

## British Dressage Para Equestrian Dressage Selection Policy FEI CPEDI 1\*/2\*/3\* Competitions 2024

### 1. Introduction

- 1.1 This is the British Dressage Selection Policy for CPEDI 1\*/2\*/3\* competitions in 2024. The athlete / horse combinations will be selected by the British Dressage (“BD”) Selectors (“**the Selectors**”), in accordance with this Policy, and will be entered by BD.

### 2. Objectives

- 2.1 The Selectors shall select (in accordance with this Selection Policy) the athlete/horse combinations that in their view will most likely maximise the potential to achieve the objectives set out in this section of the Selection Policy (“**the Objectives**”)
- 2.2 **Primary Objective:** To fulfil the identified performance and preparation needs of athlete/horse combinations campaigning for the Paris Paralympic Games 2024.
- 2.3 **Secondary Objective:** To provide a competitive opportunity for athlete/horse combinations that have the potential to develop into medal winning contenders at future championships.
- 2.4 **Tertiary Objective:** To provide athlete/horse combinations with the opportunity to compete in international competitions, where possible, to develop their experience and support performance progression.

### 3. Selection Panel

- 3.1 The athletes representing Great Britain will be selected by the Selectors.
- 3.2 Selectors will be appointed by the BD Board based on having the knowledge and expertise required to select athletes to represent Great Britain at this level and will be free of all vested interests/conflicts of interest, in so far as is possible.
- 3.3 The 2024 CPEDI Selection Panel shall be comprised of:
- a) Chief Selector – Joyce Head (voting)
  - b) Selector – Islay Auty (voting)
  - c) Selector – Pamella Bushell (voting)
- 3.4 The following individuals may also participate in a non-voting capacity and not part of the Selection Panel:
- a) Performance Manager – Georgina Sharples
  - b) Performance Pathway Manager– Erik Mackechnie - Guire
  - c) Secretariat – Para International Officer

- 3.5 The Selectors will act as experts and are entitled within the boundaries of the Selection Policy and Selection Criteria, to use their absolute discretion to select the best athlete/horse combinations to fulfil the Objectives of the policy.
- 3.6 The BD CEO will maintain a register of declared interests and all members of the Selection Panel will declare any conflicts as soon as they arise. If a member of the Selection Panel, whether voting or non-voting, has a declared interest during selection, they will step down from the discussion involving the potential or perceived conflict.
- 3.7 All voting Selectors will have equal voting rights. They will use their discretion honestly and with integrity, having due regard to and acting in compliance with any applicable BD and BEF codes of conduct and/or code of ethics in force.
- 3.8 Decisions must be reached by a majority vote and with no abstentions unless a Selector is required to abstain due to a declared conflict of interest. In the event of a majority decision not being achieved or possible, the Chief Selector will have the casting vote and deciding vote. In the event of the Chief Selector being unable to vote for any reason or required to abstain due to a conflict of interest, one of the remaining Selectors, as nominated by the BD CEO, will have the casting vote.
- 3.9 The Selectors will be provided, in advance, with relevant scores (obtained from the BD and FEI website) and relevant performance evidence to support them in their selection decisions.

#### **4. Eligibility Requirements**

- 4.1 The BD Para International Officer will ensure that each athlete and horse combination put forward to the Selectors as being available for selection for international competitions is eligible to represent Great Britain, including that:
  - a) The athlete is a British Citizen with a valid British passport for at least six months after the date of competition.
  - b) The athlete is at least 14 years of age.
  - c) The athlete is a Full (competing) and active member of British Dressage, and not subject to suspension under BD rules.
  - d) The athlete is eligible under any anti-doping code (i.e., they are not serving a competition ban as a result of a proven doping or controlled medication violation), not serving a competition ban as a result of any breach of any ethical code or misconduct and not in receipt of a funding ban from UK Sport.
  - e) The horse is fully registered with British Dressage.
  - f) All horse owners must be Full (competing or non-competing) members of BD.
  - g) Both athlete and horse have the appropriate and current FEI license(s) issued via the application process undertaken by the British Equestrian Federation, in accordance with Article 113 of the FEI General Regulations.
  - h) Both athlete and horse have satisfied all eligibility and qualification criteria under the BD, BEF and FEI Dressage rules and regulations for the competition.

