



**PARA-EQUESTRIAN DRESSAGE**  
**CPEDI SELECTION POLICY 2012**  
**AND ADVICE TO RIDERS**



**INTRODUCTION**

The Selection Policy (the Policy) covers selection CPEDI Shows (the “Shows”). At Annex A to the Policy is a guide to riders regarding support, conduct and logistics; Annex A is not part of the Policy.

**OBJECTIVE OF SELECTION POLICY**

The specific aims and priorities of the Selection Policy;

Priority 1: To prepare rider / horse combinations for the London 2012 Paralympic Games (the Games)

Priority 2: Select rider / horse combinations in order to develop a squad capable of winning medals at future Championships,

Priority 3: Meet rider’s aspirations to compete at specific Shows and progress up the performance pathway.

**CONFIDENTIALITY**

It is vitally important for the integrity of the Selection Policy and out of respect for the riders, owners, selectors, staff and other parties that there is at all times a high degree of confidentiality relating to information which may have a bearing on selection. Any person who breaks this confidentiality could be removed from the Selection process.

**SELECTION PANEL**

All Selectors, (which term includes the Chairman), will be appointed by the British Dressage Board in consultation with the Performance Director (PD). They will have the knowledge and experience required to select championship teams and will be as free from all vested interests / conflicts of interest as is possible.

The Chairman will maintain a register of conflicts of interest and all Selectors will declare any potential or perceived conflicts as soon as they arise.

All Selectors will have equal voting rights.

The Selection Panel shall comprise:

Chairman	-	Juliet Seal
Selector	-	Carolyn Gardiner
Selector	-	Waveney Luke

Other advisors as required – National Coach / Equine / Human SSM personnel.

The Performance Manager (PM) and Discipline Coordinator (DC) will be available attend all selection meetings to inform, advise and assist the Selectors but he / she will not have a vote. This will safeguard the close relationship between the PM and the riders.

Although the PM will not have a vote, he will have the power of veto over the selectors decisions.

The PD and a representative of UK Sport will be entitled to attend all selection meetings but will not have a vote.

## **SELECTION POLICY**

### **BACKGROUND**

The British Para-Equestrian Dressage Selection Policy for the Games is agreed in consultation with the British Dressage Board of Directors, Selectors, PM, DC, National Coach, Riders and PD.

### **ELIGIBILITY/AVAILABILITY FOR CONSIDERATION**

The BD International Secretary will ensure that each rider available for selection is eligible to represent Great Britain including being:

- a British passport holder;
- a member in good standing of BD and eligible to represent Great Britain in international championships under the rules of the FEI having been registered by the National Federation of Great Britain to compete in International Events and being in possession of a Certificate of Competence in accordance with Articles 113 and 117 FEI Regulations;
- All riders must be classified Internationally and have a current valid FEI card. If only classified Nationally riders must inform BD (International Secretary), at the time of entry, who will then ascertain if it is possible for a rider to be classified at the competition.
- eligible under any applicable anti-doping and/or controlled medication regulations.

### **QUALIFICATION PERIOD**

The qualification period for horses and riders will be in accordance with FEI regulations, which are available at [www.fei.org](http://www.fei.org) or as specified in the FEI approved Schedule for each Show (the "Schedule").

## **SELECTION CRITERIA**

### **GENERAL SELECTION CRITERIA**

The Selectors will monitor the results from International Shows and National shows. Some international shows will only accept riders who are highly positioned on the World Rankings; therefore this may restrict the selectors' choice for certain competitions.

As part of the process for selection for Shows the Selectors will take in to account, in addition to the a rider's / horse's results and current form, the following criteria;

- Number of quota places available
- Fitness and soundness of the horse – the advice of the World Class Programme veterinary surgeon or another appointed veterinary surgeon may be sought.
- Fitness of the rider - the advice of the World Class Programme Human SSM staff or other Human SSM personnel staff may be sought.
- Willingness of the rider or his / her accredited owners, coaches, SSM staff, grooms or others that may be assisting the rider during competitions, to contribute to all the aims of the Selection Policy and the Charter.
- Availability of the horse for selection to represent Great Britain at Championships.
- Reliability and consistency of horse / rider combination in competition
- Demonstration of behaviour that indicates a commitment to a positive team environment both on and off the field of play

