

## **FEI WBFSH Dressage World Breeding Championships for Young Horses 2022 British Dressage Selection Policy**

### **1. Introduction**

- 1.1 This is the British Dressage Selection Policy for the FEI WBFSH Dressage World Breeding Championships 2022 for Young Horses (the “**Championship**”). Athlete/horse combinations will be selected by the British Dressage (“**BD**”) Selectors (“**the Selectors**”), in accordance with this Policy and will be entered by British Equestrian (“**BEF**”) to represent the Federation at the Championships.
- 1.2 This Selection Policy is compiled in consultation with the BD Board of Directors, BD International Director (“**ID**”) and BD Selectors.
- 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 or revisions to this Selection Policy must be approved the BD Chief Executive Officer (“**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 ID and Selectors, and all amended or revised clauses will be published on the BD website.
- 1.4 This Policy is subject to any amendments under the current WBFSH guidelines.

### **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 objective set out in this section of the Selection Policy (the “**Objective**”).
  - 2.1.1 **Objective:** To win as many individual medals as possible in the five-, six- and seven-year-old classes at the FEI WBFSH Dressage World Breeding Championships for Young Horses in 2022.

### **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 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 of Directors 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 (non-voting)	tbc
Selector (voting)	Judy Harvey, BD International Director
Selector (voting)	Jenny Ward
Selector (voting)	Jill Day

4.3 By the dates set out in Section 10 below:

4.3.1 The Selectors shall select maximum of two (2) athlete/horse combinations per age group (five-, six- and seven-year-old).

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.

4.4 All Selectors must declare any potential or perceived interest or conflict of interest in the selection process as soon as they arise to the British Dressage International Officer (“**IO**”), Lianne Martin. 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 Selectors to be recused from any discussion or vote or Selection Meeting.

4.6 The voting Selectors will have the knowledge and experience required to select Young Horse Championship athlete/horse combinations 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 the 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, one of the remaining Selectors, as nominated by the BD CEO, will have the casting vote.
- 4.9 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 (if any) as might be in force from time to time.

## 5. Selection Meetings

- 5.1 For the purpose of selecting the athlete/horse combination/s 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 following individuals may also attend Selection Meetings (in person or remotely) or their opinion may be sought 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 Veterinary Surgeon and/or Athlete Medical Health Practitioner as nominated by BD.
- 5.4 A BD 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 BD
  - The Performance Director (“**PD**”) of the World Class Programme (“**WCP**”), or appointed representative
  - A Performance Analyst

## 6. Eligibility, availability and conditions for consideration for selection

- 6.1 The IO will ensure that each athlete and horse put forward to the Selectors as being available 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, 24<sup>th</sup> Edition Article 119 at the time of 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 licence by the National Federation of Great Britain (the BEF) to compete in international events in accordance with the FEI General Regulations, 24<sup>th</sup> 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, or other breach of ethical conduct.
  - 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 of the horse is a member of BD and not serving any suspension under BD rules for 2022.
  - 6.1.7 If competing in Young Horse classes to gain qualifying scores held at a FEI International competition, that the athlete is fully registered with BD and the FEI for 2022.
  - 6.1.8 The athlete and horse each satisfy the minimum eligibility requirements (“**MER**”), as defined in the FEI WBFSH Dressage World Breeding Championships for Young Horse Guidelines Dressage Regulations <https://inside.fei.org/node/3821/> 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 Apply via email to the IO by **1 June 2022 latest** to register their interest stating rider name, horse name and horse age. At the same time they must provide a copy of the breeding information in the horse’s passport in order to ensure that WBFSH guidelines are complied with.
  - 6.2.2 Abide by any BEF or BD charter which may be in force 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 website:  
<https://www.britishdressage.co.uk/> and <https://www.britishequestrian.org.uk/>.
  - 6.2.3 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.
  - 6.2.4 Be fully registered with BD and the FEI for 2022.
  - 6.2.5 Ensure that the horse is fully registered with the FEI for 2022.
  - 6.2.6 Understand that they are deemed to have accepted that, should they be selected to represent GB at the Championship, they will attend and compete at their own expense.
  - 6.2.7 Inform the IO immediately should they choose to participate in the selection procedure of a different National Federation. Horses may only participate in the selection procedure and process of **one** National Federation.
  - 6.2.8 On inclusion as a Nominated or Definite Entry, inform the IO if the health status of either horse or athlete alters in any way that may impact upon their ability to compete to their full potential at the Championship.

- 6.3. In addition, any combinations selected by the Selectors to compete at the Championship will have to be approved by the Studbook of the selected horse. The IO will process this application on behalf of the athletes.
- 6.4 The Selectors reserve the right to use their discretion and invite combinations based and competing in the United Kingdom (Section 9, clause 9.2) to attend the final selection trial without having competed in Stage 1 in order to fulfil the objectives of the policy.
- 6.5 As a condition of selection, athletes and horses are expected to make all reasonable efforts to maintain fitness, form and performance in a suitable training and competition programme.
- 6.6 Participation in the final selection trial, provision of video evidence, results and/or the achievement of MER (Section 8) does not guarantee a place at the FEI WBFHS World Breeding Championships.

