

Futurity Graduates – stepping up the career ladder!

by Jo Claridge

Is your horse a Futurity Graduate?

Are they registered with Endurance GB?

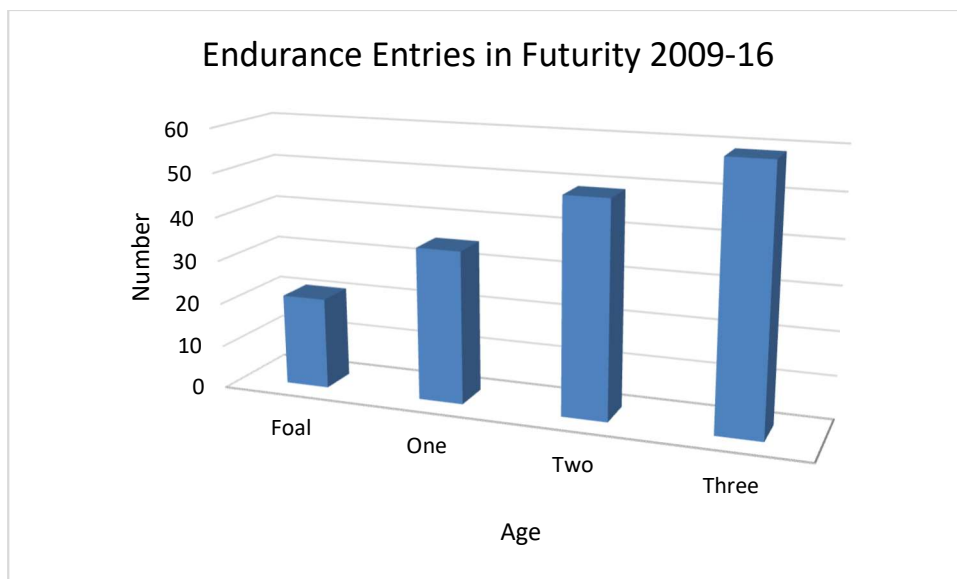
Have they successfully competed at Endurance GB Rides?

If so this scheme is for you, or you could qualify with your young horse!

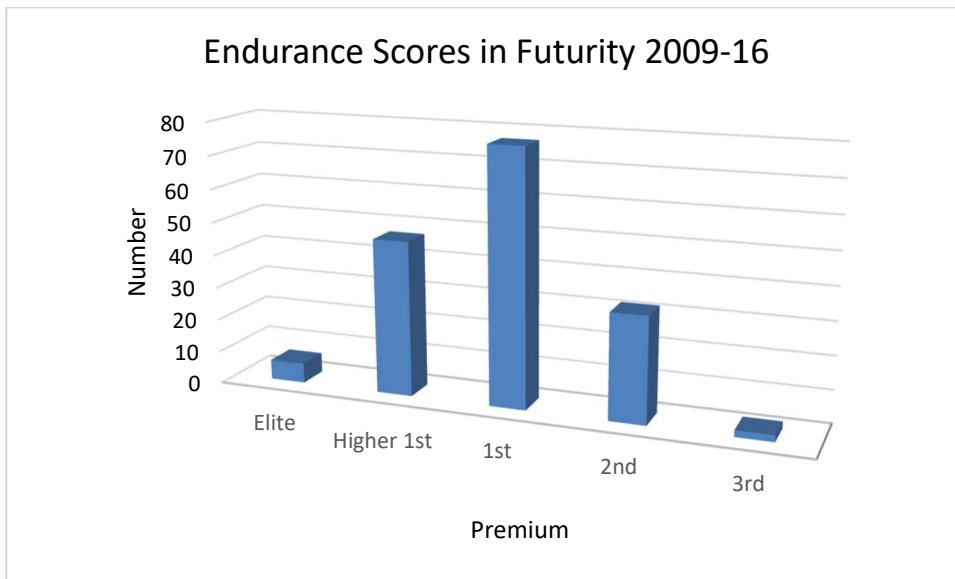
What is the Futurity Graduate Scheme? – It's a new initiative to promote, recognise and reward Endurance horses who were evaluated at BEF Futurity Events and have graduated as 5+ year olds, registered with Endurance GB and are now competing successfully. Full details can be found below.

