

British Dressage and Equine Register

Introduction

From 1 January 2022, all horses registered with British Dressage must also be listed on the Central Equine Database (CED), which is a legal requirement for all horses domiciled in the UK. If your horse has a passport from a UK studbook passport issuing organisation (PIO) and is microchipped, which has also been a legal requirement since October 2020, your horse should already have a record on the CED.

We're also strongly recommending that members sign up to Equine Register's Digital Stable to facilitate this process and ensure your records are correct and up to date. This also helps to provide more effective traceability and bio-security measures to protect horse welfare. The Digital Stable provides a secure link to the Central Equine Database (CED), supplied and managed by the Equine Register on behalf of the Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA).

The 1.5 million strong government database is the United Kingdom's register of equines, which benefits horse owners, riders and sporting bodies, by promoting the health and welfare of the national herd and providing nationwide coverage. It's an assurance of the well-being and safety of all the equine competitors at BD's shows and activity, hence encouraging members to get their horses and ponies registered.

It's a legal requirement that owners and keepers with primary responsibility ensure every equine is correctly identified. In England, Scotland and Wales, this means that owners must have a passport for each horse which shows details of microchipping for that animal. The CED acts as a central register for all equines that reside in the UK, including their passport details and microchip number. Owners are required to keep this information up to date, which is made simple via the Digital Stable.

The data held provides a national census of equines, including a database of microchips, status on food chain exclusion, recorded ownership and an alert system for equines reported missing, which updates the [National ChipChecker](#) and local authorities.

To get started with your Digital Stable, you'll need to create your free account which does require you to [verify your identity](#) for safety, then ['claim' the equines in your ownership](#). You may find that your horse is already on the register with information provided by your passport issuing operator (PIO) and can then simply [check that the information](#) held is accurate and correct – this is really important. It's completely free to register.

Further information and help are available on www.equineregister.co.uk or email the team at info@equineregister.co.uk with any questions.

BD Member FAQs

What is the Central Equine Database (CED)?

The CED is the government database that holds the records of all equines in the UK. It is a legal requirement for all equines that live in the UK to be recorded on this database. The CED is managed by Equine Register on behalf of DEFRA.

The CED provides a picture of equine ownership in the UK to deliver lifetime traceability, biosecurity and identification for owners, vets and government officials. It also registers microchip numbers and provides an effective tool to help in the case of stolen/missing equines.

How do I know if my horse is on the CED?

Use the horse's microchip number to search the online National ChipChecker. If the number is recognised, the horse will have a record and the website will display a limited amount of information. However, you won't see vital information like the registered owner or be able to check the record for accuracy. To do this, you need to create your Digital Stable account.

If your horse doesn't appear, provided it has a passport, you'll need to register on the CED using the Equine Register or via your PIO. The Digital Stable also enables you to check whether horses that you no longer own, or have deceased, are still registered in your name. You can then verify these details and make sure the information held on the CED is accurate and up to date. This also enables you to view all of your horses registered with multiple PIOs in one place.

My horse is imported, could it be registered on the CED?

It's a legal requirement to have imported horse's passports recorded with and over-stamped by a studbook PIO within 60 days of import. If this process has been completed, the horse should be listed on the CED. If you haven't had this done, to comply with the law you'll need to get the passport over-stamped and, as part of the process, the PIO will pass the details to the CED for you.

Why should I register with the Digital Stable?

The Digital Stable is your secure link to the CED and gives access to owners to check the accuracy of the information held about them and their equines on this database. It is important that the information held on CED about you and your equines is up to date. Ownership details listed on the CED will be used by any enforcement agencies should there be an issue with a horse so it's vital the information is up to current.

As well as the data held in the CED, the Digital Stable enables users to record the location of their owned equines and their vaccination status (both current and historic). This information supports traceability and biosecurity protecting you and your horses from infectious diseases through live targeted national disease alerts.

The Digital Stable also provides an effective tool to help in the case of stolen/missing equines.

If your equine is missing you can notify the CED through your 'Digital Stable', this in turn will alert all users of the CED including PIO's, the FSA, Local Authorities, Welfare Agents, Enforcement Agencies and Border Controls that your equine is missing increasing the chances for you to be reunited when it's found if your information on the CED is up to date.

