of Effect 2
3 Definitions 3
4 Purpose 3
4.1 Basic Objectives of Selection 3
4.2 Characteristics of the Irish Draught Sport Horse 3
5 Sections of the Irish Draught Sport Horse Studbook 3
6 Registration 4
6.1 Eligibility 4
6.2 Definition of “Purebred Irish Draught” 4
6.3 Definition of “Irish Draught Sport Horse”, also known as “Partbred Irish Draught Horse” 4
6.4 Proof of Pedigree 4
7 Inspection for Breeding Stock Approval 5
7.1 Eligibility 5
7.2 Classification 5
7.2.1 Approved Irish Draught Sport Horse: 5
7.2.2 Unapproved Irish Draught Sport Horses: 5
7.2.3 Horses excused from inspection for safety or animal welfare reasons 5
8 Re-Presentations/Appeals Procedures for Inspections 5
8.1 Stallions that do not meet the radiograph requirements 6
8.2 Horses that do not meet the Clinical Veterinary Requirements 6
8.3 Horses that do not meet the conformation, movement, athleticism or requirements 6
8.4 Horses that are excused due to veterinary, safety or animal welfare concerns 6
9 Recognition of Performance 7
10 Cross-Registration/Endorsement into and from the IDHSC Studbooks 7
10.1 Cross-Registration/endorsement into the IDHSC Studbooks 7
10.2 Cross-Registration/Endorsement into sister society studbooks 8

Irish Draught Sport Horse Registration Rules

The Irish Draught Horse Society of Canada registers and recognizes purebred and partbred Irish Draught horses through a three-step process:

1. **Registration**, which provides independent confirmation of the horse's breeding. This is accomplished through DNA testing or blood-typing and results in horses being designated as Irish Draught Sport Horse.

2. **Inspection (selection),** which provides independent evaluation that the horse conforms breeding objective for Irish Draught Sport Horses. This is only open to registered horses, is accomplished through formal inspection of the horse, and results in horses being classified as Approved Irish Draught Sport Horse. Certain Approved Irish Draught Sport Horse mares may also be designated for entry into the Irish Draught Grade-up Register.

3. **Recognition of Performance**, which provides specific recognition for performance success of mares, geldings and stallions holding the highest levels of approval for breeding.

1 Guiding Principle

The Irish Draught Horse Society of Canada (IDHSC) is dedicated to the preservation of the Irish Draught Horse, a rare breed. In recognition of the endangered status of the breed, the Society actively supports the establishment of a worldwide book for the Purebred Irish Draught and close cooperation among the Irish Draught Horse Societies worldwide (Ireland, United States, Great Britain, Australia, and others).

In response to the Breed Standard statement that the Irish Draught "is a foundation breed that, when crossed with other breeds, will produce all types of leisure and performance horses". The IDHSC, like sister societies in the US, Great Britain and Australia also maintains this studbook in order to record and promote part-bred Irish Draught horses, also known as Irish Draught Sport Horses (IDSH)

"A single, worldwide standard for Irish Draught registration and selection."

The IDHSC, in collaboration with the Traditional Irish Horse Association of Ireland, identifies IDSH that meet pedigree requirements to be designated "Traditional Irish Horses (TIH)".

In support of these objectives, the IDHSC will attempt to maintain consistency with other societies in the following order of precedence:

1. The Irish Horse Register (Ireland)
2. The Irish Draught Horse Society of North America (United States)
3. The Irish Draught Horse Society of Great Britain
4. (Other societies)

2 Date of Effect

These rules take effect as of **April 1, 2023**.

3 Definitions

The following definitions are provided to assist readers in understanding this document:

- **Board/Board of Directors:** In these rules, “the Board” or “the Board of Directors” refers to the Board of Directors of the Irish Draught Horse Society of Canada.
- **Inspection:** also known as selection. The process by which eligible horses are reclassified into Class 1, Class 2, Class 3, the Grade Up register and potentially, Approved Irish Draught Sport Horse.
- **Merit:** Additional recognition of a horse’s achievement through its own competition record or that of its progeny. Only Class 1 and Class 2 horses are eligible for Merit.
- **Partbred/Partbred Irish Draught:** Also known as “Irish Draught Sport Horse”. A horse with verified minimum 12.5% (1/8) but less than 100% Irish Draught blood.
- **Inspection:** Also known as selection. The process by which eligible horses are reclassified into Class 1, Class 2, Class 3, the Grade Up register and potentially, Approved Irish Draught Sport Horse.
- **Sister Society:** another organization operating an Irish Draught Horse studbook recognized by the Studbook of Origin. Currently, in addition to the operator of the Irish Draught Studbook in Ireland (Horse Sport Ireland), these societies are the Irish Draught Horse Society of Great Britain and the Irish Draught Horse Society of North America.
- **Studbook of Origin:** The Irish Draught Studbook of Ireland (in 2023, managed on behalf of the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine by Horse Sport Ireland)

4 Purpose

The Irish Draught Sport Horse Studbook of Canada is one of two studbooks maintained by the IDHSC. This book records Canada’s partbred Irish Draught horses and recognizes horses that are approved for breeding and geldings that are considered to be exemplary of the breed.

