



TIHA

TRADITIONAL IRISH HORSE ASSOCIATION

Cumann Capall Traidisiúnta na hÉireann



www.traditionalirishhorse.com

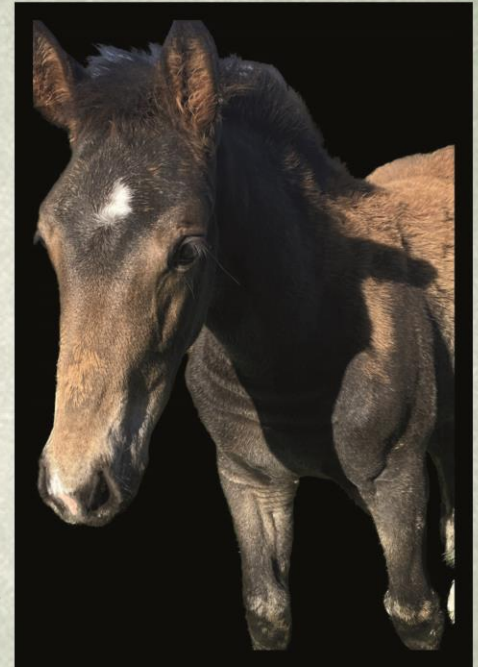
Who are the Traditional Irish Horse Association - TIHA

The TIHA is a voluntary Association established in 2012.

This organisation is dedicated to protecting and developing the Traditional Irish Horse.

Its roots are in the The Hunter Improvement Society of Ireland.

TIHA mission is to conserve & promote our unique traditional bloodlines, so the Traditional Irish Horse (TIH) continues its fundamental role in the Global Equestrian Industry at all levels.



2023 TIH Foal
TB Stallion: Shadow Gate

TIHA Organisation

TIHA born in 2012, with the organisational structure

President & Vice President

Chairperson & Vice Chair

Treasurer & Secretary

12 member National Council Board



The TIHA is a voluntary organisation under the leadership of a 12 member National council, all of whom are elected.

The council members are from all corners of Ireland, of diverse backgrounds, including riders, breeders, producers, and equestrian coaches.

TIHA is supported by its membership base throughout Ireland, the UK, USA and further afield.

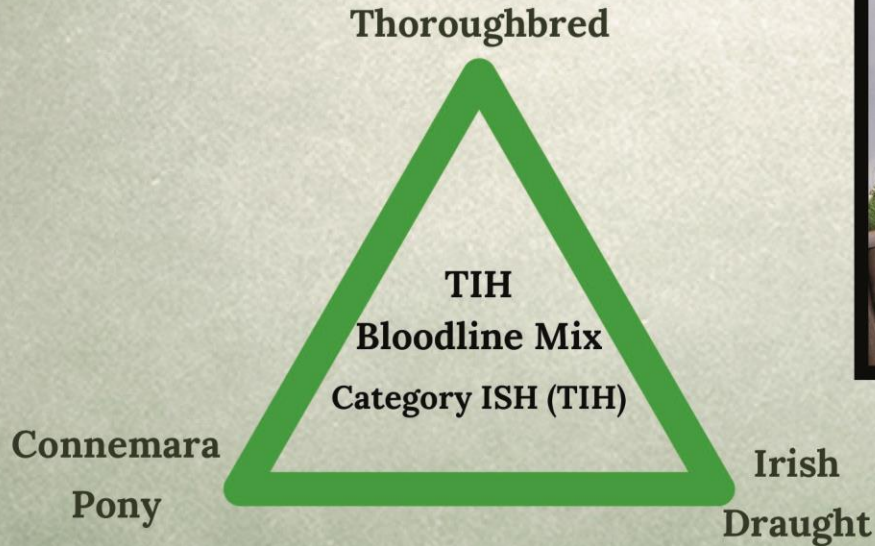
This group is brought together by their common goal & passionate desire to protect the TIH.

www.traditionalirishhorse.com

TIHA is registered as a Limited Irish company, by guarantee, Company Number: 521139.

What is a Traditional Irish Horse?

The Traditional Irish Horse (“TIH”) is the indigenous horse which developed in Ireland over centuries and is only a combination of the bloodlines from these three breeds



*Portersize Just A Jiff, Ms Cammila Speirs
photo credit: Irish Eventing Times*

Why is the Traditional Irish Horse important?

