

IDHS NZ - CONSTITUTION AND RULES

1. TITLE

The name of the Society shall be ***'The Irish Draught Horse Society New Zealand'*** (IDHSNZ).

2. SOCIETY OBJECTIVES

The Object of the Society is to establish, preserve and improve the Irish Draught Horse in New Zealand. To promote and maintain high standards of breeding, conformation, quality and soundness.

In furtherance of the above objective but not otherwise, the Society has the following powers to

- A) Set up a Register, including an Appendix Register in respect of the Irish Draught horses and Irish Sport Horses in New Zealand.
- B) To do all things necessary for the attainment of the objectives.

3. STATUS

The Irish Draught Horse Society (New Zealand) is a self-financing autonomous body and is affiliated to the Irish Draught Horse Society (Great Britain).

4. MANAGEMENT

The Society shall be managed by a Council elected by the members. The Council shall consist of the Officers of the Society and not more than **eight** ordinary members of the Society and any co-opted members under provision of sub-clause 7 (b) below.

5. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

There shall be an Annual General Meeting (AGM) at which Officers and Council members shall be elected.

6. OFFICERS AND COUNCIL

- A) The following shall be the Officers of the Society:
Chairperson – Vice Chairperson – Secretary – Treasurer – Registrar, plus eight Council members but may co-opt up to four additional members as the need arises.
- B) If a vacancy in the Council occurs, the remaining members of the Council may appoint another member to fill the vacancy but that member so appointed shall retire at the next Annual General Meeting but shall be eligible for re-election.
- C) No person other than an officer or other member of the Council retiring at the Annual General Meeting shall be re-elected at that meeting unless that not less than fourteen days before the date appointed for the meeting there shall have been delivered to the Honorary Secretary a notice in writing signed by a member of the Society qualified to vote at the meeting nominating such person for election and counter signed by that person. Should there not be sufficient postal nominations to fill vacancies on the Council, nominations may be accepted from the floor at the AGM.
- D) Five members of the Council shall form a quorum. The Council shall meet from time to time as necessary but not less than two times in a calendar year.

- E) Six members of the Council may, by signed written notice to the Secretary, request him/her to call a meeting of the Council and if such meeting is not called within thirty days of the dispatch of such notice the said six members may themselves call a meeting of the Council by fourteen days' notice in writing sent to all members thereof.

7. COUNCIL RULES

- A) The officers and two Council members shall retire each year but shall be eligible for re-election. The members of the Council retiring shall be the longest serving two members each year.
- B) The Council may in addition to the Officers and members elected at the AGM co-opt not more than four members, but such co-opted members shall without prejudice to their reappointment retire from office at the AGM following their appointment.
- C) The Council may regulate its own proceedings by the constitution as it may think fit. No act or proceedings of the Council or any sub-committee thereof shall be invalidated by a vacancy.
- D) The Council shall have sole control and management of the income and property of the Society and also the entire management of all other affairs and concerns thereof and exclusive right of appointment and of prescribing the respective duties and remuneration of and removing officers as they may deem necessary for the purpose of the Society.
- E) If the Council shall in its discretion consider any officer or any other member of the Council has conducted themselves in a manner gravely detrimental to the interests or reputation of the Society, it may by resolution, for which at least three quarters of the members of the Council actually present and voting, remove them from office or membership of the Council provided that any such officer shall first have at least fourteen days' notice of the meeting of the Council with a concise statement of the grounds upon which his/her removal is sought and shall be entitled at the meeting to make statement in explanation and defence of his/her conduct.

8. MEMBERSHIP

- A) The Society shall consist of subscribing members who shall pay an annual subscription, one fee for life membership or such other sums as the Council shall determine.
- B) On payment of the subscription, the member shall be deemed to have agreed to be bound by these rules made hereunder.
- C) Each individual member shall be entitled to one copy of any bulletin or publication issued by the Society.
- D) Each member shall be entitled to one vote.
- E) The Council may, by resolution, notify a member in writing and stating its reasons for such action, call upon such a member to resign from the Society. If the member does not resign within forty-eight days after being so called upon, the Council may by resolution terminate his/her membership. Before coming to any decision, the Council shall give the member affected proper meeting time to state their case either verbally or in writing as the Council may see fit.
- F) The Council may from time to time and without reasons refuse to accept the renewal of the subscription of any member.
- G) No member shall take any public action or make any public announcement in the name of the Society or otherwise do anything directly or indirectly to represent that any proposal,

action or statement of fact or opinion has the approval of the Society. Only the Council of the Chairperson may make announcements in the name of the Society.

