

Hardshipping onto the BMHS Stud Book

Horses that do not have two BMHS registered parents can apply to be hardshipped onto the BMHS Stud Book through our cross breeding programme. Owners must be members of the Society.

Horses must be at least three years of age before they can be put forward for assessment. Assessments normally take place in small groups; each horse is studied in all paces and then thoroughly examined by a team of assessors who each give an independent score, the marks from the three assessors are then combined to give an overall percentage mark. A copy of the mark sheet used by the Judge will be found overleaf. Any horse scoring 50% or less is not eligible for Stud Book registration. The following scale is used for horses scoring more than 50%.

Up to and including 60% - 100% of the hardship fee is payable.

Up to and including 70% - one half of the hardship fee is payable.

Up to and including 80% - one quarter of the hardship fee is payable.

Up to and including 90% - normal registration fee is payable.

Above 90% - no additional fee is required.

Hardshipping fees can be found in section 1.7 of the handbook and on line.

The make up of the assessment team is normally one judge, one experienced breeder and one committee member wherever possible. To date we have found that our assessors have been very consistent in their markings even though they definitely do not confer whilst judging, and we are encouraged by this, that our assessments are just and reasonable.

In addition to the assessment, your horse will be given a veterinary inspection to ensure its soundness, and that it does not carry any hereditary faults (this is mandatory even if your horse has had a previous inspection for any reason). You can show your horse on the same day as the assessment, subject to its passing and you will be notified within approximately one hour of the assessment of the score that your horse has achieved and how much of the hardship registration is required. This amount must be paid before you can show your horse.

If you are unable to attend one of the published assessment days but still wish your horse to be assessed, please notify the office of your interest so that further assessment dates and suitable venues can be arranged. Due to the costs involved in running the assessments additional dates cannot be added unless there are sufficient numbers to justify the costs.

If you have a number of horses that you would like to put forward for assessment it may be possible to arrange for three assessors to visit your premises. Further details are available from the office.

The Hard Shipping fees are published annually to all members along with dates of pre arranged assessments. The actual cost of assessment will vary depending upon the amount charged by the attending veterinary surgeon and is normally between £100 and £150. You are under no obligation to register your horse once an assessment has been carried out but if you wish to do so then you should do this within six months of the date of the assessment.

It is a strict policy of the Society that the marks of individual horses are never disclosed except of course to the owner. Any significant comments made by the judges are passed to the owner.