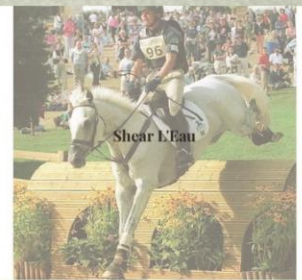
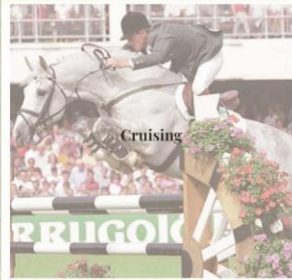
For decades, the Irish horse continues to enjoy the earned reputation at home and abroad for its athletic ability, rideability, temperament, intellect, soundness and versatility across many equine disciplines such as showjumping, hunting, eventing and dressage.

TIH are acknowledged and recognized for these attributes.



Sam Watson and the Irish-bred SAP Talisman (ISH TIH) (Photo: Irish Eventing Times)

Several World Famous Traditional Irish Horses...



Why is the Traditional Irish Horse under threat?



In the early 1980s foreign-bred stallions from Europe were introduced into Ireland and bred with Irish mares.

As a result, the Traditional Irish Horse population became diluted with foreign genes, and over time the unique attributes of the TIH are gradually being lost to riders and producers.

What is the aim of the TIHA today?

The aim of the TIHA is to conserve and develop Traditional Irish bloodlines, to ensure that the Traditional Irish Horse remains part of the global equestrian landscape at all levels.

The TIHA aims to actively support breeders to promote the breeding of TIH's plus to encourage riders and producers to choose TIH's for their unique characteristics.



meldoyfe.ie
5 year old - Lawnview Diamond

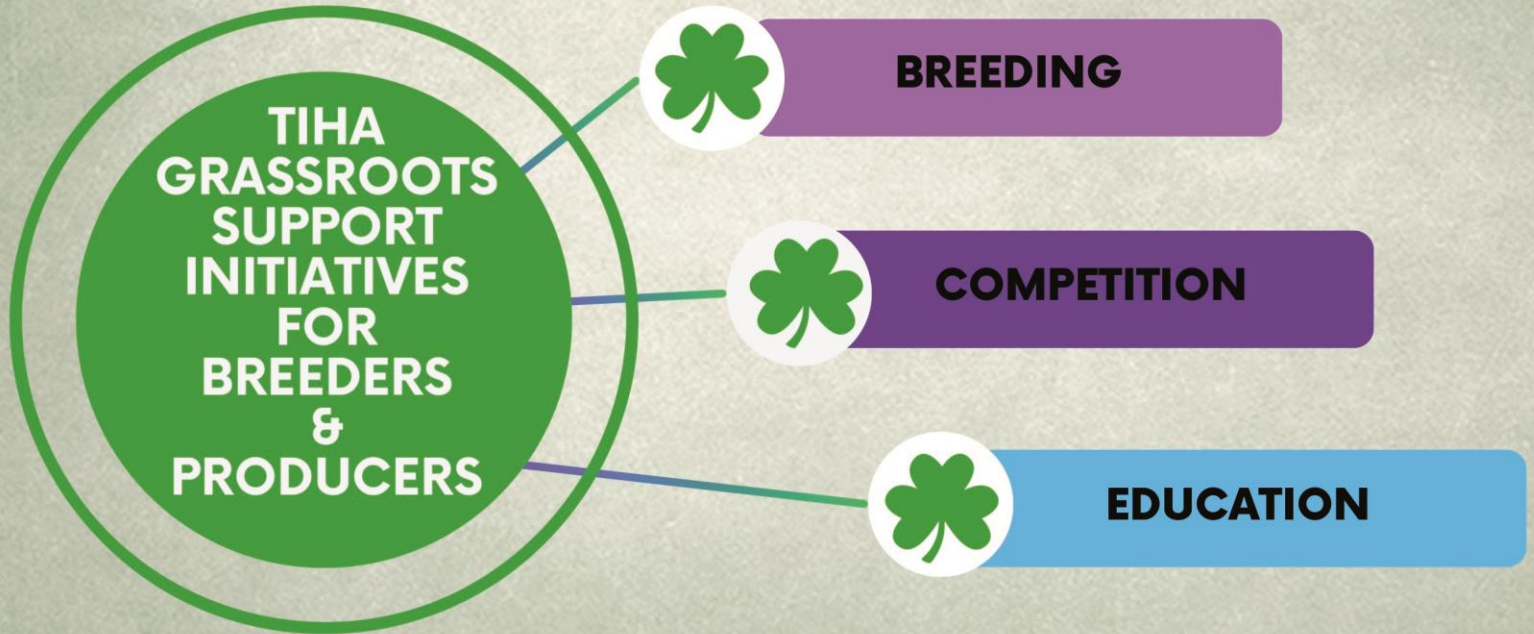
photo credit: Mel Doyle





TIHA Initiatives

Supporting TIH Breeders & TIH Producers in Ireland



Breeding - The TIHA Performance Mare Scheme

This scheme is designed to give financial recognition to breeders who breed from quality traditionally bred mares capable of producing top quality TIH foals with performance potential.

