

GENERAL RULES FOR ISA CHAMPIONSHIPS 2022

A. ELIGIBILITY OF SHOWS

Shows wishing to participate in the 2022 Championships and be eligible to hold qualifiers, must have collected the Championship Fund Levy (currently 5%) from Horse, Pony, Cattle & Sheep class prize money for the year 2019 and forwarded the amount so collected, in full, to the Irish Shows Association Head Office within the stipulated period of not more than **30 days** from the date of their show. Alternative methods of meeting this obligation are not acceptable.

Any show or competitor in breach of the Rules set out below will be disqualified from participating or competing in these Championships.

These General Rules and those relating to individual championships (where applicable) should be published in the show schedule and catalogue of the participating shows and must be strictly observed.

B. QUALIFYING ROUNDS (QUALIFIERS)

Qualifying rounds will take place at eligible shows selected by the Irish Shows Association.

C. RESPONSIBILITY OF SHOWS HOLDING QUALIFYING ROUNDS

1. Selected shows **Must** hold a separate class for each qualifier from which the highest placed animals will qualify.
2. The Qualifier Class should be held if possible as the **1st class** in the relevant section of the show.
3. No other sponsor may be involved in qualifiers. **“No prize-money to be paid to qualifiers”**.
4. Shows must ensure that the qualifiers are held strictly in accordance with the relevant rules.
5. Shows may charge an entrance fee for each qualifying class. **The ISA will award a rosette to the successful Qualifiers on appearance at the Final.**
6. A show hosting a Championship Final may not hold a qualifier for that Championship on the day of the Final other than by agreement with the Irish Shows Association. **However** shows who hold qualifiers for **Horses, Ponies and Cattle** may ask exhibitors to enter the exhibit in **at least one other class** at their show on the day.
7. Animals qualified for Finals are **not** eligible to enter in any other class at the Show where the Final is held (**other than a Qualifying Class for another competition**).
8. Shows **should** appoint competent persons to act as Stewards, who must ensure that only animals (or other exhibits) which are eligible to compete and those whose documentation is in order, are allowed to proceed to the judging ring.
9. Animal passports & “Micro Chips where applicable” **should** be read by a Veterinary Surgeon appointed by the show.
10. **On completion of judging, Stewards should instruct the successful competitors to attend** at the Show Secretary’s office **within one hour**, and to complete the necessary documentation for entry to the championship final.
11. The show should appoint a well briefed officer, who will be in attendance at the secretary’s office, and who will assist exhibitors to complete the necessary documentation for participation in the final and to collect the relevant entrance fee.
12. **Show Secretaries must forward completed result cards, together with appropriate fees to the Irish Shows Association within three (3) days following the holding of the show. NB: Shows must return results card marked “No Competition” for any or all of the events for which no animal (or exhibit) has been selected.**

D. RESPONSIBILITY OF EXHIBITORS

1. **Exhibitors accept that the Judges decision is final in all cases.** Any abuse of Judges will not be tolerated. Where a dispute or case for complaint arises, the matter should only be dealt with under **6.** below.
2. **Winners of Qualifiers are themselves responsible for entering their animals (or exhibits) for the final in accordance with 10. and 11. above, within one hour of qualifying.**
3. Winners of qualifiers will compete in the final.
4. The Irish Shows Association in conjunction with the sponsor reserve the right to alter or amend the rules of any competition as may be necessary or appropriate.
5. **Shows and competitors must contact the Irish Shows National Office for details of any championships and NOT the sponsor involved.**
6. **Objections must be lodged in writing with the Secretary or with the I.S.A. representative at the show within half an hour following the completion of the judging, together with a fee of €50, or other stated fee, which is refundable in the event of the objection being upheld.**
7. Any Exhibitor who makes a false declaration or misrepresents a fact regarding themselves or their exhibit is liable to disqualification and or forfeiture of any prizes awarded. It is in the interest of Shows hosting championship Finals that photographs and results are forwarded to the Irish Farmers Journal or other papers immediately following Judging.

E. RESPONSIBILITY OF SHOWS HOSTING CHAMPIONSHIP FINALS

1. A deduction of 5% of the prize money is to be collected by the show and forwarded to the Irish Shows Association within **30 days of the final.**
2. Championship finals should start **not later than 2pm on the day of the show** and the advertised time of starting **should** be adhered to as far as practicable. If necessary other show classes should be either postponed or relocated to allow for this.

ISSUES OF INTEREST TO CHAMPIONSHIP PARTICIPANTS

IRISH LAW (EU DIRECTIVE)

Under Irish Law all horses moving from one location to another must be accompanied by their passports. It is in your own interest to ensure that this is the case. Failure to do so is an offence under Irish Law and is liable on summary conviction to result in a fine up to €3,000. All passports must be registered with the name of the current owner.

Embryo Transfer: Where a foal is produced by this method the dams passport must bear a declaration dated, stamped and signed by the stallion owner (or accredited practitioner where AI is involved) stating the date on which the dam was last covered (or inseminated) and the name of the covering stallion.

“Shows who hold qualifiers for Livestock may request exhibitors to enter the exhibit in at least one other class at their show on the day”

Important Notice to Animal Owners.

The Irish Shows Association would advise all Animal owners who have their Animals Insured to have the Insurance Cover extended to cover them while showing animals at shows.

We understand that it costs very little or nothing at all dependant on who you have the Insurance cover with.

The reason for us giving you this advice is that if your animal were to lash out and injure someone or damage someone's property, and it is established that your animal was out of your control at that time, you may be held responsible or partly responsible for any injury or damages caused, and could end up paying all, or part of any settlement reached.

DISCIPLINE

The Irish Shows Association expects and will insist upon appropriate behaviour from all Exhibitors and others participating in any of the activities at our Member Shows and will not tolerate inappropriate behaviour.

Inappropriate behaviour shall include but not be limited to the following:

- Profanity, coarse or vulgar language or gestures towards judges, exhibitors or other Show Officials
- Harassment or bullying, including using words or actions that threaten, intimidate or undermine judges or other officials before, during or following Member Show activities
- Failure to follow rules and/or obey instructions
- Abusing any animal

Disciplinary Procedures:

Complaints of misconduct against an Exhibitor or other participant at a Member Show shall be investigated and adjudicated upon by a subcommittee appointed by the Irish Shows Association. The said subcommittee shall consist of three members of the board of the Irish Shows Association and shall be known as the Disciplinary Committee. The Disciplinary Committee shall seek to ensure the existence of consistent, effective, fair and transparent complaint procedures and shall act in accordance with natural and constitutional justice. More information can be found on IrishShows.org