

Even though people are busy showing and the foaling/breeding season is winding down, now is the time to start thinking about finding new homes for your wonderful Irish Draught horses. The IDHBA is offering several options for selling your pride and joy this year and most of these points of sale will cost very little apart from some of your valuable time.

A select sale of foals is planned for Cavan Sales in the Autumn, but now is the time to get them leading and well handled, it's amazing how quiet they become after just a few days of a little brushing and grooming, like all babies they love the fuss and it pays off! If you would like a chance to qualify for the select sale please send in a photo to www.idhba.ie with breeding details. Branch members that see a good foal out at shows should try to encourage owners to put it forward for selection. Please spread the word that we are looking for good foals for this sale, as past experience suggests that these select sales do give a better return to vendors than the ordinary sale.

Even if your foal is not chosen for the select sale, don't be too disappointed as those who have come forward for inspection will be photographed and videotaped and if the owner wants to put them up for sale in other free placement sites the IDHBA will give the photos and video on disk to the owner so he can advertise the foal.

For instance, Horse Sport Ireland is offering free placement of ads until August 2013 (we hope to have the closing date extended) on its Irish Horse Gateway website, for more information please contact them on info@irishhorsegateway.ie obviously this site is open to all age groups of horses.

Anyone with horses ready for sale at the moment can advertise with the IDHBA free on our website at any time, but for an extra ten euro we will include them in our folder of horses for sale which will be available for viewing at our RDS stand. This initiative will give prospective buyers a chance to see photos and details of all ages and types of Irish Draughts currently for sale, the viewer will then hopefully contact the seller direct.

Exhibitors at our National Show in Mullingar will have the opportunity to advertise their horses on www.horsemarket.ie this service has the advantage that photos will be taken on site on the day and Horsemarket will look after the rest.

The September sale at Goresbridge is always popular with buyers looking for hunting horses and young horses with a bit done. Martin Donohoe intends having a section devoted to the Irish Draught breed and owners should keep the camera and video on the ready between now and then as the facility to show clips of the horse in action is available to entrants and is very useful to potential buyers searching the catalogue online.