It aims to increase the herd of quality TIH stock with performance potential which might in time and with suitable nurturing, achieve success in various equestrian disciplines.



Competition & Breeding - Annual TIHA Championships of Traditional Irish Breeding at Limerick Agriculture Show



TIHA Champion TIH Mare - Greenhall Wishing Well,
Limerick Agricultural Show 2022, Photo Credit: M. Cowhy

The TIH championships provides an opportunity for owners of future and current broodmares and their foals to showcase their horses and potentially win substantial prize money and awards for participating in these championships.



TIHA 2022 Limerick Lady Champion, 2 year old
Barna View Dancing Queen, Photo Credit: M Cowhy

These championship classes are keenly supported over the years by breeders and add value to their stock.

Competition - Traditionally Irish Bred at Nationwide Shows

At Shows

TIHA continues to support TIH classes at horse shows and agricultural shows throughout the island of Ireland.

TIHA Support

Prizes to top performing TIH bred horses with the aim of rewarding owners & breeders to breed for performance.

TIHA prizes aim to educate the general public in highlighting the unique characteristics of the traditionally bred horse.

TIHA Media

TIHA communicates and promotes these shows & events across all TIHA social media platforms and directly with the TIHA members.

Competition
Ireland's Equine Showcase
TIHA
in the RDS at the
DUBLIN HORSE SHOW

MEDIA

International &
National
Live TV
Digital & Print
Social Platforms

CORPORATE GUESTS

5,000

VISITORS

100,000+

IRELAND'S

LARGEST

EQUINE

EVENT

STARTED IN 1864

2023 PRIZE FUND

€1.3m

EQUINE CLASSES

168

HORSES

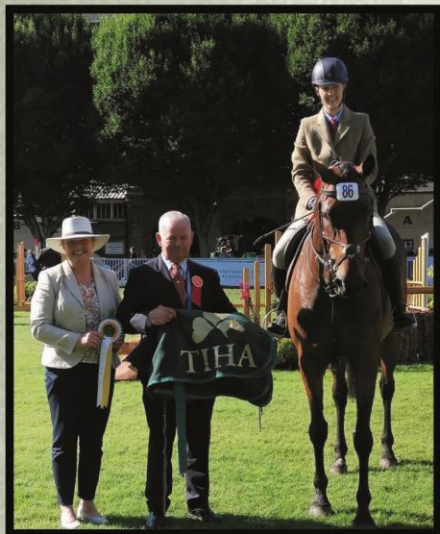
1,600



TIH CLASSES

TIH Horse Parade
Working Hunter
Inhand
Young Eventer
Show Classes

Competition – Traditional Irish Horse Working Hunter at the RDS



RDS 2022, TIH Class Winner
Queen's Master by King's Master. Rider Katie Byrne

The Irish Draught & Connemara Performance Classes have been instrumental in raising the profile of these native breeds. Given the quality and talent displayed in the TIH Working Hunter Class in 2022 the TIH class without doubt showcases the talents and unique characteristics of the Traditional Irish Horse.

The TIHA has been instrumental in the introduction of a Working Hunter class only for TIHs at the prestigious Dublin Horse Show, which provides a shop window for the breeders and producers of high performance horses.

2022 saw the first running of a Working Hunter Class purely for Traditional Irish Horses. This competitive class was filled to capacity with lovely quality animals who gave superb displays across all paces particularly excelling in jumping



RDS 2023, TIH Class Winner – Fairyhouse Coco,
Connemara / Thoroughbred, Rider Katie Byrne

Education - Demonstration of Traditional Irish Breeding at the RDS

Every year the TIHA hosts a parade of Traditional Irish Breeding at the world famous RDS Dublin Horse Show.

The finest examples of TIH bred horses are presented to the public with a most informative commentary. In addition, this parade includes the TIH foundation breeds - Connemara Pony , Irish Draught horse and Thoroughbred.



Started in 2022 TIHA initiated a breeders recognition moment for the breeding of highly successful TIH horses. During the TIH parade each breeder is presented with a professionally framed photograph of their horse.



Competition TIHA Annual Performance Championships

Hosted in September in Mullingar Equestrian Centre, Co. Westmeath.