#### CPEDI3\*

For CPEDI3\* level horse and rider combinations should be achieving an average score of 65% or above, across a minimum of two scores, at BD Open Para-Equestrian Dressage competitions and have competed in a BD Open Para-Equestrian Championship and/or CPEDI 2\* and score 62% or above in the 12 months preceding the closing date for entries of the competition. Freestyle competition scores do not count towards these average percentages. However, the Selectors maintain the right to select horses that may not have achieved the requisite scores if it is in the interests of the Objectives of the Selection Policy and the development of Para-Equestrian Dressage in Great Britain.

In addition to the GENERAL CRITERIA listed above, Selectors will consider;

- The rider's or the horse's competition needs in order to develop towards their maximum potential or gain selection for a Championships team. Therefore, the Selectors may select a developing horse or rider ahead of a horse or rider that may have been adjudged to have reached their potential or have already proven they are ready for selection.
- Need for rider / horse combinations to compete at shows with an "atmosphere" or under special conditions

#### CPEDI2\*

Horse and rider as a combination should, within the 12 months preceding the close date of entries of the competition, achieve an average, across a minimum of two scores, of 64% or above at BD Para-Equestrian competitions prior to competing in a FEI CPEDI2\*. Freestyle

competition scores do not count towards these average percentages. However, the Selectors maintain the right to select horses that may not have achieved the requisite scores if it is in the interests of the Objectives of the Selection Policy and the development of Para-Equestrian Dressage in Great Britain.

In addition to the GENERAL CRITERIA listed above, Selectors will consider;

- The rider's or the horse's competition needs in order to develop towards their maximum potential. Therefore, the Selectors may select a developing horse or rider ahead of a horse or rider that may have been adjudged to have reached their potential or have already proven they are ready to move up the performance pathway.
- Need for rider / horse combinations to compete at shows with an "atmosphere" or under special conditions

### JUNIOR & YOUNG RIDER COMPETITIONS

For Junior and Young Rider competitions riders must achieve a score of 60% or above at two Para-Equestrian Dressage competitions in the 12 months preceding the closing date of entries of the competition. Freestyle competition scores do not count towards these average percentages.

In addition to the GENERAL CRITERIA listed above, Selectors will consider;

The rider's or the horse's competition needs in order to develop towards their maximum potential.

### **SELECTION PROCESS**

All riders must apply to compete at FEI competitions (excluding Championships). Riders on the World Class Programmes must apply through the PM or DC (as appropriate). Applications are to be made to the BD International Secretary within the following timeframes:

- Competition Date minus 3 months: Applications of intention to compete to reach BD Office
- Competition Date minus 2 months: Confirmation of wish to compete to reach BD Office

Late Applications will only be accepted at the discretion of the Selectors.

The Selectors will meet in order to select the requisite number of rider / horse combinations for each Show. The Selectors may request to be briefed by the World Class Programme Human and Equine SSM staff as to a rider's or horse's fitness for selection: This information will be coordinated by the PM or DC and will be delivered in summary format and not include the confidential detail. If information exists on whether a rider and / or horses are fit for selection, this will be passed to the selectors in summary form and will not contain the confidential detail; riders are expected to inform selectors if they or their horse are not fit for selection.

The Selectors will attempt to achieve unanimity. In the event that this does not prove possible, a majority vote will suffice.

## VETERINARY

As part of the selection process the advice from the World Class Programme or BD official veterinary surgeon may be taken into consideration. There may be an official inspection which horses must attend and where a blood test may be taken. Alternatively, the official inspections may take place at a riders' yard or at a competition. If a horse is based abroad then an inspection will be arranged by the appointed Veterinary Surgeon. Riders are expected to facilitate open communication between their own veterinary surgeon and the World Class Programme, Team or BD Official veterinary surgeon (as appropriate).

## VETERINARY (COMMUNICATION)

Riders in contention for Selection must notify the World Class Programme or Team Veterinarian of any change in their horse's health status or veterinary management immediately.