4.1 Basic Objectives of Inspection

To breed horses of excellent conformation that exemplify the role of the Irish Draught as a foundation breed that, when crossed with other breeds, produces all types of leisure and performance horses.

4.2 Characteristics of the Irish Draught Sport Horse

The Irish Draught Sport 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.

5 Sections of the Irish Draught Sport Horse Studbook

The Irish Draught Sport Horse Studbook consists of one section that records all registered Irish Draught Sport Horses. There are three classes for Irish Draught Sport Horses:

a) Approved Irish Draught Sport Horses: This class is for Irish Draught Sport Horse stallions, mares and geldings that have met all requirements of the inspection process as outlined in section 7.
b) Unapproved Irish Draught Sport Horses: This class is for Irish Draught Sport Horse stallions, mares and geldings that have not met the requirements of the inspection process as outlined in section 7.
c) Uninspected Irish Draught Sport Horses: This class is for Irish Draught Sport Horse stallions, mares and geldings that have not been inspected.

6 Registration

6.1 Eligibility

a) Registration is open to all horses with a minimum of 1/8th (one/eighth) purebred Irish Draught blood as defined in paragraph **6.2** , but is not a Purebred Irish Draught as defined in paragraph 6.2. Pedigree must be proven as per paragraph **6.4** .
b) Horses will be registered regardless of when or how they were conceived, (e.g., via live cover, artificial insemination, embryo transfer, etc.) so long as they meet the requirements for Irish Draught parentage.

6.2 Definition of "Purebred Irish Draught"

A horse is considered a purebred Irish Draught if it is designated as such in the Irish Draught Horse studbook maintained by Canada, by one of the sister societies or in the studbook of origin.

6.3 Definition of "Irish Draught Sport Horse", also known as "Partbred Irish Draught Horse"

a) A horse is considered an Irish Draught Sport Horse if, as per paragraph 6.1, is more than 1/8th Irish Draught, but not a purebred Irish Draught. These horses are also known as "Partbred Irish Draught Horses"

b) Where a horse's pedigree has undocumented parentage but was approved as Grade C or Supplementary Irish Draught by a sister society, that horse shall be deemed to have 50% Irish Draught blood.

c) Where a horse's pedigree has undocumented parentage but was approved as Grade B, Appendix Irish Draught, or entered into the Grade-up Register by a sister society, that horse shall be deemed to have 75% Irish Draught blood.

d) When there is a question as to a horse's eligibility for registration due to pedigree irregularities, the Board may review the horse's pedigree and, in its sole discretion, grant or refuse registration. This decision cannot be appealed.

6.4 Proof of Pedigree

Horses must have their parentage verified by DNA testing, or if verification cannot be done by DNA testing, blood typing shall be used.

7 Inspection for Breeding Stock Approval

7.1 Eligibility

a) Any Irish Draught Sport Horse is eligible for inspection.
b) Horses must be fully registered or cross-registered with the Society before they are eligible for inspection as described in section 7.
c) The IDHSC reserves the right to excuse a horse from the inspection process if there is agreement among the inspection party (technical delegate, inspectors, veterinary) that there is a safety or animal welfare concern. In these cases, the IDHSC Board will assign the horse an interim classification, based on advice from the inspection party. This classification will only be revised in accordance with section 8.
d) Horses that fail inspection may appeal the decision as described in section 8 .

7.2 Classification

In order to be reclassified, Irish Draught Sport Horses must undergo and pass a formal inspection according to rules and procedures set by the Society.

7.2.1 Approved Irish Draught Sport Horse:

Horses that meet veterinary requirements as well as the standard for conformation, type, movement, and athleticism will be classified "Approved Irish Draught Sport Horse". To be approved as an Irish Draught Sport Horse, a horse must be of excellent conformation and must conform to the guidelines of the Irish Draught breed standard in the context of the stated characteristics of the Irish Draught Sport Horse (see paragraph 4.2).

In accordance with section 6.4 of the Irish Draught horse studbook, mares and stallions may also be designated "Approved Irish Draught Sport Horse".

7.2.2 Unapproved Irish Draught Sport Horses

Horses that are inspected but fail to meet required standard for approval will be classified "Unapproved Irish Draught Sport Horse".

7.2.3 Horses excused from inspection for safety or animal welfare reasons

In cases where a horse is excused from inspection for safety or animal welfare reasons (section 7.1 (c)), the horse will be assigned an interim classification by the Board. Based on advice from the inspection party. This classification will only be revised in accordance with section 8.4.

8 Re-Presentations/Appeals Procedures for Inspections

When horses are presented for inspection and are not designated Approved Irish Draught Sport Horse, the owner may either appeal the inspection decision or may have one opportunity to re-present the horse for inspection, as described in the following paragraphs. The results of an appeal will replace the results of the first inspection, regardless of whether the results represent an improvement or not.