9. BREED REGISTER

The Society shall keep a **Breed Register** under four categories having confirmed no less than 25 percent Irish Draught blood shall be eligible for registration, plus an Appendix.

Foals (by stallions registered with the Society) may be registered at any time after birth but horses will be accepted at any age with proof of parentage.

The system of registration **as of September 1st 2023** of purebred Irish Draught (RID) and part bred horses shall fall into the following four categories and an appendix:

Category 1: Purebred Registered Irish Draught (Inspected RID)

Category 2: Purebred Irish Draughts (not yet inspected)

Category 3: Irish Sport Horses (ISH)

(Progeny of Category 1 – 50% RID) and (Category 1 X 3 – 75% RID)

Category 4: Irish Sport Horses (ISH)

(Progeny of Category 3 mares and inspected Irish Sport Horse (ISH) stallions – 25% RID)

Appendix: Progeny of Category 2 and 4. Eligible for registration with the Society (registration certificate issued), will be listed on the database but not issued with a registration number. The Appendix horses will have a separate section in the Society Performance Competition but will NOT be eligible for any Irish registered breed classes offered at competitions.

The above Breed Register replaces the following outdated eight category Register those horses registered **prior to 1st September 2023** shall be listed as (both on the database and on their registration certificates):

- 1)** Both parents are Registered Irish Draught (ID X ID or 1X1 or 1X2).
- 2)** One parent is Category 1 Irish Draught and the other parent is the progeny of a Category 1 Irish Draught and a Category 1 Irish Draught and Registered Stud Book Thoroughbred cross (ID X ID and (ID X TB) or 1X3).
- 3)** One parent is Category 1 Irish Draught and the other parent is Category 1 Irish Draught and Registered Stud Book Thoroughbred cross (ID X (IDXTB) or 1X4).
- 4)** One parent is Category 1 Irish Draught and the other parent is a Registered Stud Book Thoroughbred (ID X TB or 1 X TB).
- 5)** One parent is a Registered Stud Book Thoroughbred and the other parent is the progeny of a Category 1 Irish Draught and Registered Stud Book Thoroughbred cross (TB X (ID X TB) or TB X 4).
- 6)** One parent is Category 1 Irish Draught and the other parent is a horse of confirmable known breeding (ID X Other or 1 X Other).
- 7)** One parent is Category 1 Irish Draught and the other parent is a horse of unknown breeding (ID X Unknown or 1 X Unknown).

- 8) 8/Q – One parent is Category 4 Irish Draught and the other parent is of any breeding (ID X TB) X Unknown/Other or 4 X Unknown or 4 X Other).

Appendix: One parent is no less than ¼ Irish blood. The progeny carries no less than 1/8th Irish blood. It may also include coloured horses whose owners wish to register with the Society. Horses in the appendix will not be eligible for up grading or licensing but eligible foal all other Society benefits.

IMPORTED REGISTERED IRISH DRAUGHTS – Imported RID (Registered Irish Draughts) may be included in the Register as Licensed without further inspection subject to the provision of approved international documentation (green passport) including health and DNA certificate.

IMPORTED/PROGENY OF OVERSEAS RID – The IDHSNZ will also accept the progeny of overseas licensed (RID) stallion and mares into the NZ Register subject to the provision of approved international documentation (green passport and/or DNA profile for the imported horse, sire and dam and/or a service certificate). These horses will be required to undergo the formal inspection protocol required for licensing in New Zealand.

EMBRYO FOALS – To be eligible for registration with the IDHSNZ these foals will need to undergo DNA testing to prove sire and dam and a service certificate will need to be submitted with registration application.

10. IDENTIFICATION

Branding and/or micro-chipping along with the Irish Draught Horse Society official document, veterinarian completed, 'Branding/Micro-chipping Certificate' are the means by which Irish horses are Identified and Registered in New Zealand.