2023 TIHA Championships' reserve champion

TIHA Championships' Champion,
3 year old filly by Jack the Robin
Photo Credit: Susan Finnerty/Flying the Flag

The aim of these classes is to encourage a higher standard of production in traditionally bred horses, with a view to increasing their value for the home and export markets.

TIHA passionately believes in the importance of supporting and encouraging breeders to continue breeding Traditional Irish quality horses and rewarding best practice.

Championship Class Expansion: 2022 saw the addition of a 3 - and 4 - Year - Old Loose Jumping Competition for TIH fillies, the future mares of the TIH herd.


Education Demos & Knowledge Sharing Seminars

The TIHA hosts webinars and Knowledge Sharing Sessions for its members and the wider public with the aim of sharing information on breeding matters and supporting an opportunity to hear from industry professionals on all matters to do with the TIH.


In Spring 2023 TIHA hosted an interactive and successful Knowledge Sharing Session on Equine Genetics with the Irish horse geneticist, Dr. Emmeline Hill.

As a result of this session a dedicated research program was initiated, currently on going, to better understand the genetic makeup of Traditional Irish Horses (TIH).



A DNA-ancestry test is being developed to identify horses as TIH even if they have incomplete pedigrees. Interested, further information is available from the TIHA.

TIHA Home 


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Traditional Irish Horse Association

11,636 Facebook Page followers >
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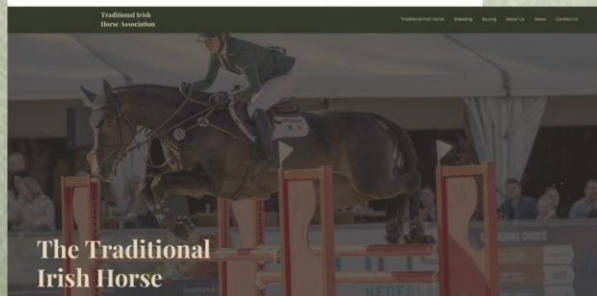
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76 Posts 1,049 Followers 57 Following

Traditional Irish Horse Assoc.
The mission of the TIHA is to conserve & develop our traditional bloodlines so the TIH remains part of the Global Equestrian Industry at all levels

www.traditionalirishhorse.com



TIHA - Media & Social Platforms

Welcome to follow

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/p/Traditional-Irish-Horse-Association-100063967329990/>

Instagram:

[traditional_irish_horse](https://www.instagram.com/traditional_irish_horse)

Web Connect:

www.traditionalirishhorse.com

< Back THE IRISH FIELD 

AROUND THE COUNTRY: Lambert's Sky is the limit

By Susan Finnerty 15 September 2023

 SHARE  TWEET  EMAIL  WHATSAPP

FREE



TIHA RESEARCH: Flexible proved a great flag-bearer for TIH bloodlines

By Irish Field Contributor 26 February 2021

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BREEDING: Last train to tradition

By Susan Finnerty 12 November 2021

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Why Support the TIHA

The TIH is uniquely Irish and it is imperative that its bloodlines are protected, retained and developed to ensure the future of the Traditional Irish Horse.

Our work is helping to sustain an important part of Ireland's heritage and Irish culture - maintaining the horse that has been the mainstay of Irish equestrian life for centuries, a horse that truly is prevalent throughout horse sport at all levels from amateur to elite.

The TIHA supports Irish sport horse breeders and producers in communities throughout Ireland, usually small scale operations ingrained in the fabric of rural Ireland. This support maintains jobs and livelihoods in rural Ireland and helps to ensure a future for young people who want to pursue a rural life style.

The TIHA funds its activities through membership income and a range of fund-raising initiatives. The 12 member Council Board is entirely voluntary.

Be part of the TIHA journey by giving a gift or taking up your own TIHA membership online
<https://www.itsplainsailing.com/org/tiha>
or send an email to membership@traditionalirishhorseassociation.ie

TIH - Majestic, Powerful, Graceful & Noble





TIH voice - Wise Words



"If you don't keep a pure traditional herd though, where is the Irishness?

And that is what buyers come here for, that Irish brain and fifth leg.

So I feel that we need to keep traditional lines for that presence in modern eventing"

CHRIS RYAN · TIHA COUNCIL VICE CHAIRPERSON
IN CONVERSATION WITH
SUSAN FINNERTY FOR THE IRISH FIELD

TIH - Majestic, Powerful, Graceful & Noble





PROMOTING
THE IRISH HORSE
INDUSTRY

Purchasing an Irish Horse?
Please contact us at
www.ihb.ie
info@ihb.ie

FUNDED BY



An Roinn Talmhaíochta,
Bia agus Mara
Department of Agriculture,
Food and the Marine





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