8.1 Stallions that do not meet the radiograph requirements

Owners of stallions that are deemed by the IDHSC Radiography Veterinary Panel to not meet the radiograph requirements may appeal the findings of the examination once. The conditions of the appeal are as follows:

a) The owner of the stallion must apply to IDHSC to appeal the findings of the radiographic examination Within one month of the original finding in writing to the registration officer of the IDHSC.
b) The appeal will involve the examination of the original radiographs by a second Radiography Veterinary Panel chosen by the IDSHC.
c) The second Radiography Veterinary Panel may require a new set of radiographs be taken;
d) The full costs of the re-examination will be borne by the owner of the stallion.

The decision of the second Radiography Veterinary Panel shall be final.

8.2 Horses that do not meet the Clinical Veterinary Requirements

Owners of horses that do not meet the clinical veterinary requirements may appeal the findings of the veterinary examination once. The conditions of the appeal are as follows:

a) the owner of the horse must apply to have the horse re-examined within one month of the original examination in writing to the registration officer of the IDHSC;
b) the owner of the horse shall arrange, at their own expense, to have the horse examined by a veterinary practice nominated by the IDHSC;
c) the re-examination shall only be carried out in respect of the condition(s) for which the horse originally failed the clinical veterinary examination.

The decision of the veterinary practice nominated by IDHSC, in respect of each examination shall be final.

8.3 Horses that do not meet the conformation, movement, athleticism or requirements

The owners of horses that do not meet the conformation, type, movement, athleticism requirements will be given the opportunity to re-present the horse on one occasion at a subsequent inspection date.

a) the re-inspection shall only be carried out in respect of the criteria for which the horse originally did not meet requirements;
b) the cost of the second inspection shall be borne by the owner;

The decision of the second inspection panel shall be final.

8.4 Horses that are excused due to veterinary, safety or animal welfare concerns

Horses that are requested to withdraw from the inspection process due to safety or animal welfare concerns under paragraph 7.1(c) may be re-presented on one occasion at a subsequent inspection date. The conditions of the re-presentation are as follows:

a) The cost of the second inspection shall be borne by the owner.

b) The owner may submit a rationale to adjust the horse's interim classification to the IDHSC Board, which will make a final decision on the matter. The IDHSC Board's decision on adjusting the interim classification will be final.
c) The interim classification will be replaced by the decision of inspectors at the second inspection.

The decision of the second inspection panel shall be final.

9 Recognition of Performance

Horses that have been designated the highest level of approval (Approved Irish Draught Sport Horse) are eligible to be assigned additional recognition for performance as per the Recognition of Performance Rules published from time to time by the IDHSC.

10 Cross-Registration/Endorsement into and from the IDHSC Studbooks

The harmonized Irish Draught studbooks recognize registration, selection and performance recognition accorded through one another's studbooks. This allows for freer movement of genetic materials globally, supporting conservation efforts of Irish Draught societies worldwide.

In parallel, the IDHSC has cross-registration/Endorsement agreements related to IDSH with:

a) **The Irish Draught Horse Society of North America**: where Canadian IDSH meet IDHSNA pedigree requirements, the IDHSNA will cross-register the horse into its IDSH studbook and recognize results of Canadian inspections.
b) **The Irish Horse Register**: All Canadian IDSH are eligible for entry into the Irish Horse Register. When the Canadian IDSH meet IHR pedigree requirements (One parent is Irish draught, the other is from the main section of a World Breeding Federation of Sport Horses recognized studbook); mares achieving approved status in Canada will be granted Select status in Ireland and Stallions achieving approved status in Canada and meeting current ISH veterinary requirements will be granted Not Approved 1 status (can be upgraded to Approved status should stallion meet performance requirements) in Ireland.
c) IDSH that meet the following criteria will receive the designation of "**Traditional Irish Horse**":

- The horse is registered In Canada as an IDSH; AND
- Only the following breeds are recorded in the horse's pedigree: Irish Sport Horse, Irish Draught, Jockey Club or equivalent registered Thoroughbred, Connemara Pony; AND
- The horse has no unknown ancestors in the first two generations; AND
- all Irish Sport Horse ancestors of the horse, from the second generation back with unknown or partial pedigree were born before 1982.

10.1 Cross-Registration/endorsement into the IDHSC Studbooks

a) Members' horses that have been previously registered and/or inspected with a sister society may be cross- registered or endorsed into the appropriate studbook in Canada, provided the horse meets the requirements of the rules of the IDHSC and sufficient documentary evidence is provided

to the satisfaction of the IDHSC, including:

- Original registration documents from the sister society
- Proof of pedigree as described in paragraph 6.4
- Horse identification documents
- Inspection documentation (where applicable)

b) When there is a question as to a horse's eligibility for cross-registration or endorsement, the Board may review the pedigree and inspection results of the horse and may in its sole discretion grant or refuse cross- recognition.

10.2 Cross-Registration/Endorsement into sister society studbooks

In support of its guiding principle, the IDHSC will assist members in efforts to have their Irish Draught or Irish Draught Sport Horses cross-registered into or endorsed by other registries or studbooks.