- A) **Branding** – When foal registration applications and relevant fees are received, and if all are found to be in order, and the owner requests that their horse is to be branded, a 'Branding/micro-chipping certificate' will be issued to the owner along with the Society brands.

The horse will then be branded by a Registered Veterinarian and the Society's *SHAMROCK OVER NZ* on the near side shoulder and branded on the off-side shoulder (using the veterinarians' own numbers) with a designated Society number over the last figure of the year of birth. These numbers are allocated by the Registrar and listed on the 'Branding/micro-chipping certificate' which is sent with the brands to the owner of the horse. Branding is by the use of freeze brands only so as to comply with 'Best Practice' identified in the Animal Welfare Act, Code of Welfare for Horses NZ dated January 2016. Branding irons must be returned promptly to the Registrar, branding irons remain the property of the IDHSNZ.

- B) **Micro-chipping** – When foal registration applications and relevant fees are received, and if all are found to be in order, and the owner requests that their horse is to be micro-chipped, a 'Branding/micro-chipping certificate' will be issued to the owner.

Micro-chipping is carried out by a Registered Veterinarian and appropriate records kept. The numbers are recorded in the Society database and on the 'Permanent Registration Certificate' and by the veterinarian.

Following branding and/or micro-chipping the veterinarian will complete the 'Branding/micro-chipping certificate' noting the horse's date of birth, markings of the horse, breeding, owner details, brand and/or micro-chip details and then date and sign.

All veterinarian costs are the responsibility of the horse owner.

- C) ***Certification*** – Following receipt of the correct completed 'Branding/micro-chipping certificate' a permanent 'Registration certificate' will be issued. This is an official document with IDHSNZ and should be retained by the current owner of a registered horse. It is a permanent record of the horse's identity and should also be used to formally transfer any changes in the horses' ownership.
- D) ***Ownership Transfers*** – When a registered horse is transferred to a new owner, the vendor must complete the transfer section on the rear of the 'Registration Certificate' and this must be signed by him/her and then forwarded to the Registrar with a fee determined by the Council. The transfer is then formally recorded on the certificate and on the database.
- E) ***Prefix/suffix Registration*** -Stud owners/breeders may register a prefix/suffix of their choosing with the Society upon paying the appropriate fee for doing so.

11. INSPECTIONS

Purpose of Inspection

- A) To maintain the overall quality of the Irish Draught/Irish Sport Horse in New Zealand.
- B) To enable breeders to license or upgrade their horses.
- C) To ensure the Irish Draught characteristics and quality of conformation exists in colts/stallions and mares intended for stud/breeding purposes.
- D) To re-inspect horses that have failed their initial inspection.

The inspection panel shall consist of two or more inspectors appointed by the IDHSNZ Council and a Council appointed representative may or may not be present. If present, it is for support and to facilitate the process only, not to take part in the inspection.

Inspectors will be appointed annually by the incoming Council. Inspectors may be reappointed from year to year or appointed as needed by the Council.

Should an inspector have a personal association with a particular horse or owner, in order to avoid bias (either negative or positive) it would be appropriate to advise the Council of the IDHSNZ at the first instance as it may be necessary for that inspector to stand down and a replacement found.

The Inspection location will be arranged at a mutually acceptable place to both inspectors and the owner of the horse to be inspected in order to avoid undue excess travel for either party.

Horses are submitted for inspection/registration entirely at the owner's risk and no liability is accepted by the Irish Horse Society New Zealand, its members, servants, or agents in respect of any

loss or damage suffered by any persons or animals in respect of the registering or non-registration of any horse or any other circumstances relating to the Society or activities.

