

Important FEI Passport information issued by the British Equestrian Federation

Horses competing in FEI competitions abroad must have an FEI passport irrespective of the level of the competition. Many FEI competitions held in this country also require horses to have an FEI passport; **however** this depends on the discipline and also on the level of the competition. Therefore please check this with your disciplines' governing body before applying for an FEI passport.

All FEI passport procedures must be carried out via the governing body for your discipline. This will be British Eventing, British Show Jumping Association, British Dressage, Endurance GB, British Horse Driving Trials Association, British Reining or British Equestrian Vaulting. Passports are then passed onto the BEF for the necessary actions to be processed. In order to ensure that we are able to issue a horse or pony with an FEI passport as quickly as possible the following set of guidelines have been produced.

1. All horses/ponies must be registered with the FEI before a passport can be issued.
2. The majority of passport procedures involve the passport being sent backwards and forwards twice, therefore please allow 30 days for this process to be completed.
3. In exceptional circumstances a passport can be issued and validated within a 48 hour period. There is a charge for this express service; you will need to check exact prices with your discipline.
4. In accordance with DEFRA regulations all horses should now have a national passport and a horse must not have more than one passport. Therefore, when you apply for an FEI passport you must send in the national passport and we will cover this with an FEI passport cover and some additional pages so the horse still only has one passport. This also eliminates the need for a vet to come out and complete a whole new passport. There are three things that you must check in the national passport before sending it to the relevant discipline:
 - ✓ **Flu vaccinations** must be in the correct order and recorded in the passport (not on a loose vaccination card) and must have been stamped and signed by the vet that administered them. The two primary vaccinations and the 6 month booster that follows the primaries must be present in the passport (unless primaries have been done recently and 6 months have not yet passed for horse to have third vac in which case just the first two will suffice). Yearly boosters after this are fine up until the time when the horse is issued with its' FEI passport. The horse must then have a flu vaccination within 6 months of any FEI competition. We therefore advise that once issued with an FEI passport a horse has a flu vaccination every 6 months to guarantee that it will always be within 6 months of a competition.

- ✓ The **diagram and description pages** must be filled out and stamped and signed by a vet. Diagrams should be filled out in black pen with any white markings being drawn on in red pen. The horse must be present when these pages are completed. For exact instructions on how your vet should fill out these pages the FEI have published an 'Identification of Horses' booklet which can be found at www.fei.org > Athletes and Horses > Horse Passports > Identification of Horses (PDF document).
 - ✓ Most national passports will already contain a **Section IX** – this is for the owner to declare whether or not the horse is ultimately intended for slaughter for human consumption. If the national passport does not contain a Section IX then one will be added at the same time as it is upgraded to an FEI passport as this is now a compulsory component for all horse passports, particularly for those travelling abroad. Please see attached sheet regarding Section IX's, which explains their purpose and when and how to sign them.
5. The horse automatically takes on the nationality of its' owner. If a horse belongs to owners of different nationalities acting in partnership, the owners must declare the nationality under which their horse is to compete.
 6. In the unlikely event that a horse does not have a passport of any type we are able to issue a full new FEI passport, which will need to be completed by your vet.

If you are at all unsure about any of the above things please contact the person who deals with passports in your disciplines' governing body and they will be able to clarify things for you.