



## **OBJECTIVE OF SELECTION POLICY**

The prime objective of the BD Youth Selection Policy is to guide selection of Regional Teams in a fair, equitable and transparent way. Selection for Youth teams is open to all British Dressage members from the beginning of the calendar year of their 8<sup>th</sup> birthday until the end of the calendar year of their 25<sup>th</sup> birthday.

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:-

- Youth Inter-Regional Competition
- Youth Home Internationals

## **ELIGIBILITY / AVAILABILITY FOR CONSIDERATION**

The RDO is responsible for ensuring that all riders, ponies and horses available for selection have **current** full British Dressage membership. In order for riders to be eligible for regional teams, each individual will be required to have started the online element of the British Dressage Horse Care programme. Alternatively, riders will be eligible to represent their region if they can provide evidence of passing a British Showjumping Pony Proficiency Award, a Pony Club Proficiency Test Certificate of level C or above or BHS Stage 1 or 2.

It is the parents'/riders' responsibility to ensure that riders & ponies/horses are eligible for selection at their nominated level, according to the rules and schedule at the close of entry. Only combinations fulfilling the criteria stated in the Selection Policy 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 may only represent their region in one category each calendar year, i.e. BD Youth or Seniors. Para riders may go forwards for the Para Home International and one other competition; either BD Youth or Senior Inter-Regionals.

## **BD YOUTH ELIGIBILITY**

British Dressage offers opportunities, support and guidance to all its members. High quality training from BD accredited coaches and listed judges improve riders' performances and enhance their enjoyment. Engaging with regional training is, therefore, a requirement for all potential team members. It develops friendships, builds team spirit and support which will help members achieve their dressage goals.

- Rider & pony/horse combinations are required to attend **three** BD training events in the 12 month period preceding the final selection date. Attendance at Regional Training in **other** regions may be included and riders should inform their RDO / Youth Representative if they have attended training in another region.
- Riders are required to have been squadded annually after 1 December 2019.
- Residential camps, including Regional training camps, Foundation Academies and National Academy will be counted as **two** BD Regional Training events.
- **One** non-ridden educational session can be considered (e.g. DVD evenings, veterinary talks, competitor certificate test days. This list is not exhaustive. Events not mentioned may count as agreed with your RDO so please check.
- One ridden session may be to ride as a guinea pig at an official BD event.
- Riders will be required to complete a Competition and Regional Training Record for each competition. This record will an online application and must be submitted by the required deadline.

## **SELECTION CRITERIA**

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

Due to the limited number of spaces available at the BD Youth Inter-regional and BD Youth Home International a rider may present scores from more than one horse for selection or apply with one horse at more than one level. It must be noted and clear that a space on the team will be allocated to just ONE combination regardless of how many applications have been made.

Only, 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 Sports Operations Manager.

### **Youth Inter-Regional Squad Competition**

#### **Requirements:**

- Selection will be based on the results from three rider skills test sheets in the preceding 12 months from cut-off date.
- At least one result must have been obtained after 1 December 2019.
- Results may be obtained from any official regional/national BD Youth training event, camp or competition, including the BD Youth Foundation Academy and National Academy's.
- In the event of a rider moving up a squad level within the year (i.e. prior to a regional competition, and or, after a camp), one of the submitted results may be the final score at the lower level.
- Combinations who have represented Great Britain at European Championships in dressage are not eligible to take part. However, past and present European Championship riders may compete at A Squad / A Squad Young Horse on a different horse / pony.

The average score of each combination will be calculated and selection will be based on the highest average scores at each squad level.

## **BD Youth Home International**

### **Levels:**

Novice, Elementary and Medium

### **Requirements:**

- Four scores at affiliated dressage competitions in the 12 months preceding selection.
- Minimum of two scores to be within six months of the submission deadline.
- Minimum of two scores from qualifier tests (marked by an \* and detailed on page 128-129 of the BD members handbook 2020).
- Minimum of two different judges over the four scores.
- Scores to be achieved at a minimum of two different venues.
- Only scores achieved at the relevant level can be considered (i.e. the level at which the rider is hoping to compete).
- Freestyle, Quest, Associated Championship and HC scores cannot be considered at any level.
- Scores achieved at the BD Youth Home International can be included provided that they were achieved in the 12 months preceding selection.

