



British Dressage Selection Policy for YR/J/P/Ch/CDI/CDIOs 2022

1. Definitions

'Selectors' – The people selected by the British Dressage (BD) Board to undertake selections on their behalf for GBR riders competing in Under 21 dressage competitions.

'International Director' (ID) – Refers to the member-elected representative of the British Dressage Board of Directors, responsible for managing International Teams.

'Performance Manager' (PM) – The BD appointed U21 Dressage Performance Manager.

'Chef d'Equipe' – The BD appointed representative acting as team manager for CDI/CDIOs.

'Coach Advisors' – The BD appointed representatives supporting athletes and their home trainers towards European selection and in competition.

'British Dressage (BD)' – The governing body for Dressage, and a member of the BEF.

'British Equestrian' (BEF) – The national governing body for equestrian sport in Great Britain.

'Pony Rider (P)' - Category of Athlete from the beginning of the year in which they reach the age of twelve until the end of the year they reach the age of sixteen.

'Junior (J)' - Category of Athlete from the beginning of the year they reach the age of fourteen until the end of the year they reach the age of eighteen.

'Young Rider (YR)' - Category of Athlete from the beginning of the year they reach sixteen until the end of the year they reach the age of twenty-one.

'Children (Ch)' - Category of Athlete from the year they reach the age of twelve until the end of the year they reach the age of fourteen.

2. Objectives

The prime objective of this Selection Policy is to select athlete/horse/pony combinations that will maximise the potential to (in priority order):

2.1 Optimise preparation for those athlete/horse/pony combinations identified as having potential to achieve a team place at the relevant FEI Youth European Dressage Championships 2022, through competition in appropriate international competitions.

2.2 Offer opportunities for development and progression through international competition to those athlete/horse/pony combinations considered to have the potential to become future FEI Youth European Championship Team contenders.

- 2.3 Enable athlete/horse/pony combinations, where possible, to compete in international competitions in order to broaden their experience and support performance progression.

3. Selection Panel

- 3.1 The athletes representing GBR will be selected by the British Dressage voting Selectors.

- 3.2 The Selectors will be appointed by the British Dressage (BD) Board on the basis that they have the knowledge and expertise required to select athletes to represent GBR at this level and will be free of all vested interests/conflicts of interest, in so far as is possible.

- 3.3 The Selection Panel shall comprise the following positions:

Chief Selector – Nikki Herbert (voting)
Selector – Leanne Wall (voting)
Selector – Richard Baldwin (voting)

International Director (ID) – Judy Harvey (casting vote only)

- 3.4 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, or due to a declared conflict of interest, the ID will have the casting vote.
- 3.5 The Selection Panel 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 for Consideration for Selection

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

- The athlete is a British Citizen with a valid British passport valid for at least 6 months after the date of competition
- The athlete is a full and active member of BD, and not subject to suspension under BD rules
- The horse/pony is fully registered with BD
- Horse/pony owners must be a non-competing member of BD
- Both athlete and horse/pony have the appropriate and current FEI licence(s) issued via the application process undertaken by the National Federation of Great Britain (BEF) in accordance with Article 113 and 117 of the FEI General Regulations; and they have satisfied all eligibility and qualification criteria under the BD, BEF and FEI Dressage rules and regulations for the competition.

- 4.2 In advance of any selection the BD U21 International Officer will ensure that each athlete/horse/pony combination available for selection is eligible to represent Great Britain based on the above criteria.

5. Selection Criteria for International Competitions 2022

5.1 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/pony combinations to fulfil the objectives of the policy.

