

FOAL LEVY APPEALS PROCESS

Background:

The Foal Levy was introduced in 2001 as a statutory levy on all foals born in the State. The principal legislation contains no provision for an appeals process. However the Foal Levy Committee (FLC), made up of industry representatives, recognises that in the interest of fairness and transparency there is a need for an appeals process. Initially all queries will be addressed by the Foal Levy administrator. This will include but not be limited to:

- Queries on levy rates,
- Queries on levy bands
- Queries on the domicile of the mare/foal
- Queries on the application of the levy rates as applied to “special deals”.

The appeals process is only available to Breeders who have paid the levy in full on the foal in question.

Appeals Process:

1. Where the Breeder is not satisfied with the response to their query, and the levy has been paid in full they will be advised of the appeals process.
2. The appeal will be heard by the Chairperson and Secretary of the Foal Levy Committee.
3. All appeals must be made in writing and must set out in details the grounds for the appeal together with supporting documentation and any representations. All information provided will be kept confidential in line with prevailing legislation.
4. It is not possible to hear an appeal unless sufficient information is provided.
5. The Foal Levy Administrator will acknowledge receipt of the appeal request within 10 working days and will indicate a timeframe for the appeal. This will normally be within 20 working days of the date of receipt of the letter.
6. The Chairperson and Secretary of the Foal Levy Committee, having considered any such appeal, shall advise the appellant in writing of the decision and the reason therefore.
7. Appeals must be made within a timely manner i.e. in the year of birth of the foal or in exceptional circumstances only in the following year.
8. If the appellant is not satisfied with the result of the appeal there is a further right of appeal to the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of HRI.
9. The CEO will acknowledge receipt of the appeal request within 10 working days and will indicate a timeframe for the appeal. This will normally be within 20 working days of the date of receipt of the letter.
10. The CEO, may request further information as deemed necessary and having considered any such appeal, shall advise the appellant in writing of the decision and the reason therefore.
11. This completes the appeals process.