

FEI Dressage World Championships Herning, Denmark, 6 – 14 August 2022 Senior Selection Policy

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This is the British Equestrian Dressage Selection Policy for the FEI Dressage World Championships 2022 (the “**Championship**”). The British Equestrian Dressage team for the Championship will be selected by the British Dressage (“**BD**”) Selectors (the “**Selectors**”) in accordance with this Policy and will be entered and supported by British Equestrian (“**BEF**”) through its World Class Programme (“**WCP**”).
- 1.2 This Selection Policy is compiled in consultation with the BD Board of Directors, the BEF Board of Directors, BD International Director (“**ID**”), BD Selectors, athletes and the WCP Performance Director (“**PD**”).
- 1.3 The Selectors are entitled in exceptional circumstances to amend or revise this Selection Policy where they reasonably consider it necessary to do so in order to best achieve the Objectives of the Selection Policy set out in Section 2 below.
 - 1.3.1 Any amendments of or revisions to this Selection Policy must be approved by the PD, the BEF Chief Executive Officer (“**CEO**”), the BD CEO and the ID.
 - 1.3.2 The amended or revised Policy and/or relevant sections will be communicated to all senior international athletes in a manner directed by the PD, ID and Selectors, and all amended or revised clauses will be published on the BD website and BEF Website.

2. Objectives

- 2.1 The Selectors shall select (in accordance with this Selection Policy) the athlete/horse combinations that in their view will most likely achieve at the Championship the objectives set out in this section of the Selection Policy (“**the Objectives**”).
 - 2.1.1 **Primary objective:** To deliver the results required at the Championship for Team GBR to qualify for the Team competition at the 2024 Paris Olympic Games (more specifically be ranked in the top six (6) teams at the Championship).
 - 2.1.2 **Secondary objective:** To win the Team competition at the Championship.
 - 2.1.3 **Tertiary objective:** To win as many individual medals as possible at the Championship.

3. Confidentiality

- 3.1 It is vitally important for the integrity of this Selection Policy and its operation, and out of respect for the athletes, owners, Selectors, staff and other parties involved in this selection process for the Championship, that there is at all times a high degree of confidentiality relating to information which may have a bearing on selection and/or selection decisions.

3.2 Any Selector or individual attending a Selection Meeting, whether voting or non-voting, who breaches that confidentiality may be removed as a Selector and prohibited from attending Selection Meetings. All confidential information, conversations and discussions will be identified as such.

4. The Selectors

4.1 A non-voting Independent Chair of Selectors will be nominated by the PD, the CEO of the BEF and the CEO of BD. Two (2) voting Selectors will be appointed by the BD Board of Directors. A third voting Selector will automatically be appointed from their position on the BD Board as International Director (ID). Throughout this Selection Policy the term “**Selectors**” refers to the Independent Chair of Selectors and the three (3) voting Selectors.

4.2 The Selectors so appointed comprise:

- Independent Chair of Selectors (non-voting) Sarah Rowell
- Selector (voting) Judy Harvey, BD International Director
- Selector (voting) Jenny Ward
- Selector (voting) Jill Day

4.3 By the dates set out in Section 9 below:

4.3.1 The Selectors shall select a Team (the “**Team**”) for the Championship of up to four (4) athlete horse combinations.

4.3.2 The Selectors may also select a number of reserve athlete/horse combinations (“**Reserve Combinations**”), the number of which will be determined by the Selectors in consultation with the PD and Team Vet. The Selectors may, but are not obliged to, place Reserve Combinations in rank order.

4.4 All Selectors must declare any potential or perceived or actual interest or conflict of interest in the selection process as soon as they arise to the British Dressage International Officer (“**IO**”). The IO will be responsible for keeping the Independent Chair of Selectors informed.

4.5 In the event that any interest or conflict of interest on the part of a voting Selector exists, the Independent Chair of Selectors may vary the process set out in this Policy as they see fit, including by requiring any conflicted voting Selector to recuse himself / herself from any discussion or vote or Selection Meeting.

4.6 The voting Selectors will all have the knowledge and experience required to select Championship teams and will be free from any vested interest or conflict of interest in so far as is possible.