5.2 Minimum performance criteria for CDI/CDIOs:

Athlete and horse/pony combinations must have achieved at least once the Minimum Performance Score (final score) outlined below, in the specific FEI Youth Classes at either BD Premier League competitions, BD High Profile Shows or at Foundation Academy Test Riding:

68% or above – FEI Pony Team Test, FEI Pony Individual Test

68% or above – FEI Junior Team Test, FEI Junior Individual Test

68% or above – FEI Young Rider Team test, FEI Young Rider Individual Test

68% or above – FEI Children Team Test, FEI Children on Horses Individual Test

5.3 Combinations based abroad:

Athlete/horse/pony combinations must have achieved the Minimum Performance Score (final score) of 68% or more once at National competitions in their country of residence at the relevant level and subject to competition video approval by the Selectors in order to be considered for selection.

5.4 The Minimum Performance Score must have been achieved in the last 6 months preceding the date of the FEI international competition the athlete/horse/pony is in consideration for.

5.5 For domestic CDIs Selectors can exercise their discretion when considering minimum performance scores to ensure that the full quota of places is allocated.

5.6 Achievement of the Minimum Performance Score (see Section 5.2 and 5.3) does not guarantee selection.

6. Continuing Performance Criteria

For the duration of this Selection Policy any athlete/horse/pony combination competing in a CDI/CDIO must achieve/have achieved a minimum percentage of 66% in either the Team Test or Individual Test at that competition.

a. Scores gained in a Consolation Test (Team or Individual) or Freestyle to Music Test at that competition will not be taken into account.

b. Failure to achieve the minimum percentage will result in a reassessment before the athlete/horse/pony combination can be selected for future CDI/CDIOs. As a minimum athlete/horse/pony combinations will be required to fulfil Section 5.2 or 5.3 again before they can be considered for entry into a future CDI/CDIO.

7. Selection Process

- 7.1 Following the achievement of the Minimum Performance Score and, within the timeframes circulated by BD, athlete/horse/pony combinations should submit their interest in further CDI/CDIOs on the International Dates Availability Form available from the U21 International Officer.
- 7.2 The Selectors will select the requisite number of athlete/horse/pony 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 Dressage rules.
- 7.3 Athletes/horse/pony combinations able to gain private invitations to specific FEI CDI P/J/YR/Ch competitions should indicate on the International Dates Availability form if that is an option available to them. They may be requested to take up that option in order to access additional places. Private invitations will not take priority over an athlete/horse/pony combination selected by the Selectors to compete at any given CDI/CDIO.
- 7.4 Athlete/horse/pony combinations will be informed if they have been selected to compete at a CDI/CDIO (Definite Entries) by the U21 International Officer (via email) within the timeframes indicated in the show schedule and/or FEI entry system.
- 7.5 Athlete/horse/pony combinations should confirm their acceptance with the U21 International Officer who will be responsible for submitting the entry on the FEI system prior to the close of Definite Entries. Athlete/horse/pony combinations are responsible for their own costs as indicated within the show schedule.
- 7.6 In order to keep athletes informed a show planner, indicating athlete/horse/pony combinations' requests to attend specific shows / those selected for specific shows, will be circulated monthly by the U21 International Officer (via email) to those on the International Pathway Squad. It is the responsibility of the athlete/horse/pony combination to keep the U21 International Officer informed of any changes in availability as soon as is practicable.
- 7.7 Should an athlete/horse/pony combination have to withdraw prior to Definite Entries, the U21 International Officer will contact the next combination on the wait/reserve list.

8.0 International Pathway Squad

The Under 21 International Pathway Squad will be drawn from athlete/horse/pony combinations who have met the score criteria to compete internationally (paras 5.2 & 5.3) and, in the professional opinion of the selectors, have clear form or potential to be considered for team selection for the current competition season, or in subsequent years.

9.0 Withdrawals

- 9.1 Once an athlete/horse/pony combination has committed to compete at an international show (by email to the U21 International Officer) they are expected to compete. However, if they find at any time and for whatever reason that they have to withdraw, they are obliged to notify the PM/U21 International Officer immediately.

- 9.2 The U21 International Officer is responsible for withdrawing the athlete's entry on the FEI system.
- 9.3 After Definite Entries have taken place, and as per FEI rules, a veterinary/medical certificate will be required before a withdrawal is accepted.

