



British Dressage Selection Policy for P/J/YR/Ch European Championships 2022

1. Definitions

'Selectors' – The people selected by the British Dressage (BD) Board to undertake selections on their behalf for GBR athletes 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 manager appointed by BD for those competing internationally at this level.

'Chef d'Equipe' – The BD appointed representative acting as team manager for the FEI Youth European Championships.

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

'The Team' – The athlete/horse/pony combinations that may be selected to compete for Equestrian Team GBR in the Team and Individual competition at the Championships.

'The Reserves' – The Reserve athlete/horse/pony combinations.

'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.

EU-CH-J/YR Junior & Young Rider European Championships, Hartpury College, GBR **25-31 July 2022**

EU-CH-P Pony European Championships, Strzegom, POL **03-07 August 2022**

EU-CH-Ch Children on Horses European Championships, Budapest, HUN **24-28 August 2022**

2. Objectives

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

- 2.1 Win team medals at the relevant FEI Youth European Dressage Championships 2022.
- 2.2 Win Individual medals at the relevant FEI Youth European Dressage Championships 2022.
- 2.3 To give the opportunity of Championship experience to future Championship combinations.

3. Selection Panel

- 3.1 The athletes representing GBR Dressage Team for EU-CH-P/J/YR/Ch will be selected by the British Dressage U21s Selectors.
- 3.2 The Selectors will have been appointed by the British Dressage (BD) Board on the basis of having the knowledge and expertise required to select athletes to represent GBR at this level and are free from all vested interests/conflicts of interest, in so far as is possible.
- 3.3 The Selection Panel shall comprise the following positions:

Independent Chair (non-voting)
Chief Selector – Nikki Herbert (voting)
Selector – Leanne Wall (voting)
Selector – Richard Baldwin (voting)
International Director (ID) – Judy Harvey (casting vote only – as per clause 3.7)

Non-voting

Performance Manager – Caroline Bell
Team Vet – Robert Oulton
Secretariat – U21 International Officer

- 3.4 Other advisors may be invited to attend the meeting with the sole purpose of providing relevant evidence of athlete / horse / pony combination performance to support the objectives of the policy but will not have the right to vote.
- 3.5 All 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.
- 3.6 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.
- 3.7 In the event of a majority decision not being achieved or possible, or due to a declared conflict of interest, the International Director will have the casting vote.
- 3.8 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 Performance Manager and U21 International Officer, in consultation with the Chefs, Coach Advisor and Team vet, as required.

3.9 This information will include, but is not limited to:

- A detailed summary of actual and average competition scores (taken from the FEI website) from relevant competitions
- An assessment of anticipated performance based on the data available
- An assessment of risk factors
- Any specific recommendations regarding the final preparation for combinations should they be selected

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 current British passport valid for a minimum of six months after the date of the competition
- The athlete is a full and active member of BD and is not serving any suspension under BD rules
- The horse/pony is fully registered with BD
- The legal horse/pony owner is a minimum of a non-competing member of BD
- A leased/loaned horse/pony must be supported by a letter from the legal owner confirming its availability for the duration of the European Championship season 2022
- 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 the selection meeting the BD U21 International Officer will ensure that each athlete/pony/horse combination available for selection is eligible to represent Great Britain based on the above criteria.

5. Selection criteria for European Championships (EU-CH-P/J/YR/Ch) 2022

Championships team selection will be based on the FEI team test results from the international spring shows that run a CDIOP/J/Y/Ch and /or CDIP/J/Y/Ch and Premier Leagues/ Selector's Observation Class, as listed in the separate Annexes:

- Annex 1 – Junior & Young Riders
- Annex 2 – Pony Riders
- Annex 3 – Children on Horses

5.1 To qualify **to be considered** for the EU-CH-P/J/YR/Ch combinations need to be achieving scores outlined below at the relevant level:

- 70% or above – FEI Pony Team Test
- 70% or above – FEI Junior Team Test
- 70% or above – FEI Young Rider Team Test
- 72.5% or above – FEI Children Team Test

P/J/YR/Ch Individual test results will not be taken into consideration for European championship selection.

5.1.2 Athlete / horse / pony combinations who wish **to be considered** for selection for the EU-CH-P/J/YR will be expected to meet the following criteria:

UK based combinations

- Achieve a minimum of two 70% overall scores or above in the relevant Team Test.
 - One score must be achieved at a CDI/CDIO
 - One score may be from the specific U21 FEI Team Test class at any of the Premier League competitions, including the Selectors Observation Class, listed in the annexes attached to this policy
- The FEI Team Test Selectors Observation class at Somerford Park Premier League is compulsory for all athletes who wish to be considered for selection, except in exceptional circumstances agreed in advance and confirmed in writing by the PM

Combinations based abroad

- Achieve a minimum of two 70% overall scores or above at two CDI competitions in their country of residence at the relevant level and subject to competition video approval in order to be considered for selection.