## RIDER FITNESS

Fitness of riders to compete to their full potential may be taken in to consideration by the Selectors when selecting the Team and Reserves. Riders may be asked to undergo a fitness assessment by the World Class Programme Director of Human SSM.

## ANNOUNCEMENT OF SELECTION

The Selectors will aim to announce selection decisions as soon as practicable after the competition date minus two months and at the latest within the deadlines stated in the official Schedule.

## POST SELECTION

Once a horse/rider combination has been selected they have to maintain their form and fitness in a suitable training and competition programme.

## **GENERAL**

### DISCRETION

The Selectors will be deemed to act as experts throughout and are entitled within this selection procedure to use their discretion to select combinations onto the Squad provided that they can demonstrate that any discretion used was arrived at through a process of integrity where the information used and procedures taken were perfectly reasonable and justifiable.

## WITHDRAWALS

Once a rider has committed to compete at an international show (verbally / in writing / by email, to the Selectors or BD International Secretary) they are expected to make every effort to participate. After Definite entries a veterinary and / or medical certificates will be required before a withdrawal will be accepted. Failure to follow this procedure could impact on future selection.

## CODE OF CONDUCT/ CHARTER

Riders, owners, grooms and riders' "home teams" are expected to follow the principles of the World Class and Team Charter.

## CLEAN SPORT

Selection is subject to compliance with BD, BEF, FEI and WADA Rules on medication control for Human and Equine.

## SUBSTITUTION

The rules governing substitution will be published in the Schedule for each Show. The Selectors may substitute rider / horse combinations in accordance with these rules.

However, the reason for a substitution must only be because either, the rider is unfit to compete or there is a strong veterinary case for substitution or the performance of the rider / horse combination has dropped off to such an extent that the objectives of the Selection Policy are no longer being met. The latter situation will almost certainly occur as a result of a veterinary problem which it may or may not be possible to define given the time/resources available at the time.

In the case of a rider being considered medically unable to compete the decision to substitute following an examination by a World Class Programme or BD approved Doctor; this may involve the rider being asked to ride certain dressage movements on the horse they have been selected on; being unfit to compete is best described as "not being able to ride their horse in a manner which allows the rider to produce the standard of performance at which they were selected".

In the case of a horse being considered unable due to veterinary reasons to compete or unable to compete to the performance standard anticipated the decision to substitute will be made following an examination by a World Class Programme or BD approved veterinarian.

## CHANGES IN POLICY

The Selectors will have the right to amend or change the Selection Policy where necessary at any time in order to fulfil the objectives of the Selection Policy. Any changes to the Selection Policy must be approved in writing by the Chairman of Selectors and the PD. The amended Selection Policy in its entirety will be communicated to riders in contention for selection and the PD by email and the section revised will be published on the BD Website.

## WEATHER

It is presumed that the weather conditions likely at the Show have been considered in selection. However, should there be drastic change for some reason there might be cause for alterations to be made to the team in which case everyone concerned will be notified and the explanation given as soon as convenient.

#### CANCELLATION/POSTPONEMENT

In the event of cancellation the relevant parties will be notified straightaway. In the event of postponement a situation might arise where a new and / or different team or individual's needs to be selected in which case all parties will be notified and normal procedure for selection will be followed.

#### FORCE MAJEURE

In the event of exceptional circumstances beyond BD's control eg disease outbreak in horses or humans, war or terrorism, collapse of World Class funding, the British Dressage Board reserves the right to make the decision, following consultation with the PD and Chief Executive of the BEF, either to change the selection policy or the procedure, which might include withdrawing the British Teams and individuals from competition.

#### **COMMUNICATION**

##### CONSULTATION

The British Dressage Selection Policy is formulated in agreement and consultation with the BD Board, Selectors, Riders, PD, PM, DC and National Coach.

##### PUBLICATION/CIRCULATION

The Selection Policy will be placed on the BD Website, in the British Dressage magazine. Copies will be available on request from the BD office.

##### ENQUIRIES

Enquiries about the Selection Policy can be made either in writing or on the telephone to the BD office or Chairman of Selectors.

##### POINTS OF CONTACT

The key points of contact relating to this Selection Policy are: Chairman of Selectors, PM, DC and BD International Secretary.