The average score of each combination will be calculated and selection will be based on the highest average scores at each level.

Where different riders' average scores are within 2%, selectors will review each rider's competition record and any other relevant information. Selection decisions will be finalised from the following:

- Consistency and recent form at the level for which the combination is applying
- Past form at major/team events
- Results gained in 20 x 60 arena
- Results gained from a panel of judges.

A list of selected combinations will be published on the regional pages of the BD website following selection.

### **Selection Dates**

**Competition scores and regional training being used for selection should be achieved in the 12 months prior to the cut- off date in the table below.**

<b>Date of Competition</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Cut-Off Dates for Training and Results</b>	<b>Teams Verified</b>	<b>Teams Announced</b>	<b>Entries Close</b>
4 & 5 July	Inter Regionals Keysoe	18 May	25 May	28 May	20 June
3 – 5 August	Home International Mount Ballan	15 June	23 June	26 June	13 July

## **Eligibility for Classes**

For the Youth Inter-Regional and BD Youth Home International there is additional information regarding horse/rider eligibility. **Please check rule 167 general rules applying to all regional team competitions and rules 170 & 171 relating to BD Youth team competitions.**

## **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.

If any one of the Selectors is either the parent/legal guardian or has privately trained any rider who is being considered for selection they will agree to stand down from selecting riders & ponies/horses for that competition.

The **BD Youth Selection Panel** will comprise the following:

- Youth Representative
- Regional Chair
- One other individual considered to have suitable experience and no perceived conflict of interest.

In the event of the Youth Representative and / or the Regional Chair being a BD Youth Coach in that region they must step down from selection and be replaced by a second non-involved individual. In the case of the Youth Representative they may still participate in the selection process in an advisory but non-voting capacity.

**Final team selection will be independently verified by a senior representative of British Dressage before the teams are announced and riders notified.**

## **CHANGING REGIONS**

Riders are eligible for regional teams in the region relevant to their home postal address or region the rider has opted to represent. If a rider wishes to be considered for selection in a region which is not that of their postal address, they must inform the Youth Representative and RDO prior to submitting their progress chart to that region. Once a rider has represented a region, they are not able to ride for another region without express permission being granted by BD Head Office.

## **SUBSTITUTION**

The Selectors may substitute a team member for a reserve between the announcement of the Team and up to one hour before the Veterinary Inspection (at the Home International) or the start of competition (at the Inter Regionals).

## **CONFIDENTIALITY**

It is vitally important that there is a high degree of confidentiality relating to information which may have a bearing on selection. This applies to all those involved, riders, owners, selectors and other officials.

## **TEAM SPIRIT**

Team spirit is of the utmost importance. British Dressage expects riders, families and supporters to commit willingly to all aspects of preparation for team competitions as laid down by their region.

## **FITNESS**

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

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

## **FINANCE**

All competitions will be entirely self-funded by riders.

## **HORSE WELFARE AND MEMBERS CODE OF CONDUCT**

There must be a commitment for all riders to adhere to the code of conduct for members and welfare standards. Please refer to the welfare and members code of conduct sections in the 2020 members' handbook for full details.

## **RULES**

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

## **POLICY CHANGES**

The BD Youth Committee have the right to amend or alter the selection policy at any time in order to fulfil its objectives. These changes and amendments must be clearly communicated to all parties.

## **CANCELLATION / POSTPONEMENT**

In the event of cancellation the relevant parties will be notified straight away. 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**

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

## **ENQUIRIES**

Enquiries about the Selection Policy can be made by contacting your RDO in the first instance.

## **APPEALS PROCESS AND PROCEDURES**

Riders have the right to appeal against the decision of the Selectors. Appeals must be sent in writing to the Chief Executive of British Dressage within 48 hours of the team announcements. If the Chief Executive is not able to satisfy the appellant's concerns then the appeal may be escalated to the BEF for independent review. Full details on the processes and procedures of the BEF Appeals Process can be found on the BEF website.

**Jason Brautigam  
Chief Executive  
December 2019**