5.1.3 Athlete / horse / pony combinations who wish **to be considered** for selection for the EU-CH-Ch will be expected to meet the following criteria:

UK based combinations

- Achieve a minimum of two 72.5% or above overall scores in the relevant Team Test.
 - One score must be achieved at a CDI/CDIO
 - One score may be from the specific U21 FEI Team Test class at any of the Premier League competitions, including the Selectors Observation Class, listed in the annexes attached to this policy
- The FEI Team Test Selectors Observation class at Somerford Park Premier League is compulsory for all athletes who wish to be considered for selection, except in exceptional circumstances agreed in advance and confirmed in writing by the PM

Combinations based abroad

- Achieve a minimum of two 72.5% overall scores or above at two CDI competitions in their country of residence at the relevant level and subject to competition video approval in order to be considered for selection.

5.1.4 For selection purposes, all tests must be ridden under FEI rules. J /YR Rider tests may be ridden in either a double or snaffle bridle. For Ch/P, all classes must be ridden in a snaffle bridle. No whips may be used in any classes. Video evidence may be required by the Selectors to support a score achieved for selection purposes.

5.1.5 The Selectors reserve the right not to select a Team or Individuals for the EU-CH-P/J/YR/Ch if, in their opinion and on the basis of relevant evidence, those being considered for selection are unlikely to be in contention for Team or Individual medals.

5.1.6 The Selectors can exercise their discretion when considering minimum performance scores in order to fulfil the objectives of this policy. However, priority will always be given to those who have achieved the requirements as stated in 5.1.2 and 5.1.3

5.2 Other Considerations in Support of the Selection Policy

When making selections, the following criteria are listed and will be considered:

5.2.1 The athlete/horse/pony combination's results and current form based on:

- athlete/horse/pony combination percentages and results from team test scores at FEI International competitions and BD Premier Leagues/Selectors Observation Class
- the consistency of scores achieved at or above **70%** in these competitions (scores at **72.5%** or above for Ch combinations)
- an upward trajectory in scores
- consideration of the reasons and justification behind any incomplete competitions due to elimination, withdrawal and/or retirement
- consideration of consistency throughout the test

5.2.2 The fitness and soundness of the horse/pony to compete to its full potential based on:

- the professional opinion of the Team veterinary surgeon and/or another veterinary surgeon as nominated by BD
- the location and physical conditions in which the Championships will be held and the potential impact of those conditions on the horse/pony performance
- official inspections that may take place at a competition or an athlete's yard in advance of selection meetings
- the result of any relevant blood tests requested by the Selectors
- the openness of communication between the athlete's home veterinary surgeon and the BD Team veterinary surgeon to ensure the optimum equine management

5.2.3 The fitness of the athlete to compete to their full potential:

- athletes must notify BD if their health status in any way impacts upon their ability to compete to their full potential
- athletes may be asked to undertake a predetermined and relevant fitness assessment

5.2.4 The athlete/horse/pony combination's ability, to support the delivery of the objectives of the policy:

- the athlete/horse/pony combination's likelihood to maximise the probability of achieving the Objectives as set out in Section 2 of the Selection Policy
- demonstration of behaviour that indicates a commitment to a positive team environment both on and off the field of play
- willingness of the athlete and his/her personal team to contribute to the objectives of the Selection Policy and abide by any Equestrian Team GBR charter/code of conduct which may be in force at the Championships or elsewhere

- 5.3 All selection decisions are subject to the athlete/horse/pony maintaining fitness and performance in a suitable training and competition programme, as agreed with the PM, up to the Championship date. Failure to do so or to discuss proposed amendments with the PM could lead to the athlete/horse/pony combination being de-selected or substituted.

6. Qualification Period and Designated Events

- 6.1 The qualification period for an athlete/horse/pony combination will be in accordance with qualification guidelines, which are available at www.fei.org.
- 6.2 The Selectors may, at any time during the selection period (as per the annexes) request athlete/horse/pony combinations to compete in one or more specific competitions. If the athlete subsequently does not attend, without a veterinary/medical certificate, this will be the athlete's responsibility and may negatively impact on selection decisions.
- 6.3 The Selectors may ask athletes/horse/pony combinations to participate in specific training or observation days. Participation will be compulsory, except in exceptional circumstances, agreed in advance with the ID/PM.