4.7 The Independent Chair of Selectors will ensure that:

4.7.1 The voting Selectors are aware of the selection criteria set out in this Selection Policy.

4.7.2 The process set out in this Policy by which the athlete/horse combinations are selected for the Championship is followed correctly at Selection Meeting(s).

4.8 All Selectors, with the exception of the Independent Chair, will have equal voting rights. Selection decisions must be reached by a majority of the voting Selectors and with no abstentions, unless a voting Selector is required to abstain or recuse himself or herself from a vote due to a declared conflict of interest.

- 4.8.1 In the event of a conflict of interest arising, if the remaining voting Selectors reach an equality of votes, the ID will have the casting vote. In the event of the ID being required to abstain due to a conflict of interest, the PD, or appointed representative, will have the casting vote.
- 4.9 Should a Selector be unable to attend a Selection Meeting for any reason the PD, or a nominated representative of the PD, will assume the role of that Selector and vote in their absence.
- 4.10 Throughout the selection process, the Selectors will act as experts and are entitled within this Selection Policy, having regard to the criteria set out below, to use their discretion to select athlete/horse combinations. They must at all times use their discretion honestly and with integrity having regard to, and acting in compliance, with such applicable code of conduct or code of ethics as might be in force from time to time.

5. Selection Meetings

- 5.1 For the purpose of selecting the Team the Selectors shall meet (in person or remotely) as often as they consider appropriate and necessary prior to the dates identified in Section 9 below. Such meetings are referred to in this Policy as “**Selection Meetings**”.
- 5.2 The PD, or a nominated representative of the PD (as agreed with the CEO of BD and the PD), shall attend Selection Meetings:
- 5.2.1 As an expert for the purpose of assisting the Selectors to select the Team by providing information, insight and expert opinion but not limited to, the process of Team selection, assessment of past and anticipated performance and assessment of risk factors.
- 5.2.2 (If necessary) for the purpose of voting to select the Team in the circumstances set out in clause 4.7 above (but not otherwise).
- 5.3 The following individuals may also attend Selection Meetings (in person or remotely) in a non-voting capacity as experts for the purpose of assisting the Selectors to select the combinations and shall play such part in any Selection Meeting as the Selectors consider appropriate:
- 5.3.1 WCP Team Veterinary Surgeon (“**Team Vet**”) and/or a nominated representative of the Team Vet may, if required, provide expert opinion and insight including, but not limited to, horse soundness, anticipated ability to compete in and complete the Championship and assessment of known risk factors. No confidential veterinary information will be provided to the Selectors in the absence of consent from the athlete. Such information, opinion and insight as is provided will be provided and received in the strictest confidence.
- 5.3.2 WCP Lead of Athlete Health (“**LAH**”) or a nominated representative of the LAH may (if required) provide expert opinion and insight as to an athlete’s capacity to optimally compete, although no medically confidential information will be provided to the Selectors in the absence of consent from the athlete. Such information, opinion and insight as is provided will be provided and received in the strictest confidence.
- 5.3.3 A WCP Performance Support Services Representative and/or nominated representative.
- 5.3.4 A British Athletes’ Commission Representative.

- 5.4 A BEF appointed minute taker shall attend all Selection Meetings and shall keep a written minute of the Selection Meeting.
- 5.5 The following individuals (“**Observers**”) may also attend Selection Meetings and shall play such part in any Selection Meeting as the Selectors consider appropriate:
- The CEO of BEF
 - The CEO of BD
 - A representative of UK Sport.

