



British Dressage Para Dressage Selection Policy for 2021 CPEDIs

1. Introduction

The GBR Para Dressage athlete/horse combinations for CPEDI competitions will be selected by the Selection Panel (the "Selectors") appointed by the British Dressage (BD) Board.

2. Objective

- 2.1 The primary objective of this Policy is to select athlete/horse combinations that will maximise the potential of British Dressage to maintain its standing as a leading dressage nation, taking into account the following considerations (in priority order):
- 2.2 To fulfill the identified performance and preparation needs of athlete/horse combinations campaigning for Tokyo 2020 (2021) Paralympic Games ("the Games")
- 2.3 To provide a competitive opportunity for athlete/horse combinations that have the potential to develop into medal winning contenders at future championships.
- 2.4 To provide an opportunity for an athlete to be internationally classified and or reviewed.

3. Selection Panel

- 3.1 The 2021 CPEDI Selection Panel shall be comprised of:
 - Chief Selector (voting) – Carolyn Gardiner
 - Senior Selector (voting) – Joyce Head
 - Selector (voting) – Jane McGarel-Groves

Non-voting experts whose opinions may be sought by the selectors;

- Performance Manager (non-voting) – Georgina Sharples
- Performance Pathway Manager (non voting) Erik Mackechnie
- Secretariat (non-voting) – Natasha Pearce

- 3.2 The Selectors will act as experts and are entitled within the boundaries of the Selection Policy and detailed selection criteria, to use their absolute discretion to select the best athlete/horse combinations to fulfil the objectives of the policy.
- 3.3 The Chief Selector 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. The register will be updated by the Chief Selector at all selection meetings.

- 3.4 All voting Selectors will have equal voting rights. They will at all times use their discretion honestly and with integrity having regard to and acting in compliance with any applicable BD and BEF codes of conduct and/or code of ethics in force from time to time.
- 3.5 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.
- 3.6 In the event of a majority decision not being achieved or possible, the Chief Selector will have the casting vote. In the event that the Chief Selector has stood down from the vote due to a conflict of interest, the Senior Selector shall have the casting and deciding vote.
- 3.7 The Selection Panel will be provided, in advance, with relevant performance evidence and insight to support them in their selection decisions. The information will be prepared by the BD International Officer.
- 3.8 This information will include, but is not limited to:
 - a detailed summary of competition scores (taken from the FEI & BD website) from relevant competitions.

4 Eligibility Requirements

Athlete/horse combinations are eligible for consideration for selection provided that:

- the athlete is a British Citizen with a valid British passport the athlete is a current and full member member of BD
- the athlete is at least 14 years of age
- the athlete is in possession of a Certificate of Capability/BD equivalent
- the athlete is eligible under any anti-doping code e.g. not serving a competition ban as a result of human or equine doping or controlled medication violation, or other breach of ethical conduct and not in receipt of a lifetime ban from UKAD.
- the horse is fully registered with BD
- the horses owner(s) are fully registered with BD
- both athlete and horse have the appropriate and current FEI licence(s) issued via the application process undertaken by the National Federation of Great Britain in accordance with Article 113 of the FEI General Regulations
- They 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 CPEDI3*

Athlete/horse combinations must have achieved the following in the individual championship test for their grade during the 18 months preceding one week prior to the closing date of Nominated Entries for the CPEDI:

- An average score of 67% or above, across a minimum of two scores, in the individual test for their grade, at a BD Gold Para-Equestrian Dressage competition. Freestyle competition scores do not count towards these average percentage scores.
- Competed in at least one of the following competitions; a BD Gold Championship (Summer or Winter), CPEDI 2*/or CPEDI3*, Gold Summer Semi-Final, Gold festival (festival for 2020 only). Scored 65% or above in the Individual Championship Test of their Grade during the 18 months preceding one week before the closing date for the Nominated Entries of the competition.

5.2 CPEDI2*

- Athlete/horse combinations must have achieved an average, across a minimum of two scores, of 65% or above in the FEI Team or Individual Test at Para-Equestrian Dressage competitions during the 18 months preceding one week prior to the closing date of Nominated Entries for the CPEDI. Freestyle competition scores do not count towards these average percentage scores.

5.3 CPEDI1*

- Athlete/horse combinations must have achieved a score of 64% or above at a minimum of two Para-Equestrian Dressage competitions and a minimum of two scores of 64% or above in the FEI Novice Test in the 18 months preceding one week before prior to the closing date of Nominated Entries for the CPEDI. Freestyle competition scores do not count.

5.4 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.

5.5 Other factors to be taken into consideration by Selectors include:

- The athlete or horse's competition needs in order to prepare them to execute their best possible performance at the Tokyo 2021 Paralympic Games.
- The requirement to develop an athlete/horse combination's ability to produce peak performances in conditions similar to the current year's Games.

5.6 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.

6 Qualification Period and Designated Events

- 6.1 The qualification period for horses and athletes will be in accordance with qualification guidelines, which are available at www.fei.org.