What is the Digital Stable App?

The Digital Stable App is free once you've created your account and allows you to store your equine passport records on your smartphone, which is always synchronised with the Central Equine Database (CED). The App:

- keeps your equine passports to hand – store your passports with the latest information from the CED
- is digitally secure – it uses a unique pin code and access securely and quickly using touch or face ID
- lets you share your passport – make sure you're the recorded owner of your own equine and choose to share your equine's digital passport with others
- helps you report your equine missing – if your equine is missing or stolen, provide the exact location and the National ChipChecker is instantly notified which passes details to PIOs, local authorities and government agencies.

Who can register for an account?

If you own or have owned an equine in the UK, you should register with Equine Register to create your Digital Stable and make sure that your equines are in your name. The Digital Stable also assists you in notifying all relevant parties of any equines you no longer own, so that you are no longer liable for them.

If you look after or loan an equine that you do not own, or are a livery or other yard owner, there is something new coming for you soon! For more information about this service register your interest at <https://www.equineregister.co.uk/register-interest> and ER will email you when the service is live. In the meantime, don't forget to check with your horse's owner that they have signed up.

What is the cost to register?

It's completely free to register for an Digital Stable account and claim your horses. If you make any changes to your personal or equine data, your passport issuing organisation may charge you to make this change to the CED.

What do I need to register?

You'll need a passport, driving licence (photocard licence) or identity card to verify your identity. You'll also need your equine paper passport to confirm details are correct with the CED.

Why is it necessary to verify my identity?

The data requested is necessary to carry out an identity check to protect you, and any equines you own, from fraud, ensuring the data is not accessed without your permission. It means only you can access your information. Banks and governments routinely use these secure digital identification systems – it's the same requirements used for the NHS App, which millions of people are now using regularly during the COVID pandemic.

Your verification information (passport, driving licence (photocard licence) or identity card) is not stored or used for any other purpose than verifying your identity. Once completed, it is deleted.

Is my data safe?

The Equine Register team is a global leader in the provision of equine systems for the government and in turn industry and sporting bodies. They are a trusted partner of Defra and have a [full privacy policy](#), which details how they keep your data safe, what is collected, what it will be used for and your rights. The Equine Register is fully UK, EU and internationally data compliant under GDPR regulations.

Your data will not be used for anything other than that stated in the privacy policy and where you have opted in for selected uses when you provide your personal information. Here are the full [Terms & Conditions](#) and an [Acceptable Use Policy](#).

If you have concerns, please contact the team at Equine Register – info@equineregister.co.uk

It says a 'soft search' credit check is used to verify my address – why are my credit checked?

This is a confusing name for this service, and easily misunderstood. We use a secure 'soft search' service solely to run a quick digital check to confirm that you live at your address. To do this, the service automatically checks the records of a number of formal registries, including the electoral roll, utilities, credit agencies, fraud lists etc. At no point does it request or require any information about your financial standing or credit history to pass the check. 'Soft searches' do not show up on your credit record and do not affect your credit score at all.

What information do I need to keep updated?

The most important information to check is:

- Are your name and address details correct?

- Is the name and details of your equine correct?
- Is the microchip number entered and correct? (It is a legal requirement that all equines in the UK are microchipped and details are recorded on the CED)
- Is the Food Chain Status correct? (Whether by your choice or because of medication administered to your equine it is important that the CED record states if the equine should or should not be allowed to be in the food chain for human consumption).

Will my horses and I be allowed to compete if I don't register with the Equine Register?

Registration on the Central Equine Database (CED) is a legal requirement and therefore it is now also a condition of your horse's registration to compete with British Dressage. The Equine Register simply provides access to the CED, managed on behalf of DEFRA, allowing you to create an online profile and verify your horse's registration details.

We strongly advise everyone to act responsibly and ensure your horse is listed on the CED, it's the law. The Equine Register provides a free service to facilitate this, aimed at improving traceability and biosecurity for the benefit of everyone in the equestrian community. You will be playing an active part in protecting the health, safety and welfare of our national equine herd population.

The requirement is in place from 1 January 2022, although there will be a gradual phasing in over the course of 2022 to allow members sufficient time to adapt to the new system.