## 5. Selection Criteria

### 5.1 CPEDI 1\*

- 5.1.1 Athlete/horse combinations must have achieved the following in the **Intermediate Test A** test for their grade during the 12 months preceding 14 days prior to Definite Entries for the CPEDI.
- 5.1.2 A minimum of two scores of 64% or above in the **Intermediate Test A** at Para-Equestrian Dressage competitions. (PYO tests are permitted).
- 5.1.3 One score of 64% or above must be gained at one of the following competitions:
- BD Silver Championship Classes (Summer or Winter)
  - CPEDI 1\*

### 5.2 CPEDI 2\*

- 5.2.1 Athlete/horse combinations must have achieved the following in the **Grand Prix A, or Grand Prix Test B or Intermediate Test A** for their grade during the 12 months preceding 14 days prior to Definite Entries for the CPEDI.
- 5.2.2 An average, across a minimum of two scores, of 65% or above in the **Grand Prix A, Grand Prix Test B or Intermediate Test A** at Para-Equestrian Dressage competition (PYO tests are permitted)
- 5.2.3 One score of 65% or above must be gained at one of the following competitions:
- BD Silver or Gold Championship classes, inclusive of qualifying classes (Summer or Winter qualification season)
  - Gold Summer Semi Final
  - CPEDI 2\*

### 5.3 CPEDI 3\* – first time Qualification

- 5.3.1 Overall Para Dressage Qualification criteria for 2024, as per Article 8404 of the FEI Para Dressage Rules: Athletes are required to qualify for CPEDI3\*s, FEI World and Continental Championships, the Paralympic Games, and any other Events where qualification is required. Qualification criteria and Minimum Eligibility Requirements are published on the FEI Website.
- To enter a CPEDI 3\*, athletes are required to have achieved a minimum score of 60% in a CPEDI 2\* or a CDI 1\* (or above) in any one test once.
  - Scores obtained in CPEDI 3\* and above prior to 2023 will count as well. Such qualification only needs to be obtained once.
  - Scores achieved in a CDI must have been obtained in the 12 months prior to the Athletes first appearance in a CPEDI 3\*.
- 5.3.2 In addition to being eligible to compete in a CPEDI 3\* as stated in clause 5.3.1, athlete/horse combinations must have achieved the following in the **Grand Prix Test B** for their grade during the 12 months preceding 14 days prior to Definite Entries for the CPEDI.

- 5.3.3 An average score of 67% or above, across a minimum of two scores, in the **Grand Prix Test B** for their grade, at a BD Gold Para-Equestrian Dressage competition (PYO tests are permitted).
- 5.3.4 Competed at one of the following competitions, scoring 65% or above in the **Grand Prix Test B** of their Grade, during the 12 months preceding 14 days prior to Definite Entries for the CPEDI.
- BD Gold Championship Classes (Summer or Winter)
  - Gold Summer Semi Final
  - CPEDI3\*

**5.4 CPEDI 3\* – Qualification for Athletes with results at a domestic CPEDI 3\* since 1 January 2019**

- 5.4.1 Athletes must have achieved an average, across a minimum of three scores of 67% in the **Grand Prix Test B** at a domestic CPEDI 3\* (PYO tests permitted), during the period from 1 January 2019 to 14 days prior to the Definite Entries for the CPEDI.
- 5.4.2 Athlete/horse combinations must have achieved an average score of 67% or above, across a minimum of three scores, in the **Grand Prix Test B** for their grade at a BD Gold Para-Equestrian Dressage competition (PYO tests are permitted), during the 12 months preceding 14 days prior to Definite Entries for the CPEDI.

**5.5 CPEDI3\* – Qualification for overseas CPEDI3\***

- 5.5.1 Athlete and athlete/horse combinations must have achieved the criteria stated in either 5.1 or 5.2 in the **Grand Prix Test B** for their grade during the 12 months preceding 14 days prior to Definite Entries for the CPEDI.

**Scores gained in any Freestyle to music tests will not be considered.**

- 5.6 The Selectors will have the right to select athlete/horse combinations that may not have achieved the requisite scores if in their opinion it is in the interests of the Objectives, as detailed in Section 2 of this Policy.
- 5.7 Other factors to be taken into consideration by the Selectors include:
- a) the athlete or horse's competition needs, to prepare them to produce their best possible performance at Paris Paralympic Games 2024.
  - b) the requirement to develop an athlete/horse combination's ability to produce peak performances.
- 5.8 All selection decisions are subject to the athlete/horse maintaining fitness and performance up to the CPEDI date. Failure to do this could lead to the athlete/horse combination being substituted.
- 5.9 All applications must go through the BD Para International Officer.

