



REGIONAL SELECTION POLICY 2011

OBJECTIVE OF SELECTION POLICY

The over-riding aim of the Selection Policy is to guide selection of Regional teams in a fair, equitable and transparent way. Selection for Teams is open to all British Dressage members resident in the respective BD Region.

Selection is subject to compliance with British Dressage, BEF and FEI Rules on doping and medication control for Human and Equine.

The Selection Policy applies to the selection of riders / teams for the following:

- Senior Home International
- Senior Inter-Regional Competition
- BYRDS Home Internationals (including Ireland)
- BYRDS Inter-Regional Competition
- Sheepgate BYRDS Under 25 Championship

SELECTION PANEL

All Selectors will be appointed by the British Dressage Regional Committee. They will have the knowledge and experience required to effectively select teams and will be as free from all vested interests / conflicts of interest as is possible. A register of Declarations of Interest will be maintained by the CEO of British Dressage and is available for inspection.

The Selection Panel will comprise the following:-

- BYRD's Representative / Senior Training Representative (dependent on level of team)
- Regional Development Officer
- 1 x other individual considered to have suitable experience and no perceived conflict of interest

NB: Subject to budgetary constraints, Regional Committees are encouraged to consider using the third selection position for an individual from outside the region. Where this is not possible, it is vital the selector should have no connections to individuals being considered.

ELIGIBILITY / AVAILABILITY FOR CONSIDERATION

The RDO will be responsible to ensure that all riders available for selection have current British Dressage membership.

Only riders fulfilling the criteria stated in the schedule will be considered for selection.

Riders applying for consideration for selection **MUST** ensure their availability for the dates of the respective competition they are applying for. Received applications will be deemed to be automatic acceptance of the published competition dates.

Riders will only be considered for **TWO** team competitions in any one calendar year. Therefore BYRDS riders will only be eligible for two of the three competitions listed in the selection policy. However, in exceptional circumstances (e.g. the region has too few riders who meet the required eligibility levels), this restriction may be waived with the approval of the Regional Committee.

Riders are also required to have attended **THREE** BD regional training events in the 12 month period preceding the final selection date.

Regional residential camps will be counted as **TWO** BD regional training events.

For Senior selection – **ONE** non-ridden session may be considered (e.g. DVD evenings, veterinary talks).

For BYRDS selection – all sessions must be ridden.

BYRDS riders are required to submit their progress charts to their BYRDS representatives as required.

CONFIDENTIALITY

It is vitally important for the integrity of the Selection Policy and those involved in its application both as riders, owners, selectors or other officials, that there is at all times a high degree of confidentiality relating to information which may have a bearing on selection.

SELECTION CRITERIA

The Selectors wish to make it as clear as possible to everybody concerned the reasons for their selection and the following is important:-

Results

Selection will be based primarily on results.

The Selectors will monitor the results from BD competitions at the level the rider will be required to compete at the Home Internationals / Sheepgate / Senior Inter-regionals. The previous 12 months results will be considered, although consistency and recent form will take priority.

For selection for BYRDS inter-regional results in rider squad tests will be of primary importance.

Team Spirit

Team spirit is of utmost importance and the Selectors expect riders and their supporters to have a good attitude towards activities. A high level of commitment to all the varied aspects for the preparation process is expected and vital.

Therefore, Selectors will consider the individual's approach to Regional activity when making their final selection.

The Selectors reserve the right not to send a team to any competition.

FITNESS

Although good results in competitions are important, the onus is on the riders not to over campaign their horses / ponies.

It is important that riders plan ahead so they and their horse / pony are in the best form for the designated Home International / Inter Regional / Sheepgate.

FINANCE

All Home Internationals / Inter Regional competitions will be entirely self-funded by riders in 2011.

Regions may conduct fund-raising activity to assist riders with the funding of attendance at the competition. Details will be available via the RDO.

RULES

All Selected riders agree to abide by the rules of the competition at all times.

SUBSTITUTION

The Selectors may substitute a Team member for a Reserve between the announcement of the Team up to one hour before the Veterinary Inspection (Home International) or start of competition (Inter Regionals / Sheepgate). However the reason for a substitution must be only because either there is a strong veterinary case for substitution or the performance of the Team member has dropped off to such an extent that for the success of the Team a substitution is vital. 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.

If the decision is made to change a Team member for a reserve then this issue must be handled in a very sensitive and sympathetic manner.

CHANGES IN POLICY

The Selectors will have the right to amend or change selection policies where necessary at any time in order to fulfil the objectives of the Selection Policy as long as these changes and amendments are clearly communicated to all parties.

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 squad 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 the NGB's control e.g. disease outbreak in horses or humans, war or terrorism, the British Dressage Board reserves the right to make the decision

either to change the selection policy or procedure which might include withdrawing the Teams from competition or cancelling the competition.

VETERINARY / MEDICAL

Short listed riders must notify their RDO of any change in their own health or fitness status, or their horse / pony health status or veterinary / medical management immediately.

AVAILABILITY

A rider's application (to be considered for selection) is taken as a rider's declaration to be available for the dates of the competition for which they have applied.

ENQUIRIES

Enquiries about the Selection Policy can be made either in writing or on the telephone to the RDO in the first instance or relevant Selector.

APPEALS PROCESS AND PROCEDURES

Riders have the right to appeal against the decision of the selectors. Appeals must be made in writing within 48 hrs of the announcements. Appeals must be sent to the Chief Executive of British Dressage. If the Chief Executive is not able to satisfy the appellant's concerns the appeal may be forwarded to the BEF. The processes and procedures of the BEF Appeals process are set out in the BEF Rule Book.