6. Eligibility, availability and conditions for consideration for selection

- 6.1 The BD International Officer will ensure that each athlete and horse put forward to the Selectors as being available for selection for the Championships is eligible to represent Great Britain at the Championships, including that:
- 6.1.1 The athlete is a national of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and in compliance with the Federation Equestre Internationale (“**FEI**”) General Regulations, 24th Edition, Article 119 at the time of the application, selection and until the conclusion of the Championship.
- 6.1.2. The athlete holds a valid UK passport that does not expire within the six (6) month period following the conclusion of the Championship.
- 6.1.3 The athlete has been granted a license by the National Federation of Great Britain (the BEF) to compete in international events in accordance with FEI General Regulations, 24th Edition, Articles 113 and 117.
- 6.1.4 The athlete is eligible under any anti-doping code (i.e., not serving a competition ban as a result of a proven doping or controlled medication violation), is not serving a competition ban as a result of any breach of any ethical code or misconduct and is not in receipt of a funding ban from UK Sport.
- 6.1.5 The athlete is a full and active member of British Dressage and not serving any suspensions under BD rules.
- 6.1.6 The owner is a member of British Dressage and not serving any suspension under BD rules for 2022.
- 6.1.7 The athlete is fully registered with the FEI for 2022.
- 6.1.8 The horse is fully registered with BD and the FEI for 2022.
- 6.1.9 The athlete and horse each satisfy the minimum eligibility criteria as defined in the FEI Dressage Regulations and are not, for any reason, ineligible to take part in the Championship under BEF, FEI or BD rules.
- 6.2. As a condition of selection for the Championship an athlete will be expected to:
- 6.2.1 Comply with reasonable requests intended to support optimal performance preparation for themselves and their horse(s), in particular but not limited to, those specifically aligned to the anticipated environmental conditions and competition format.
- 6.2.2 Comply with requests for their horse(s) to be examined for fitness/soundness at any time during the selection process by the Team Vet (or another appointed veterinary surgeon) and notify the Team Vet of any change in their horses’ health status or veterinary management immediately. The selection process examination may include the taking of blood for pre-Championship testing and any samples taken may be screened for prohibited substances.

- 6.2.3. Declare to the WCP Chief Medical Officer (CMO) or LAH any current or existing physical or mental reason that might be reasonably considered as a possible impairment of their ability to perform at their peak at any time arisen. This information will be held in the strictest confidence.
- 6.2.4 Facilitate open communication between their own Sports Science and Medicine (“**SSM**”) Teams and the WCP SSM Teams.
- 6.3 In addition an athlete, together with their owner(s), groom(s), coach(es), partner and their SSM Team (collectively known as “the **Home Team**”), will be expected to:
 - 6.3.1 Abide by any BEF and BD charter which may be in force at any time during the selection process and throughout the Championship. The BD Code of Conduct and the British Equestrian Team Charter are set out on the respective BD and BEF websites. www.britishdressage.co.uk and www.britishequestrian.org.uk.
 - 6.3.2 Comply with FEI and BEF equine anti-doping and controlled medication rules and FEI, UK Anti-Doping (UKAD) and World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) rules on human anti-doping which may be in force at any time during the selection process and throughout the Championship.

7. Qualification period

- 7.1 The qualification period for horses and athletes to compete will be in accordance with FEI Dressage regulations which are available at www.fei.org.

8. Selection criteria

- 8.1 The Selectors will select the Team by reference to the criteria set out below and will be aligned to achieving the stated Objectives (Section 2).
- 8.2 The results achieved by the athlete/horse combination. When considering results, due regard will be given to:
 - 8.2.1 Scores (obtained via the FEI website) from all CDI/CDIO 3*, 4*, 5* and CDI-W competitions from 1 January 2022 up to and including the entry dates (nomination and definite respectively) with the emphasis on Grand Prix, followed by Grand Prix Special and finally Grand Prix Freestyle. For CDI-W competitions the Short Grand Prix will be given secondary consideration over the Grand Prix and Grand Prix Special.
 - 8.2.2 Tertiary consideration will be given to scores achieved [following the same priorities outlined in 8.2.1] from 1 January 2021 up to and including 31 December 2021.
 - 8.2.3 The trend in scores.
 - 8.2.4 The consistency of scores achieved in 2022 above 70% in Grand Prix and secondary consideration as Grand Prix Special.
 - 8.2.5 The status of the judges and the competition.
 - 8.2.6 The quality and competitiveness of the starters.
 - 8.2.7 Consideration of the reasons and justification behind any incomplete competitions from 1 January 2022 up to and including the Championship entries date (date TBC subject to receiving the official FEI schedule) due to elimination, withdrawal and/or retirement.