Inspection Protocol

- A) Owner applies to the Society Registrar for an 'Inspection Application Form' and completes and returns this to the Registrar with the associated fees paid.
- B) Owner submits horse to a registered veterinarian for a certificate to demonstrate that the horse is free of any identifiable inherited unsoundness. This certificate is to be submitted to the Society Registrar prior to inspection and will be held on file with the inspection application. In the case of a stallion inspection, a negative EVA certificate is required or the licensing of a Category 1 (RID) stallion.
- C) Purebred Irish Draught horses will be required to provide a certified DNA analysis.
- D) At the inspection, the inspectors are provided with the horse's 'Registration Certificate'. This provides identification of the horse including brands and markings etc.
- E) Identity verified, matching the brands/markings/colour against the certificate.
- F) Inspectors to sight 'Veterinarian certificate' (horses which fail this will not be put forward for inspection).
- G) Inspection takes place using the IDHSNZ 'Breed Standard' as a guide to the expected conformation requirements and traits of the Irish Draught breed. A score sheet will be provided. Colts must stand 16hh or above to be eligible for licensing and a height certificate to prove this may be required.
- H) Completed forms are then passed to the Council member present, otherwise forwarded at the first instance to the Society Registrar.

The owner is not advised at the time of inspection of any results as the final decision is made by the Elected Council of the Irish Draught Horse Society NZ.

Colts shall be submitted for inspection when two years old or over and if approved to become licensed stallions shall be re-submitted if required for inspection every three years thereafter at the discretion of the Council.

Any member who shall have in his ownership or control for the period of the breeding season a stallion registered in the Society's Breed register shall at the end of every season submit on the appropriate form to the Registrar a record showing the name of the stallion and listing the mares covered by him and the owners thereof during the breeding season completed. Failure to provide this may result in the stallion's license being revoked by the Society Council.

The inspection pass rate has been set at 130 out of 150. If the horse is declined following the Council decision, the owner may appeal once within one year. A fee of \$100 must accompany the written appeal to the Council. If the appeal is successful, the deposit will be refunded in full.

12. FEES

Only subscription paid up members may apply for registration of horses or enter the Society competitions (this includes breed classes offered at shows).

All fees are set by the Council which reserves the right to revise fees on an annual basis.

As at September 1st 2023 the fees are as follows:

- ***Annual Subscription (individual)*** ***\$40***
- ***Life Subscription (individual)*** ***\$400***

• Family Membership	\$60
• Three Year membership (individual)	\$100
• Registration of Horse Fee	\$45
• Prefix/Suffix Registration	\$150
• Ownership Transfer	\$15
• Replacement Certificate	\$15
• Horse Name Change	\$15
• Inspection Fee – Colts and Stallions	\$300
• Inspection Fee – Mares and Fillies	\$150

13. ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION

- A) The Annual subscription shall be due 1st August each year. Membership is continuous and unless notice of resignation is received by the Secretary not later than July 31st in any year, the member shall be liable for his/her subscription for the following year.
- B) A subscription paid by a new member after 30th April in any year shall entitle him/her to membership without further payment until 31st July of the following year.
- C) Family membership is for two members of the same family. One payment is required, one email address supplied for one version of any correspondence from the Society, two names must be supplied and these two named persons shall have one vote each.
- D) The Council may for special reasons wholly or partly remit or waive payment of a subscription in any case and subject to any conditions as it may think fit.
- E) A member whose subscriptions is in arrears on 30th November next after it has become due, shall not be entitled to any rights or privileges of membership.
- F) The names of all members whose subscriptions remains unpaid on 30th April next after it has become due shall be reported to the Council at its next meeting and all members in arrears on the said 30th April shall be removed from membership unless the Council shall for special reasons otherwise determine.
- G) Any member who is not financial at any one time may not hold any office or vote at a meeting.

14. HONORARY MEMBERS

The Council may elect any person as an Honorary Member of the Society and subject to such conditions as it may impose.

15. MEETINGS

The Annual General Meeting of members of the Society shall be held once in every calendar year to transact the following business:

- A) To receive and if approved, to adopt annual reports and an audited statement of accounts to the end of the last preceding financial year.
- B) To elect Officers and Council members as required.
- C) To appoint an auditor who can be an independent accountant or suitably qualified person to audit the annual accounts.
- D) To deal with any special matters which the Council desires to bring before the members and to receive and consider suggestions from the members for consideration by the Council.

