



National Amateur Committee
ShowjumpingIreland
Newsletter
May 2025 Edition

Dear Amateurs,
Welcome to the Showjumping Ireland amateur newsletter! We are excited to share the latest updates, upcoming events and important announcements with you.

Upcoming Events

- Amateur RDS Qualifier – May 24th – Galway Equestrian Centre
- Amateur RDS Qualifier – June 7th – Tipperary Equestrian Centre
- Amateur RDS Qualifier – June 21st – Killossery Lodge Stud
- Cavan Summer Amateur Show – June 28th – 29th – Cavan Equestrian Centre

Please find Farmer’s Journal ‘A’ Qualifier and Orchard/NAPS National Amateur League dates on the [SJI Amateurs page](#), with new dates being added as they become available.

Refer to the [SJI Calendar](#) for additional upcoming events.

Competition Highlights

- Ingrid Kane Memorial – Barnadown Equestrian Centre
 -  Welcome Stakes – Gary Flynn (Bahrain Prince)
 -  Leinster Amateur Tour Two Phase – Gemma Drennan (Cool Finesse)

🏆 1 The Ingrid Kane Grand Prix – Egle Zakaraite (Talbot Sis)

🏆 1 Welcome Stakes – Gary Flynn (Bahrain Prince)

🏆 1 Power & Speed – Kevin O'Reilly (Furore S)

🏆 1 The Barnadown Grand Prix – Caroline Gaston (Miss Roman Kora)

- RDS Qualified Riders – Kernan's – Caroline Gaston (Miss Roman Kora), Laura Walshe (Ballinaguilkey Heritage), Vicky Curran (RNH Coco Chanel), Caitlin Duffy (Jockeyhall Midas Touch), Ashleigh Mooney (JELO), Carolina Condon (J Silky), Sarah Connolly (MP Cosmina), Karen Boylan (GRC Blue Ice)

- RUAS Balmoral Amateur Championship – May 17th – Lisburn

🏆 1 Caitlin Duffy (Jockeyhall Midas Touch)

🏆 2 Kate Murray (Crynoisk Feisty Blue)

🏆 3 Egle Zakaraite (Talbot Sis)

Congratulations to all!

🌟 Sponsor Spotlight

The National Amateur Committee is thrilled to announce the following class sponsors for the National Amateur and Sports Member Championships on September 20th and 21st at Mullingar Equestrian Centre:

The Studio and Academy Sports Member Derby



Mary Harty

maryhartygelnails@gmail.com

The Studio and Academy

Lissinisky, Toomevara

Nenagh, Co Tipperary

Mary Hearty has been passionate about horses since childhood, but it wasn't until three years ago that she officially joined SJI herself. Showjumping has quickly become a beloved family activity—her

husband has been involved in the sport for years, and now they enjoy spending weekends at shows together with their two young children, Louie and Ollie, who are always close by to cheer them on.

Mary also runs a successful beauty studio and academy in Toomevara offering:

- Nails
- KART Pedicure
- Extensions
- 12-week blow-dry
- Makeup
- Tanning
- PMU Lip Blush
- Bespoke Luxury Facials

She saw the perfect opportunity to combine her business with her passion for showjumping, supporting the sport she loves in a meaningful way.

Demlay Equestrian Amateur One-round Speed



Helen Dempsey

086 8348820

helen@demlayequestrian.com

Demlay Equestrian

Demlay Lodge, Doneany

Kildare, Co Kildare

Helen became the Irish retailer for Equipe and Amerigo Saddles in 2017 and her business has grown from strength to strength. Having undergone specific and continuous Amerigo and Equipe offers her saddle fitting expertise throughout Ireland. Helen also offers a beautiful range of Bridles and Accessories and believes the Mattes range are a fabulous compliment to her saddles.

Based in County Kildare, Ireland, Helen has a wealth of knowledge accumulated over many years of horse ownership. In addition to competing in Show Jumping, Helen is also a HSI Level 2 Coach. Having started riding at the young age of just six years old, Helen has had a love for horses ever since. While she spent her youth working in the thoroughbred industry, show jumping is, and always will be, her first love. Helen continues to ride and compete herself and has passed on her passion for horses to her two young daughters, meaning she is never off the road and is involved in all disciplines of the sport!

Helen covers the whole of Ireland but also offers clients the option to come to her yard in County Kildare, where she has stables and an arena onsite. This enables her to fully fit and demonstrate the saddles while also allowing the client to try the saddle(s) in real time in a comfortable and relaxed atmosphere.

Please join us in thanking Mary and Helen for supporting our National Championships!

We are still accepting expressions of interest for class sponsorship at the National Championships via anna.smith@sjai.ie.

Save the Date

- ◆ Sports Member All-Ireland Final – September 6th or 7th – Mullingar Autumn Championships –  [Rules & Qualifying Criteria](#)
- ◆ Amateur & Sports Member National Championships – September 20th – 21st – Mullingar Equestrian Centre

Incorporating:

- Farmer's Journal 'A' Championship –  [Rules & Qualifying Criteria](#)
- Orchard/NAPS National Amateur League final leg and presentation –  [Rules & Qualifying Criteria](#)
- **NEW for 2025** Amateur Interprovincial Team Challenge –  [Rules & Qualifying Criteria](#)

Committee Announcements

- ◆ 2025 RDS Qualifiers – Please ensure you have met the six-class quota per Rule 254N.C.1.3.1 **before entering each RDS qualifier**. Any rider failing to meet the quota will be ineligible for RDS Dublin Horse Show qualification, regardless of qualifier placing.
- ◆ Rule Clarification – Per 2025 amendment to Rule 254N.C.1.3.2, height classes incorporating amateurs are **not** considered amateur classes; therefore, height classes incorporating amateurs competed in from **January 1st, 2025** may not be counted toward the six-class quota. Height classes incorporating amateurs competed in **before** January 1st, 2025 may still be counted toward the quota.

Get Involved

We welcome all members to contribute to our amateur community! Send your ideas, feedback, and Amateur Spotlight nominations to us via anna.smith@sjai.ie.

We look forward to seeing you out jumping!

Best of luck,

**♥ The National Amateur Committee
Showjumping Ireland**