What is the BEF Futurity Evaluation?

In 2009 Endurance horses joined the established BEF Futurity Evaluation scheme aimed at spotting potential International and team horses. Foals to three year olds are inspected by one of the country's best vets and are shown in-hand and free in an indoor school to demonstrate their paces. The number and age of Endurance horses entered from 2009-16 were:

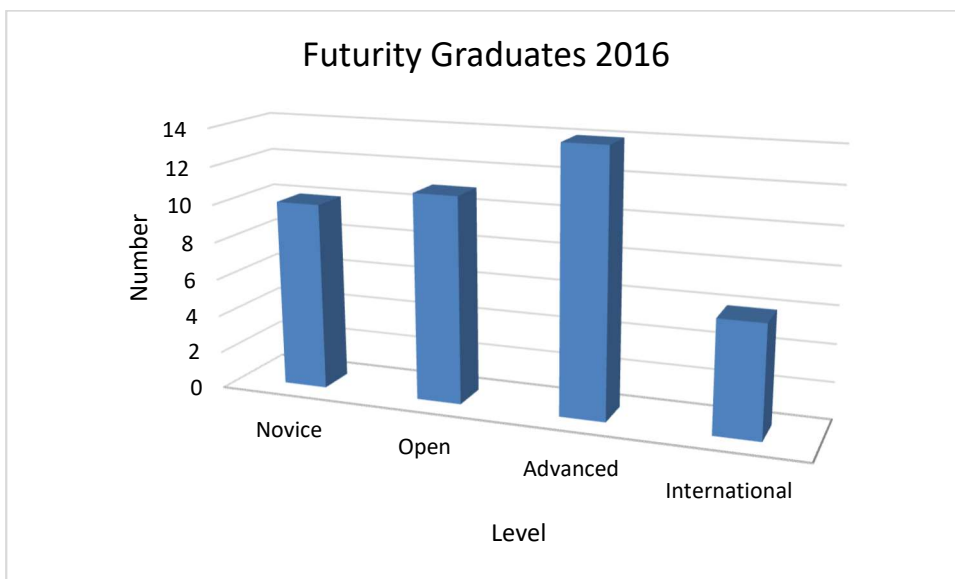


Horses are graded by an Evaluator who is experienced in breeding, training and competing in the relevant sport. The grades reflect the criteria set by the BEF in conjunction with the different disciplines (Dressage, Show Jumping, Eventing and Endurance) and result in Premium awards from Third to Higher First and Elite – the rarest and most highly prized. Premium scores for Endurance horses from 2009-16 were:



Olympic Discipline Graduates were offered the **Equine Pathway** - available to four and five year old horses, supporting them with veterinary advice and training. Unfortunately lack of funding did not allow this for Endurance horses.

As an Endurance Evaluator I have been determined to ensure that our potential top quality horses receive proper recognition and, supported by my husband Peter and Rosemary Attfield, we have devised the **Endurance GB Futurity Graduate Scheme** which rewards our Endurance horses initially graded in the BEF Futurity Evaluations, who have then been registered with Endurance GB as Novices when they start their endurance careers. This illustrates that they are starting on the career that they were bred for. The numbers of Futurity Graduates currently performing at the different levels are:



We will be monitoring Graduates qualifying through the Novice, Open, Advanced and International levels, and Phoenix Field Arabians is sponsoring the Scheme by awarding rosettes to the owners of these horses as they successfully complete their

first ride at each level. These results will create a database of horses that are proving their ability and their bloodlines can easily be checked.

Many hours of work cross-checking the BEF Futurity results and the Endurance GB database of results will reward us with a valuable resource for the development of Endurance horses in this country. Top class competition requires top class equine athletes and any information on these is vital for the future of the sport.

