

# **Irish Draught Horse Breeders Association**

## **News Letter**

April 2009 First issue

We are delighted to present to you the first News Letter of the Irish Draught Horse Breeders Association

The Irish Draught Horse Breeders Association (IDHBA) was set up following numerous requests from members of the Irish Draught Horse Society. The IDHBA is a non-incorporated organisation whose main function is to represent the interests of Irish Draught horse breeders, producers and enthusiasts.

An interim Governing Body was elected in November 2008 to prepare the groundwork for the Annual General Meeting that was held on 29<sup>th</sup> March 2009 in the Heritage Hotel Portlaois

At the AGM a new Governing Body was elected to take the Association forward for the next 12 months. Almost 200 members attended from all over the country. A set of guidelines rules was agreed and the full set of proposed rules will be circulated to the branches for members' consideration and input in due course.

The Governing Body members are Chairman – *Kevin Croke*; Vice chairman – *Paddy Joe Foy*; Secretary – *Liam Cotter*; Treasurer – *Stephen Keeley*. Each branch will nominate one member to the Governing Body over the coming weeks

Ms Helen Kelly has agreed to continue as secretariat and the office address is Derrynagarra, Collinstown, Co Westmeath. Telephone and fax- 044 9661199;

Email – [IDHBA@eircom.net](mailto:IDHBA@eircom.net).

There are now over 765 members already joined. The branches and/or contacts are Cavan (Michael Swords, 049 4331314); Cork (Tim O'Regan, 022 26231); Donegal (Valerie Davis, 074 34006); Dublin (Ronnie Kavanagh); Galway (Kathleen O'Neill, 091 635056); Kerry (John O'Donoghue 064 85456); Kilkenny (Norman Storey, 087 2222513); Laois (Eileen Brennan, 059 9147667); Leitrim (Sally Moffatt, Email: [moffattsally@hotmail.com](mailto:moffattsally@hotmail.com)), Limerick/Clare (Tom Allen); Mayo (Kathleen Cunney, 094 9257032); Northern Ireland (Victoria Craig, 028 40638250); Sligo (Neil Henry); Tipperary (Jim Armour); Westmeath (Kay Blackwell-Brazil) and Wicklow (Matthew Potts Email: [mattpea@hotmail.com](mailto:mattpea@hotmail.com)).

We also have a number of overseas members who have joined the Association directly.



**President.** When nominated and elected as our first president of the Association Eileen Brennan (Laois) received a well deserved standing ovation

**Vice presidents.** Elected as vice presidents for the coming year were Sharyn Alexander (North of Ireland) and Thomas C. Joyce (Galway)

## Membership

Membership forms are available from your local branch or from Helen Kelly. Annual membership for an individual is €30 and for a family membership of two members of the same family €40

## Yearbook 2009

All paid up members got a free copy of the 2009 Yearbook. Further copies are available from Helen Kelly for €10 each



*Darragh Classic Prince  
RDS Hunter Champion 2008*

## Diary dates

1. **Northern Ireland Branch** – stallion covering AUCTION 2009. Bids must be received by 6pm on the 8<sup>th</sup> April 2009. This is a fund raising event for the branch and deserves our support. For more information and the full list of stallions contact Lorna Johnston, Carrickfergus, Telephone 07796297208
2. **Irish Riding Club Festival.** Performance hunter competitions for Irish Draught horses have been added to the Irish Riding Clubs' Festival. This is in line with the Association's strategy to promote native Irish breeds. The Festival will take place at Stradbally Hall, Stradbally, Co Laois over the holiday weekend of June 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>. We wish to encourage any of you who have a ridden Irish Draught horse to support this class. More details are available from the Association of Irish Riding Clubs, Beech House, Millennium Park, Naas, Co Kildare. Phone 0818 270 227
3. **Laois Branch Show** on Sunday the 5<sup>th</sup> July 2009 in Stradbally Hall, Stradbally, Co Laois. Contact Eileen Brennan for more details on 059 9147667
4. **Wicklow Branch Show** The annual Wicklow branch show will be held in Boswell Equestrian Centre, Ashford, Co Wicklow on Sunday the 19<sup>th</sup> July 2009. You can get all the class details from Paula Cullen, show secretary. Phone 01 2819412 / 086 2566355
5. **Irish Draught Horse Breeders Association Show.** We will be holding our breed show on Saturday the 1<sup>st</sup> August 2009 in Mullingar Equestrian Centre, Mullingar, Co Westmeath. Details of the schedule will be available shortly from Helen Kelly. We encourage you to get some sponsorship for the show. The more the better

*A sponsor is also required for future newsletters. If you can help contact Helen*