7 Selection Process

- 7.1 Following achievement of the selection criteria and, within the timeframes circulated by BD, athletes should submit their requests on the International Competition plan form available from the BD Para Officer or International Officer.
- 7.2 In order to keep athletes informed an international competition planner indicating athlete / horse combinations requests to attend each competition / those selected for competitions is circulated regularly by the BD Para Officer or International Officer (via email) to those who have been asked to be considered for selection.
- 7.3 The Selectors will use their discretion in the number of athlete/horse combinations selected for each CPEDI competition. The number will be dictated by the schedule, format of the competition, FEI Dressage rules and will take into account the creation of a conducive environment for those taking part to deliver optimal performances.
- 7.4 Athletes able to gain private invitations to specific FEI CPEDI competitions should indicate on the Competition Plan form if that is an option available to them and may be requested to take up that option in order to access additional places. Private invitations should not take priority over an athlete/horse combination selected to compete at a 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 selected to compete at a competition by the BD Para Officer or International Officer (via email) 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 Officer or International Officer will be responsible for submitting the entry on the FEI systems prior to 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 Para Dressage Manager / WCP Para Dressage Performance Pathway Manager.
- 7.8 Should an athlete have to withdraw prior to definite entries the BD Para Officer or International Officer will contact the next athlete on the wait/reserve list.
- 7.9 Once an athlete has committed to compete at an international competition (whether verbally or in writing to the Selectors, BD Para Officer or International Officer) they are expected to compete.

8 Withdrawals

- 8.1 If an athlete finds at any time and for whatever reason that they have to withdraw they are obliged to notify the BD Para Officer or International Officer immediately. For CPEDIs the PM/Chef d'Equipe should be notified at the same time. The BD Para Officer or International Officer is responsible for withdrawing the athlete's entry on the FEI systems. Athletes will be liable for any withdrawal costs incurred.
- 8.2 After Definite Entries has taken place, and as per FEI rules, a veterinary/medical certificate will be required before a withdrawal is accepted.

9 Running Order CPEDI

- 9.1 The Selectors, in consultation with the PM, will decide the team running order. The PM/Chef d'Equipe will inform AthletesAthletes of the decision.
- 9.2 The PM/Chef d'Equipe may make amendments to the team running order in consultation with the Selectors (if available), when deemed necessary to do so.

10 Substitution CPEDI

- 10.1 The rules governing substitution are published in the FEI rules and the Selectors may substitute athlete/horse combinations in accordance with these rules. The final decision as to whether to substitute, whatever the reasoning, will be made by the Selectors, in consultation with the PM/Chef d'Equipe, and the opinion of a WCP/BD approved veterinary surgeon or WCP approved Human Sport Science Sport Medicine(HSSM) practitioner may be sought.

11. Other Considerations in Support of the Selection Policy

11.1 Conflicts of Interest

- 11.1.1 In order to protect the integrity of the selection process members of the Selection Panel, both voting and non-voting, 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.
- 11.1.2 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.
- 11.1.3 All conflicts of interest will be declared to the Chief Executive of British Dressage by 31 January 2021, so they can be managed in an appropriate manner.
- 11.1.4 It will be incumbent on the Selectors to proactively manage any conflicts on a regular basis and throughout the selection process to ensure the integrity of the selection decisions.

11.2 Confidentiality

- 11.2.1 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 at all times a high degree of confidentiality relating to information which they may have a bearing on selection.
- 11.2.2 Any member of the Selection Panel, whether voting or non-voting, who breaks this confidentiality may be removed from the Selection Panel. All selection related conversations and discussions will be confidential.

11.3 Code of Conduct / Charter

- 11.3.1 Athletes, owners, trainers, grooms and athletes' support teams are expected to abide by any British Equestrian Federation Charter / British Dressage Member Code of Conduct / FEI Rider acknowledgement and agreement which may be in force.
- 11.3.2 Athletes and their support teams are expected to behave at all times in a manner that does not negatively affect performance or bring the sport into disrepute.

11.4 Clean Sport

- 11.4.1 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.

11.5 Cancellation / Postponement

- 11.5.1 In the event of cancellation, the relevant parties will be notified immediately. In the event of postponement, a situation might arise where a new and/or different Team and/or Individuals needs to be selected. In which case all parties will be notified and normal procedure for selection will be followed.
- 11.5.2 **Force Majeure** – In the event of exceptional circumstances beyond BD's control, e.g. disease outbreak in horses or humans, war or terrorism, withdrawal of World Class Programme funding, the British Dressage Board reserves the right, in consultation with the BD Chief Executive, to make the decision either to change the Selection Policy or the procedure, which might include withdrawing GBR Athletes from competition.

11.6 Policy Changes

- 11.6.1 The Selectors will have the right, in exceptional circumstances, to amend or change the Policy where necessary at any time in order to fulfill the Objectives of the Policy.
- 11.6.2 Any changes to the Policy must be approved in writing by BD Para Director and CEO. The amended Policy, in its entirety, will be communicated to all athletes by e-mail and the new document along with the revisions highlighted, will be published on the BD website.

12 Appeals Process and Procedures

- 12.1 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 or have made a decision that no rational body of competent Selectors could reasonably reach.
- 12.2 An appeal must be made by submitting notice in writing to the Chief Executive of the BEF, in accordance with the BEF Selection Appeal Rules (the “Appeal Process”), within 48 hours of the relevant athlete being informed of the Selectors’ decision.
- 12.3 A copy of the Appeal must also be submitted to the Chief Executive of BD who 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 facilitated mediation.
- 12.4 For the avoidance of doubt the Appeal Process shall continue to run during the course of such discussion. However, in the event that both parties notify the BEF (within 48 hours of receipt of the notice of appeal) that such discussion/mediation has resolved the appeal; the Appeal Process shall be stayed. The Appeal Process is set out on the BEF website and copies of the Selection Appeal Rules can be obtained from the BEF office.

**Jason Brautigam, Chief Executive
British Dressage, December 2020**