



**An Roinn Iompair  
Turasóireachta agus Spóirt**

**Department of Transport,  
Tourism and Sport**

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18 December 2014

Ms Margaret Falsey  
Committee Secretariat  
Committee of Public Accounts  
Leinster House  
Dublin 2

Dear Ms Falsey

I refer to previous correspondence regarding the Committee's meeting on 2 October which examined the 2012 Annual Accounts of the Irish Sports Council and in particular to the issue of the importation of horses into Ireland and the marking of points on passports (point 3 of my correspondence dated 17 October last refers).

The Department undertook to follow up with Horse Sport Ireland regarding a meeting of Showjumping Ireland's Competitions Committee to consider changes to its rule book and to revert to the Committee in this regard. The Department has been advised that following this meeting, the rule book has been amended for 2015 to delete the rule below:

*Article 254N.A.3.5.2*

Horses coming in from abroad with no proven record of points/winnings will be assessed as at least Grade C, and awarded appropriate points. (Minimum 76 points).

The rule is to be replaced with the following:

*Article 254N.A.3.5.3.5.3*

The owner/rider/agent (entourage) of an animal is responsible for declaring all foreign winnings. If the entourage do not declare their foreign winnings to the National Association they may be subject to a fine.

The effect of this rule change is that when a foreign passport is received for registration purposes it will not be eligible for any points unless a record is also submitted.

I hope this information will be of assistance to the Committee. If you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Tom O'Mahony  
Secretary General