



## *Irish Draught Horse Society* of North America

Greetings Fellow IDHSNA Members,

The 2010 board of the IDHSNA believes we have an opportunity now to state our wants and to present ourselves as players in the global debate over the Irish Draught (ID) breed and breed standard as well as a possible International ID stud book. Recent changes in the breeding policy by Horse Sport Ireland as well as two Irish Breeder organizations both of whom have requested ownership of the ID studbook are ample evidence of a possible change in direction in Ireland.

We intend to be a part of the global future of the ID, not a bystander.

As we plan and make strategy for the future we invite your comment, but also remind you of certain truths.

- 1) The IDHSNA registration policy is unique to North America. It does not now, nor has it previously matched the policy for ID and IDHS in Ireland. For example, Ireland does not even recognize the Irish Draught Sport Horse.
- 2) Our documented IDHSNA inspection procedure requires two judges provided by the IDHS Ireland, not judges provided by Horse Sport Ireland, the government body currently conducting inspections of mares and stallions in Ireland.
- 3) The IDHSNA may choose to use whatever score sheet we see fit. Again, our sheet has not always matched the sheet used in Ireland and we do not expect it will match again this year. HSI is now using a linear scoring sheet beginning April 2010.
- 4) Our inspections this year, just like every year since we were established in 1993, will not guarantee acceptance by, nor entry into, the Irish studbook for IDs and IDSHs. But we also do not believe that this year's inspection results be any less likely to be accepted in Ireland.
- 5) It is our intention and our hope to pursue meaningful dialog with the other daughter societies as well as our mother society (IDHS Ireland) and reach consensus. Together we can approach HSI for an acceptable arrangement.
- 6) We are determined to have our Registered horses (RID-NA) accepted for breeding in Ireland. At a minimum we will speak with one voice to request this outcome.

The Breeding Committee of the IDHSNA was asked to review recent changes to the Breeding Policy for the Irish Draught Studbook in Ireland and made recommendation which we would like to share with all our members.

As the documents for review are many, the Board is sending you this notification to invite you to visit the IDHSNA website Recent News to download four important PDF documents to read and review.

- 1) **IDHSNA Information Paper** – this includes a context for the Breeding Committee's Position Paper as well as the complete Position Paper. If you only read one document, read this.
- 2) **Horse Sport Ireland Breeding Policy for the Irish Draught Horse Studbook.** This is the final and now active document. Also available from HSI website.
- 3) **Horse Sport Ireland Rules and Practices Relating to the Irish Horse Register.** Further reading from HSI on rules for studbook inclusion.
- 4) **IDHSNA Registration of Purebred Irish Draught Horses.** This is our registration policy and never a bad idea to review.

The Board welcomes your feedback on this issue following your review of the provided information. If you are unable to access the files on the IDHSNA website ([www.irishdraught.com](http://www.irishdraught.com)) please contact our Member Services Coordinator, Priscilla, at the office for a solution.

Thank you for taking the time to be an informed member of the IDHSNA.  
Sincerely,

#### 2010 Board

Larry Robbins  
Michele Metraux  
Liz Freeman  
Tony Phillips  
Karen Young  
Jim McGinty  
Susan Jensen (Central Region)  
Cori Oehley (North East Region)  
Jessica Walker (North West Region)  
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