#### **APPEALS PROCESS AND PROCEDURES**

Riders have the right to appeal against a selection decision of the Selectors. An Appeal must be made in writing to the Chief Executive of BD within 48 hrs of the riders being informed of the Selectors' decision. The Chief Executive of BD shall on receipt of the notice of Appeal seek to bring together all parties for a without prejudice discussion that may, if all are agreed, take the form of a facilitated mediation. In the event that such discussion / mediation fails to resolve the appeal within a time period to be agreed by all parties the notice of Appeal, the

Appeal shall be forwarded to the BEF and the BEF Appeals process shall commence. The processes and procedures of the BEF Appeals process are set out in the BEF Rule Book.

**ADVICE TO RIDERS COMPETING AT CPEDI COMPETITIONS**

**SUPPORT, CONDUCT & LOGISTICS**

World Class Programme riders should not assume that they will be fully funded for all competitions and must consult their Discipline Coordinator or Performance Manager. Amy Cullen will advise self funded riders what central support will be available at specific competitions (e.g. Veterinary cover).

If a number of GBR riders are competing at an FEI competition, a Chef d'Equipe may be appointed. If a Chef d'Equipe is appointed he / she will be the official representative of BD and BEF at the competition. All riders and their support staff are required to respect any decisions made or instructions given by the Chef d'Equipe (in line with the accepted role of a Chef d'Equipe at an FEI competition). At Hartpury CPEDI3\* a GBR Stable Manager may be appointed; all riders and their staff will be expected to abide by the Stable Manager's instructions.

All GBR riders, their staff, owners and connections are, when competing at FEI events, expected to conduct themselves in a manner that will promote the good name of the BEF, BD, their sport and themselves. This includes maintaining a high standard of cleanliness and organisation within the stable area.

All riders are expected to familiarise themselves with the requirements of FEI Equine Anti Doping & Medication Control rules. Riders are strongly urged to seek advice from a Veterinary Surgeon with experience of the FEI Rules and Medicine Box. Useful website is: <http://www.feicleansport.org/>

All riders are expected to familiarise themselves with the FEI Human Anti Doping Regulations. Riders who require to take medication banned under these Regulations will require a Therapeutic Use Exemption Form; advice is available through the BD office. Useful websites are;

[www.wada-ama.org](http://www.wada-ama.org); this defines the human prohibited list  
[www.globaldro.com](http://www.globaldro.com); at this website the status of human medications can be checked  
[www.fei.org](http://www.fei.org); under Athlete Doping Control: Definitive FEI international anti doping & medication rules for horses and humans.

All riders should contact the Chef d'Equipe ahead of a competition to discuss which support staff and owners will be accompanying them to the competition. At some competitions accreditation may be limited and it may be necessary to restrict access to the stables in order to ensure the stables do not become over crowded.

All riders and their staff / connections need to ensure they have adequate insurance. This may include; travel / medical / vehicle / equine / 3rd Party etc. For competitions in Europe all must carry an up to date European Health Insurance Card – see [www.ehic.org.uk](http://www.ehic.org.uk)

Riders who are self funding will need to consider the following;

- Method of transport; comfort for the horse; is the horsebox up to a long journey; can they share with another rider; does the horsebox meet the necessary requirements for Ferries; DEFRA / VOSA Transportation Regulations.
- Paperwork for exporting / importing the horse. Riders are strongly advised to retain the services of a reputable Equine Shipping Agent.
- Journey length and rest time. How early to arrive at the competition
- Horse feed / forage / bedding (is suitable bedding available at the competition). Mucking out kit, water buckets, feed buckets.
- Human accommodation / transport / catering
- Support staff requirements
- Take at least 2 copies of Freestyle Music on 2 separate CDs

Research the climate where the competition is taking place; have sufficient rugs / numnahs / bandages.

Storage space will be limited next to the horse's stable; ensure everything is packed neatly in as few boxes as possible.

Veterinary kit (depends if there is a GB Vet available); do not pack anything that contains a banned substance

Contact BD office to find out whether Union flags are required.

Have sufficient funds in the local currency