7. Selection Process

- 7.1 For the European Championships 2022, a team of up to four athlete/horse/pony combinations per section (for P/J/YR/Ch) will be selected to compete in the Team competition. The Selectors will also select two reserve combinations which they will place in rank order and / or identify reserves for named selected combinations.
- 7.2 At the interim selection meeting (see relevant annex) the Selectors will draw up a list of up to ten athlete/horse/pony combinations (per level) based on the selection objectives of this policy. This list will be announced in the week commencing 28 March 2022. Combinations which subsequently achieve the criteria to be considered for selection may be added to these lists.
- 7.3 At the final selection meeting (see relevant annex) the Selectors will select the final team of four combinations plus two reserves (per level) for the EU-CH-P/J/YR 2022 from the list referred to in 7.2. The team selected for the EU-CH-Ch, including reserves, will be up to the maximum indicated in the Championship schedule.
- 7.4 The ID, or the Chief Selector, will inform all athletes on the list (7.2) of the decision of the Selectors within 48 hours of the final selection meeting.
- 7.5 The announcement of the final selections with reserves, respectively, will be posted on the BD website within three working days, subject to there being no appeals.
- 7.6 Athletes and their connections who are notified of their team or reserve place must keep this confidential until it is publicly announced by BD.
- 7.7 Should there be a need for a pre-Championship Team Camp, this will be compulsory for the selected team and reserves to attend. Combinations who reside in another country who represent GB will be required to attend on foot.

8.0 Withdrawals

- 8.1 Once an athlete has committed to compete at an international show (in writing to the BD 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 BD U21 Performance Manager immediately.
- 8.2 The BD U21 International Officer is responsible for withdrawing the athlete's entry on the FEI system.
- 8.3 After Definite Entries have taken place, and as per FEI rules, a veterinary/medical certificate will be required before a withdrawal is accepted.

9.0 Substitution

- 9.1 Following the receipt of Definite Entries, the substitution of an athlete/horse/pony combination may only be made with the agreement of the Championship Organising Committee (OC). The OC must print the latest date for substitution in the schedule as per Article 423.4. 491.2 of the FEI Dressage Rules for the Championships
- 9.2 The final decision as to whether to substitute will be made by the ID, in consultation with the Selectors, with input from the Team veterinary surgeon and / or appointed doctor (if deemed appropriate), depending on the specific circumstances.
- 9.3 The decision by BEF/BD to substitute a combination will only be made if, in the professional opinion of the Team veterinary surgeon and/or appointed doctor (if deemed appropriate), the athlete/horse/pony combination is 'unable to compete in a manner which allows them to produce the standard of performance for which they are selected'.

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 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.
- 10.1.2 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.
- 10.1.3 All conflicts of interest will be declared to the BD CEO and Independent Chair prior to the meeting so that they can be managed in an appropriate manner. All conflicts of interest will be recorded in the minutes by the secretariat at the beginning of each meeting. It will be incumbent on the BD CEO to proactively manage any conflicts on a regular basis and throughout the selection process to ensure the integrity of the selection decisions.

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.

- 10.2.2 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.

10.3 Code of Conduct / Team Charter

Athletes, parents/guardians, owners, trainers, grooms, and athlete support teams are expected to abide by any BD and/or British Equestrian and/or 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.

- 10.3.1 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.
- 10.3.2 Any breach of the BD and/or British Equestrian Charter and/or Athlete/Parent Code of Conduct /Team Charter by any rider, 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

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, the original team selected will be honored subject to fitness and availability. A situation might arise where new combinations may and / or different teams 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 Dressage 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 the British Teams or Individuals from competition.

10.6 Policy Changes

- 10.6.1 The Selectors will have the right, in exceptional circumstances, to amend or change policy where necessary at any time in order to fulfill 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 7.0) 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 all athletes concerned at the earliest opportunity.
- 10.6.2 Any changes to the Policy must be approved in writing by the ID & BD CEO. 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 athletes wishing to discuss their intended competition plans is the U21 Performance Manager.

10.8 Finance

10.8.1 BD will consider funding a Team at P/J/YR level if a Team has been selected. Otherwise, Selectors may send individuals if they have achieved scores of 70% or above; however, they will be self-funded.

10.8.2 BD will consider funding a Team at Ch level if a Team has been selected. Otherwise, Selectors may send individuals if they have achieved scores of 72.5% or above; however, they will be self-funded.