Obviously the home, owner and competitor are equally important parts of the jigsaw but again support can be given in many ways by sharing experience. The possibilities afforded by this "tracking" are endless. Rosemary has kindly offered to award 3 cups (Gold, Silver and Bronze) to the high point winners in different categories of rides each season, but the logistics of where they are to be awarded have yet to be finalised. We were hoping to start the Futurity Graduate Scheme last year but we are delighted that it can finally be introduced this season.

So - if you are the proud owner of a horse who has participated in the BEF Endurance Futurity Evaluations and who is now a registered member of Endurance GB, once your horse has successfully completed competitive rides please do contact Jo or Rosemary with any information (and pictures) that can be used in future articles on their progress. The horse qualification awards will be sent out later this year and it will also be useful for people to double-check that our details are correct.

This year's BEF Futurity Evaluations will be held in August and disappointingly there will only be 9 venues this year, so if you are considering taking your youngster please do ensure that you enter on the opening date of 1st July as all the other disciplines will be vying for the precious places! Extensive information and a video showing what to expect are available on the BEF/British Breeding website (www.britishbreeding.org).

14 Aug	Valeview EC, Leicestershire	OPENING 01 Jul 2017
15 Aug	Richmond EC, North Yorkshire	OPENING 01 Jul 2017
16 Aug	Myerscough College, Lancashire	OPENING 01 Jul 2017
18 Aug	The College - Keysoe, Bedfordshire	OPENING 01 Jul 2017
19 Aug	Writtle College, Essex	OPENING 01 Jul 2017
21 Aug	Tall Trees Arena, Cornwall	OPENING 01 Jul 2017
22 Aug	Hartpury College, Gloucestershire	OPENING 01 Jul 2017
23 Aug	Solihull RC, West Midlands	OPENING 01 Jul 2017
30 Aug	Catherston Stud, Hampshire	OPENING 01 Jul 2017

For further information on the Endurance Futurity Graduate Scheme please contact Jo Claridge (brightonwaterfarm@yahoo.co.uk) or Rosemary Attfield (horsegranny@btinternet.com).

We look forward to hearing from you!

Endurance GB Futurity Graduate Scheme 2017

Aim: To encourage, recognise and reward the breeding and development of supreme equine athletes for Endurance competition and to increase the pool of top class National and International horses competing in Endurance GB.

Definition: Futurity Graduates are horses and ponies of foal to three year olds that been assessed in the Endurance section of the BEF Futurity Scheme

Eligibility: Horses and ponies and/or their owners must be registered with Endurance GB

Award	Eligibility
Phoenix Field Endurance Futurity Perpetual Trophy	Foal to three year old horse or pony achieving the highest evaluation score in the BEF Futurity Scheme each season.
Rosettes Sponsored by Peter & Jo Claridge - Phoenix Field Arabians	
Novice Futurity Graduate Rosette	Graduate horse or pony successfully completing its first Novice Level competitive ride with Endurance GB.
Open Futurity Graduate Rosette	Graduate horse or pony successfully completing its first Open Level competitive ride with Endurance GB.
Advanced Futurity Graduate Rosette	Graduate horse or pony successfully completing its first Advanced Level competitive ride with Endurance GB.
International Futurity Graduate Rosette	Graduate horse or pony successfully completing its first FEI competitive ride.
Trophies to be awarded 2017 – Sponsored by Rosemary Attfield – Hornshill	
Bronze Futurity Graduate Trophy	For six year old Novice/Open horse or pony gaining highest number of points in Endurance GB competitive rides during the season – 4 best results less than 80km to count (at least 2 at Novice level).
Silver Futurity Graduate Trophy	For seven to ten year old horse or pony gaining the highest number of points in Endurance GB National competitive rides during the season – 5 best results to count.
Gold Futurity Graduate Trophy	For seven to ten year old horse or pony gaining the highest number of points in FEI competitive rides during the season.