10. Other Considerations in Support of the Selection Policy

10.1 Conflicts of Interest

- 10.1.1 In order to protect the integrity of the Selection Process, Selectors 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 Selectors 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 must be declared to the BD CEO so that they can be recorded and made known during selection meetings

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 at all times a high degree of confidentiality relating to any information which may have a bearing on selection.

10.3 Code of Conduct / Team Charter

- 10.3.1 Athletes, parents/guardians, owners, trainers, grooms, and athlete support teams are expected to abide by any BD and/or British Equestrian Athlete/Parent Code of Conduct which may be in force. Any current Code of Conduct/Team Charter can be found on the BD website at www.britishdressage.co.uk/our-sport/international-teams/youth-international/selection-and-squads.
- 10.3.2 Athletes, parents/guardians, owners, trainers, grooms, and athlete support teams are expected to behave at all times in a manner that does not negatively affect performance or bring the sport into disrepute.
- 10.3.3 Any breach in the BD and/or British Equestrian Charter and/or Athlete/Parent Code of Conduct by any athlete, parent/guardian, or a member of their support teams, including the misuse of social media, will result in disciplinary action and may lead to exclusion from any international involvement.

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 anti-doping. 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. Further information on human anti-doping can be found on the WADA website at www.wada-ama.org.

10.5 Cancellation / Postponement

- 10.5.1 In the event of cancellation, the relevant parties will be notified immediately. In the event of postponement, a situation might arise where new combinations may need to be selected. In which case all parties will be notified and normal procedure for selection will be followed.
- 10.5.2 In the event of exceptional circumstances (force majeure) beyond the BEF or BD's control, e.g., disease outbreak in horses or humans, war or terrorism, the BD Board, in consultation with the ID and BD Chief Executive, reserves the right to make the decision either to change the Selection Policy or the procedure, which might include withdrawing individuals from competition.

10.6 Policy Changes

- 10.6.1 The Selectors will have the right, in exceptional circumstances, to amend or change the Policy where necessary at any time to fulfil the objectives of the Policy, including (but not limited to) as a result of COVID-19. This may include alternatives to the selection criteria (Section 5.) as a necessary response to the impact of COVID-19 on the international competition calendar, including any travel restrictions, to enable the objectives of the Policy to be fulfilled. Any such alternatives would be communicated to the athletes at the earliest opportunity.
- 10.6.2 Any changes to the Policy must be approved in writing by the ID and BD Chief Executive. The amended policy will be communicated in its entirety to all athletes by email and the new document, with the revisions highlighted, will be published on the BD website.

10.7 Point of Contact

- 10.7.1 The ID is the key point of contact relating to this Selection Policy. The point of contact for riders wishing to discuss their intended competition plans is the PM.

10.8 Finance

- 10.8.1 All international competitions will be entirely self-funded by athletes. Chefs d'Equipe may be named to travel to international competitions.

10.9 Home Trainers

- 10.9.1 Home trainers will be expected to work under the direction of, and in co-operation with the nominated Coach Advisor for the benefit of the athlete/horse/pony combination. To enable the home trainer and Coach Advisor to achieve the best results, it is anticipated that British based riders attend any organised training camps, ideally with their home trainers.

11 Appeals Process and Procedures

- 11.1 Athletes have the right to appeal against a CDI/CDIO 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.
- 11.2 An appeal must be made by submitting notice in writing to the Chief Executive of BD, in accordance with the BEF Selection Appeal Rules (the "Appeal Process"), within 48 hours of the relevant athlete being informed of the Selector's decision.

- 11.3 The Chief Executive of BD will, 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.
- 11.4 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.
- 11.5 The Appeal Process is set out on the BEF website at www.britishequestrian.org.uk/about-us/rulebook and paper copies of the Appeal Process rules can be obtained from the BEF office.

**Jason Brautigam
Chief Executive
December 2021**