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 and horse/pony combination. To enable the home trainer and Coach Advisor to achieve the best results it is anticipated that British-based athletes attend any organised training camps, ideally with their home trainers.

11.0 Appeals Process and Procedures

11.1 Athletes have the right to appeal against the final 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 Selectors' decision.

11.3 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.

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**

ANNEX 1 – JUNIORS & YOUNG RIDERS

Timeline of Important Dates

25 March	European Long Lists announced
19/20 April	Long List Camp at Hartpury College, Gloucestershire
17 June	European Short Lists announced
20 June	European Teams Selection Meeting
21 June	Riders informed by International Director/Chief Selector
24 June	European Teams announced
2/3 July	Pre-European Camp at Hartpury College, Gloucestershire
27-31 July	European Championships, Hartpury, GBR

Major International Shows / Selectors Observation Class

Championship team selection will be based on FEI Team Test results from major international spring shows that run a CDIOJY and/or CDIJY, as well as a Premier League Selectors Observation Class, as listed below:

18-20 March	CDIJY Keysoe, GBR
28 April – 1 May	CDIOJY/CDIJY Le Mans, FRA
19-22 May	CDIJY Compiègne, FRA
27-29 May	Somerford Park Premier League, GBR (FEI Team Test Selectors Observation Class)
09 -12 June	Wellington CDIJY, GBR
14-19 June	CDIOJY/CDIJY Hagen a T.W., GER

Other international results from 1 January 2022 may be taken into account, as well as results from the competitions listed below:

29 April – 1 May	Keysoe Premier League, Bedfordshire
13-15 May	Hickstead Premier League, West Sussex

Competition Rules

All combinations will need to comply with the relevant FEI qualifications regarding age and experience for the 2022 competition year. No whips can be used in any qualifying score tests.

ANNEX 2 – PONIES

Timeline of Important Dates

25 March	European Long Lists announced
19/20 April	Long List Camp at Hartpury College, Gloucestershire
17 June	European Short Lists announced
20 June	European Teams Selection Meeting
21 June	Riders informed by International Director/Chief Selector
24 June	European Teams announced
2/3 July	Pre-European Camp at Hartpury College, Gloucestershire
3-7 August	European Championships, Strzegom, POL

Major International Shows / Selectors Observation Class

Championship team selection will be based on FEI Team Test results from major international spring shows that run a CDIOP and/or CDIP, as well as a Premier League Selectors Observation Class, as listed below:

18-20 March	CDIP Keysoe, GBR
28 April – 1 May	CDIOP/CDIP Le Mans, FRA
19-22 May	CDIP Compiègne, FRA
27-29 May	Somerford Park Premier League, GBR (FEI Team Test Selectors Observation Class)
09 – 12 June	Wellington CDIP, GBR
14-19 June	CDIOP/CDIP Hagen a T.W., GER

Other international results from 1 January 2022 may be taken into account, as well as results from the competitions listed below:

29 April – 1 May	Keysoe Premier League, Bedfordshire
13-15 May	Hickstead Premier League, West Sussex

Competition Rules

All combinations will need to comply with the relevant FEI qualifications regarding age and experience for the 2022 competition year. No whips can be used in any qualifying score tests.

ANNEX 3 – CHILDREN ON HORSES

Timeline of Important Dates

25 March	European Long Lists announced
19/20 April	Long List Camp at Hartpury College, Gloucestershire
17 June	European Short Lists announced
20 June	European Teams Selection Meeting
21 June	Riders informed by International Director/Chief Selector
24 June	European Teams announced
2/3 July	Pre-European Camp at Hartpury College, Gloucestershire
24-28 August	European Championships, Piliászfalu, HUN

Major International Shows / Selectors Observation Class

Championship team selection will be based on FEI Team Test results from major international spring shows that run a CDIOCh and/or CDICH, as well as a Premier League Selectors Observation Class, as listed below:

18-20 March	CDICH Keysoe, GBR
28 April – 1 May	CDIOCh/CDICH Le Mans, FRA
27-29 May	Somerford Park Premier League, GBR (FEI Team Test Selectors Observation Class)
09 – 12 June	Wellington CDICH, GBR
14-19 June	CDIOCh/CDICH Hagen a T.W., GER

Other international results from 1 January 2022 may be taken into account, as well as results from the competitions listed below:

29 April – 1 May	Keysoe Premier League, Bedfordshire
13-15 May	Hickstead Premier League, West Sussex

Competition Rules

All combinations will need to comply with the relevant FEI qualifications regarding age and experience for the 2022 competition year. No whips can be used in any qualifying score tests.