## 6. Qualification Period and Designated Events

- 6.1 The qualification period for horses and athletes to compete at the Paris Paralympic Games 2024 for Para Equestrian Dressage will be in accordance with qualification guidelines, which are available at: <https://inside.fei.org/content/para-dressage-qualification-system-paris-2024-paralympic-games>
- 6.2 The Selectors may ask athletes and horses to participate in designated competitions throughout the season where they deem this appropriate and necessary, in order to evaluate performance against the Selection Criteria identified within this Policy prior to selection. The Selectors will consult with the PM, who will inform the athletes concerned of the details regarding these requirements.

## 7. Selection Process

- 7.1 Following achievement of the minimum Selection Criteria, and within the timeframes communicated by BD, athletes should submit their requests to compete on their International Competition Plan form available from the BD Para International Officer.
- 7.2 To keep athletes and Selectors informed, an international competition planner indicating those athlete/horse combinations selected and requests to attend each competition is circulated regularly via email by the BD Para International Officer to those who have submitted expressions of interest to be considered for selection.
- 7.3 The Selectors will select the requisite number of athlete/horse combinations for each show with due regard to the Objectives of this Selection Policy. The number will be dictated by the FEI schedule and accompanying FEI rules. If applicable, a wait/reserve list in no particular order will be drawn up.
- 7.4 Athletes/horse combinations able to gain private invitations to specific FEI CPEDI competitions should indicate on the International Competition Plan if that is an option available to them. They may be requested to take up that option to access additional places. Private invitations will not take priority over an athlete/horse combination selected by the Selectors to compete at a CPEDI competition. Private invitations will only be authorised by the Selectors providing the combination has achieved the relevant qualifying criteria.
- 7.5 Athletes will be informed if they have been invited to compete at a competition via email by the BD Para International Officer within the timeframes indicated in the competition schedule and/or FEI entry system (Definite Entries).
- 7.6 Athletes should confirm their acceptance and the BD Para International Officer will be responsible for submitting the entry prior to the close of Definite Entries.
- 7.7 All athletes are responsible for their own costs, as indicated within the competition schedule, unless a level of financial support has been agreed with the WCP PM / WCP Para Dressage Performance Pathway Manager.
- 7.8 Should an athlete have to withdraw prior to definite entries, the BD Para International Officer will contact the Chief Selector who may select an athlete from the wait/reserve list.

## **8. Withdrawals**

- 8.1 Once an athlete/horse combination has committed to compete at an international competition to the Performance Manager, Selectors, or the BD Para International Officer (whether orally or in writing), they will be expected to compete. If they find at any time that they have to withdraw, for whatever reason, they are obliged to notify the BD Para International Officer and the Performance Manager immediately.
- 8.2 The BD Para International Officer is responsible for withdrawing the athlete's entry. Athletes will be liable for any withdrawal costs incurred.
- 8.3 After Definite Entries has taken place, and as per FEI rules, a veterinary/medical certificate will be required before a withdrawal is accepted. Any withdrawal costs incurred are the responsibility of the athlete.

## **9. Running Order**

- 9.1 Where applicable, the Selectors, in consultation with the PM, will determine the team running order. The PM will inform athletes of the decision.
- 9.2 The PM, in consultation and with the agreement of the Selectors, may make amendments to the team running order when deemed necessary.

## **10. Other Considerations in support of the Selection Policy**

### **10.1 Conflicts of Interest**

- 10.1.1 To protect the integrity of the selection process, the Selectors and non-voting personnel, PM, PPM, and Para International Officer, shall not take any measure nor exercise any influence in relation to a matter where any conflict of interest or any other conflict exists or is perceived to exist.
- 10.1.2 Members of the Selection Panel must therefore take all reasonable steps to avoid situations where there may be a potential conflict of interest, whether that is a real or perceived conflict of interest.
- 10.1.3 All conflicts of interest will be declared to the BD CEO, so they can be managed in an appropriate manner.

### **10.2 Confidentiality**

- 10.2.1 It is vitally important for the integrity of the Selection Policy, and out of respect for the athletes, owners, Selectors, staff, and other parties, that there is a high degree of confidentiality relating to information which may have a bearing on selection.
- 10.2.2 Any Selector, or non-voting personnel, who breaks this confidentiality may be removed from the Selection Panel. All selection related conversations and discussions will be confidential.