- E) To confirm any alteration to the constitution and rules presently or previously decided upon.
- F) A General Meeting of the Society may be called within forty-two days of receipt by the Secretary of a requisition in writing stating the reason(s) for calling such a meeting and signed by not less than five members, where any matter(s) relating to the Society may be discussed and decided upon.
- G) In order to effect alteration or addition of a Rule a majority of the members actually present shall vote in favour of the proposed change or in the case where a postal vote is approved a majority of the votes received shall be in favour of the proposed change.
- H) For all meetings the Council will decide whether or not a postal vote will be initiated.
- I) A notice convening any General Meeting shall (with the accounts and balance sheet in the case of the Annual General Meeting) be sent to all members not less than twenty-eight days prior to the date of the meeting together with the agenda for the meeting.
- J) Each member whose subscription is fully paid up to the date of meeting shall have one vote and no more except for the Chairperson who shall have a second or casting vote in the case of an equality of votes. No person shall have a vote unless such person has been a member for a minimum of eight weeks prior to the meeting.
- K) Five members shall form a quorum at all General Meetings.

14. DECISIONS AND VOTING AT MEETINGS

Every question to be submitted at any meeting of the Society, the Council, or sub-committee shall be put to the meeting by the Chairperson thereof and his/her decision as to the wishes or sense of the meeting shall be conclusive unless on giving his/her decision it is challenged by any members properly present at the meeting and entitled to vote. If any decision by the Chairperson at any meeting shall be challenged a vote shall be taken.

All voting with the exception of items for which special majority is required by this constitution shall be decided by a simple majority of members present and voting.

15. FINANCE

- A) The financial year shall end on 31st July each year.
- B) All Society related financial transactions shall be recorded using the Xero Accounting programme managed by the Treasurer of the Society.
- C) The income and property of the Society and all monies received by or on behalf of the Society shall be applied solely towards the furtherance, promotion, and execution of the Society and no portion thereof shall be paid by way of dividend, bonus or profit to any member of the Society provided nothing herein expressed or contained shall prevent the payment in good faith to a servant of the Society of remuneration and expenses or both such a servant not being an officer or member of the Society.
- D) All monies payable to the Society shall be received by the Treasurer or such officer or such Bank as shall be appointed to receive it.
- E) All funds belonging to the Society unless invested shall be deposited in the bank account in the name of the Society and no sum shall be drawn from the account except by Internet established banking mandate and approved by two recorded Council members.
- F) Any Society monies not required for immediate use may be invested by the Council as herein authorised.
- G) The Council shall cause true accounts to be kept of receipts, expenditure, asset credits and liabilities of the Society and shall place before the members of the Society at each Annual

General Meeting a currently reviewed account balance sheet made up to the end of the financial year.

- H) Reasonable office, travelling and subsistence expenses incurred by Officers and members of the Society or by any person duly authorised by the Society may be paid by the Society. Rates of allowances shall be fixed by the Council from time to time. All claims for expenses must be sent to the Treasurer and he/she may request such information in regards thereto as he/she may think fit.

16. REMOVAL OF COUNCILLORS

Councillors may be removed from office by resolution passed at a meeting of the Council by a vote of not less than three-quarters majority of members of the Council present and voting at the meeting.

17. NOTICES

Accidental omission to give notice to, or the non-receipt of a notice by a member shall not invalidate any proceedings or resolutions of any meeting of the Society, the Council or any sub-committee thereof.

18. RECORDS AND MINUTES

Records shall be made and minutes kept in such form as the Council may direct of the proceedings at all general Meetings, meeting of the Council and meetings of sub-committees' ad these minutes shall be confirmed and signed by the Chairperson at the subsequent meeting.

19. DISSOLUTION

A Motion to dissolve the Society may only be made at an Extraordinary General Meeting and to effect a dissolution at least three quarters of the members actually present and voting at the meeting shall vote in favour of the dissolution.

If on the winding up or dissolution of the Society there remain, after satisfaction of all debts and liabilities, any assets whatsoever such assets shall not be paid or allotted among members of the Society but shall be given or transferred to some charitable institution having similar objectives to those objectives of the Irish draught Horse Society NZ or another breed of horses.

20. INTERPRETATION

If there should be any ambiguity or difference of opinion concerning the purport or interpretation of any rule and to deal with any matter not provided for in these rules, reference shall be made in writing to the Secretary of the Society who will refer the matter to the Council.

The decision of the Council shall be binding on all parties.