- 8.3 Proven ability to produce peak performance under high pressure conditions.
- 8.4 The commitment of the athlete to preparing optimally for the Championship, as outlined by PD/PM, Team Vet and Human Health team for each combination's specific requirements in order to produce optimal results in the environment.
- 8.5 The fitness and health of the horse and ability to compete to full potential.
- 8.6 The fitness and health of the athlete and ability to compete to full potential.
- 8.7 The willingness of the athlete, their Home Team and others that may be assisting the athlete during the Championship, to contribute to the objectives of this Selection Policy.
- 8.8 The conduct of the athlete and their Home Team that may have a positive or negative impact on the team environment both on and off the field of play.
- 8.9 The owner(s) commitment to make their horse(s) available as reserve both non travelling and travelling to the Championship.
- 8.10. The Selectors, in collaboration with the PD, may at their absolute discretion, ask athletes and horses to participate in specific training, tests or competitions, where they deem this appropriate to selection decisions being made. The PM will inform the athletes concerned of the details of these requirements.

9. Selection timetable

- 9.1 On or about 27 June 2022 (and subject to receiving the FEI official schedule with confirmation of nominated entry date) the Selectors will select a list of:
 - 9.1.1 A minimum of eight (8) athlete/horse combinations and up to a maximum number of ten (10) athlete/horse combinations in order of ranking.
 - 9.1.2 A maximum of eight (8) athlete/combinations ("**the nominated entries**") will be submitted at the nominated entry date from which the Team will subsequently be selected.
- 9.2 Athletes will be informed of the Nomination meeting selection outcomes by the ID.
- 9.3 On or about 11 July 2022 (and subject to receiving the FEI official schedule with confirmation of the definite entry date) the Selectors will select from the nominated entry list **the definite entries**:
 - 9.3.1 The Team of four (4) athlete/horse combinations to compete at the Championship
 - 9.3.2 Reserve combinations from the nominated list.
- 9.4 Athletes will be informed of the Definite meeting selection outcomes by the ID.
- 9.5 The Performance Manager (PM), in consultation with the BEF and BD, will announce the Team and Reserve Combinations for the Championship on or around 18 July 2022 (and subject to receiving the FEI official schedule), unless circumstances dictate otherwise.
- 9.6 The PD is responsible for the final submission of athlete/horse combinations by the BEF to the FEI.
- 9.7 Should an athlete decide at any time, and for whatever reason, to withdraw from the selection process, they are obliged to notify the ID and PM immediately.

10. Substitution

- 10.1 At any time between the announcement of the Team and the departure of the Team to the Championship, the Selectors (in consultation with the PD, the PM, the Team Vet and the LAH) may in the circumstances set out below:
- 10.1.1. Substitute an athlete/horse combination from the Team, and
 - 10.1.2. Select a Reserve Combination onto the Team to replace a removed athlete/horse combination.
- 10.2 In the event that the PD, ID or LAH considers that an athlete might be unfit to compete (defined as “*not being able to ride their horse in a manner which allows the athlete to produce the standard of performance at which they were selected*”) for medical reasons:
- 10.2.1. The athlete will be examined by a WCP approved Human SSM Practitioner.
 - 10.2.3 Such examination may, at the discretion of the PD and ID involve the athlete being required to ride certain dressage movements.
 - 10.2.4 The decision as to whether to substitute that athlete/horse combination will be made by the Selectors after completion of the examination in consultation with the PD, ID and LAH.
- 10.3. In the event that the PD, the ID or Team Vet considers that a horse might be unfit to compete due to veterinary reasons, or unable for veterinary reasons to compete to the performance standard anticipated at the time of selection to the Team:
- 10.3.1 The horse will be examined by the Team Vet or WCP approved veterinary surgeon.
 - 10.3.2 The decision as to whether to substitute that athlete/horse combination will be made by the Selectors after completion of that examination in consultation with the PD, the ID and the Team Vet.
- 10.4 It is a condition of selection to the Team that following selection athletes and horses make all reasonable efforts to maintain fitness, form and performance in a suitable training and competition programme to be agreed with the PD.
- 10.5 In the event that an athlete or horse:
- 10.5.1 Fails to follow such programme, and/or
 - 10.5.2 Fails to reach agreement with the PD as to an alternative programme.
- The Selectors shall be entitled to reconsider (in consultation with the PD, the PM, the Team Vet and/or LAH) the selection of the athlete/horse combination to the Team and to substitute the athlete/horse combination from the Team.