### **10.3 Code of Conduct**

- 10.3.1 Athletes, owners, trainers, grooms, and athletes' support teams are expected to abide by any British Equestrian Federation Team Charter, British Dressage Members' Code of Conduct, or FEI Rider acknowledgement and agreement that is in force.

10.3.2 Athletes, owners, trainers, grooms, and athletes' support teams are expected to behave in a manner that does not negatively affect performance or bring the sport into disrepute.

#### 10.4 **Clean Sport**

10.4.1 Selection is subject to compliance with FEI and BEF Equine Anti-Doping and Controlled Medication Rules, and FEI, BEF and WADA rules on human anti-doping.

10.4.2 BEF equine anti-doping and controlled medication rules (BEFAR) and BEF human anti-doping rules; and the current equine and human prohibited substances lists, can be found on the BEF website at: [www.britishequestrian.org.uk](http://www.britishequestrian.org.uk). Further information on human anti-doping can be found on the WADA website at: [www.wada-ama.org](http://www.wada-ama.org)

### 11. **Appeal Process and Procedures**

11.1 Athletes have the right to appeal against a selection decision of the Selectors, but only on the grounds that the Selectors have failed to comply with this Policy when making the decision appealed against, or they have made a decision that no rational body of competent Selectors could reasonably have reached.

11.2 The right to appeal a selection decision must not be seen as an opportunity to dispute the opinion of the Selectors where the selection procedure and Selection Criteria have been followed. In reaching their decision the Selectors are acting as experts.

11.3 An appeal must be made by submitting notice in writing ("the Notice of Appeal") to the BD CEO, in accordance with the BEF Selection Appeal Rules, within 48 hours of the relevant athlete being informed of the Selectors' decision against which the athlete wishes to appeal.

11.4 The BD CEO shall, on receipt of the Notice of Appeal, seek to bring together all parties affected by the appeal for a without prejudice discussion that may, if all parties are in agreement, take the form of facilitated mediation.

11.5 For the avoidance of doubt, the Appeal Process shall continue to run during such discussion. However, in the event that all affected parties notify the BD CEO (within 24 hours of receipt of the Appeal Notice) that such discussion / mediation has resolved the appeal, the Appeal Process shall be stayed.

11.6 The full details of the BEF Rules are set out on the BEF website: [www.britishequestrian.org.uk](http://www.britishequestrian.org.uk) and copies of the BEF Selection Appeal Rules can be obtained from the BEF office.

### 12. **Policy Creation & Amendment**

12.1 This Selection Policy is compiled in consultation with BD Board of Directors, the BD CEO, the BD Selectors and PM.

12.2 The Selectors are entitled in exceptional circumstances to amend or revise this Selection Policy, where they reasonably consider it necessary to do so to best achieve the Objectives of the Selection Policy set out in Section 2.

12.3 Any amendments of or revisions to this Selection Policy must be approved in writing by the BD CEO and the ID.

- 12.4 The amended or revised clauses will be communicated to all senior international athletes in a manner directed by the BD Selectors, and the full version of the amended or revised Policy will be published on the BD and BEF websites.

### 13. General

- 13.1 **Discretion** – the Selectors are entitled, within the scope of this Selection Policy, to exercise their discretion to achieve the Objectives where it is reasonable to do so.
- 13.2 **Cancellation/postponement** – in the event of cancellation of any competition, the relevant parties will be notified immediately. In the event of postponement of any competition, a situation might arise where a new and/or different list of athlete/horse combinations needs to be selected, in which case all parties will be notified and (subject to any amendments or revisions made to the Selection Policy in accordance with Section 12 above) the normal procedures for selection set out in this Selection Policy will be followed.
- 13.3 **Force majeure** – in the event of exceptional circumstances beyond the BEF or British Dressage control, such as disease outbreak in horses or humans, war or terrorism, or withdrawal of WCP funding, the British Dressage Board reserves the right to make the decision, following consultation with the BD CEO, Para Director and PM, either to change the Selection Policy or the procedure for selection, which might include withdrawing the team and/or individuals from competition.
- 13.4 **Communication (Publication)** – this Selection Policy will be published on the BD and BEF websites and copies will be available on request from the BD/BEF office.
- 13.5 **Enquiries** – enquiries about this Selection Policy can be made either in writing or by telephone to the Para International Officer at the BD Office.

**Jason Brautigam**  
**Chief Executive**  
**December 2023**