11. Post Team Selection and Running Order

- 11.1 The Team will be announced in accordance with the 2022 FEI Dressage regulations.
- 11.2 The PM and ID will decide the proposed running order at the Championship for the athlete/horse combinations selected to the Team.
- 11.3 Subject to clause 10.5 above, selections and decisions made pursuant to clauses 11.1 and 11.2 above will be communicated by the PM to the athletes selected to the Team before or after arrival at the Championship venue, after assessment of the condition of the horses post travel, and after assessment of weather and other conditions at the Championship.

- 11.4 The PM, in consultation with the PD, Team Vet and ID (if circumstances allow) may subsequently make amendments to the Team and or the running order up to and after the first Horse Inspection (or as allowed for in the FEI rules), if it is deemed appropriate or necessary to do so for any reason that may impact on the Objectives of this Policy. This is a condition of selection by the athletes and owners, this decision will be final and non-contestable.

12. General

- 12.1 **Discretion** – the Selectors are entitled, within the scope of this Selection Policy, to exercise their discretion to achieve the Objectives where it is reasonable to do so.
- 12.2 **Cancellation/postponement** – in the event of cancellation of the Championship, the relevant parties will be notified straightaway. In the event of postponement of the Championship, a situation might arise where a new and/or different Team or nominated list needs to be selected, in which case all parties will be notified and (subject to any amendments or revisions made to the Selection Policy in accordance with Section 1 above) the procedures for selection set out in the Selection Policy will be followed.
- 12.3 **Force majeure** – in the event of exceptional circumstances beyond the BEF or BD's control, such as disease outbreak in horses or humans, war or terrorism, withdrawal of WCP funding, the BD Board reserves the right to make the decision, following consultation with the PD and CEO of the BEF, either to change the Selection Policy or the procedure for selection, which might include withdrawing the British Team from competition.
- 12.4 **Communication (Publication)** – the Selection Policy will be published on the BEF and BD website and copies will be available on request from the BD/BEF office.
- 12.5 **Enquiries** – enquiries about the Selection Policy can be made either in writing or by telephone to the BEF office or the PM.
- 12.6 **Point of contact** – the PM is the key point of contact relating to this Selection Policy.

13. Appeals process and procedures

- 13.1 Athletes have the right to appeal against a selection decision of the Selectors, but only on the grounds:
- 13.1.1 That the Selectors did not comply with this Selection Policy when making the decision appealed against, and/or
- 13.1.2 That in making the decision appealed against the Selectors made a decision that no rational body of competent Selectors could reasonably have made.
- 13.2 The right to appeal a selection decision must not be seen as an opportunity to dispute the opinion of the Selector(s) where the selection procedure and selection criteria have been followed. In reaching their decision the Selector(s) are acting as experts.
- 13.3 An appeal must be made by submitting notice in writing ("**the Appeal Notice**") to the CEO 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 against which the athlete wishes to appeal.
- 13.4 A copy of the Appeal Notice must also be submitted to the CEO of BD. The CEO of BD shall, on receipt of the Appeal Notice, seek to bring together all parties affected by the appeal for a without prejudice discussion that may, if all are agreed, take the form of a facilitated mediation.

13.5 For the avoidance of doubt, the Appeal Process shall continue to run during the course of such discussion. However, in the event that all affected parties notify the BEF (within 24 hours of receipt of the Appeal Notice) that such discussion/mediation has resolved the appeal, the Appeal Process shall be stayed.

13.6 The full details of the BEF Appeals Process are set out on the BEF website:

www.britishequestrian.org.uk/assets/About%20the%20BEF/Rulebook/2021%20Rulebook/Annex%20H%20-%20201%20-%2020%20BEF%20Selection%20Appeal%20Rules.pdf and copies of the BEF Selection Appeal Rules can be obtained from the BEF office.