## 7. Qualification period

- 7.1 The qualification period and any regulations for horses and athletes to compete at the Championships will be in accordance with WFBHS qualification guidelines, which are available at <https://inside.fei.org/node/3821/>

## 8. Selection criteria

- 8.1 References to selection for the Championships refer to a maximum of two (2) combinations per age group (five, six and seven year old) and any additional reserves.
- 8.2 The Selectors will select the athlete/horse combinations by reference to the criteria and process set out below and will be aligned to achieving the stated Objective (Section 2):
- 8.2.1 As an absolute minimum athlete/horse combinations must have achieved at least once one of the BD minimum performance scores (“**MPS**”) outlined below. Scores to be achieved in the FEI Young Horse Preliminary or Final Test relevant to their age group and during the current season.
- BD National Competitions and /or Foreign national classes:
- 5 and 6 year old horses: a total score of minimum 75%
  - 7 year old horses: a total score of minimum 70%
- International CDIYH
- 5 and 6 year old horses: a total score of minimum 75%
  - 7 year-old horses: a total score of minimum 70%
- 8.2.2 The anticipated overall performance/development of the athlete/horse combination.
- 8.2.3 The fitness and health of the horse and ability to compete to full potential.
- 8.2.4 The fitness and health of the athlete and ability to compete to full potential.
- 8.3 The Selectors 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.

## 9. Selection process

9.1 To achieve the MPS and in order to be considered for final selection athletes will need to follow one of the three routes outlined below.

9.2 Athletes/horse combinations based and competing in the United Kingdom should follow this two-stage process:

### 9.2.1 STAGE 1

Enter and compete in the appropriate age group at one or more of the FEI Preliminary or Final tests held at the competitions listed below:

Myerscough Premier League, Lancashire	8 – 13 Mar
Keysoe Premier League, Bedfordshire	29 April – 1 May
Hickstead Premier League, West Sussex	13 – 15 May
Somerford Park, Cheshire	27 – 29 May
Wellington Riding, Hampshire	8 – 12 June
Vale View Equestrian, Leicestershire	23 – 26 June
Hartpury Premier League, Gloucestershire	6 -10 July

### 9.2.2 STAGE 2

If qualified from Stage 1, enter and compete in the FEI Final Test at the final selection trial in the appropriate age group at:

Hartpury Premier League, Gloucestershire 6 – 10 July

Athlete/horse combinations competing in Stage 2 must achieve the following scores to be considered for selection:

5 and 6 year old horses:	a total score of minimum 80%
7 year old horses:	a total score of minimum 70%

9.2.3 An athlete may submit a request to the ID for a waiver to Stage 1 or Stage 2 which will only be awarded under exceptional circumstances, based on the following criteria:

- a) An athlete/horse combination that has previously demonstrated proven ability based on actual results during the FEI qualification period (Section 7), or
- b) The circumstances, fact and (in the case of illness or injury to horse or athlete) documentation, provided by a Veterinary Surgeon or Athlete Medical Health Practitioner approved by BD, that impacts on their ability to complete one of the stages to be considered for selection.

9.3 Athlete/horse combinations based in the UK and competing abroad will be expected to:

9.3.1 Provide video evidence of competing a minimum of once at a CDIYH to be sent via an email link, together with details of the competition and a signed test sheet, to the IO by **3 July 2022**.

9.4 Athlete/horse combinations based abroad will be expected to:

9.4.1 Provide video evidence of competing a minimum of once at a CDIYH or CDN. To be sent via an email link, together with details of the competition and a signed test sheet, to the IO by **3 July 2022**.

## 10. Selection timetable

- 10.1 On or around **11 July 2022** (and subject to receiving the FEI official schedule with confirmation of entry dates) the Selectors will select a list of:
- 10.1.1 A maximum of two (2) athlete/horse combinations per age group.
  - 10.1.2 In addition, a further maximum of six (6) athlete/horse combinations will be placed in rank order and/or be identified as specific replacements for named combinations as in 10.1.1.
- 10.2 Athletes will be informed of the selection outcomes by the ID.
- 10.3 Should an athlete decide at any time, and for whatever reason, to withdraw from the selection process, they are obliged to notify the IO immediately and any necessary processes with the Studbook will be halted.

## 11. Substitution

- 11.1 At any time between the announcement of the selected combinations and the departure for the Championship, the ID in consultation with the Selectors, may, if considered appropriate:
- 11.1.1 Substitute an athlete/horse combination, and
  - 11.1.2 Select the next placed athlete/horse combination from the ranked order for the age group to replace any removed athlete/horse combination.

## 12. General

- 12.1 **Discretion** – the Selectors are entitled, within the scope of the 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 the postponement of the Championship, a situation might arise where a new and/or different combination 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, the BD Board reserves the right to make the decision to change the Selection Policy or the procedure for selection, which might include withdrawing all combinations from the Championship.
- 12.4 **Communication (Publication)** – the Selection Policy will be published on the BD website and copies will be available on request from the BD office.
- 12.5 **Enquiries** – enquiries about the Selection Policy can be made either in writing or by telephone to the BD office.
- 12.6 **Point of contact** – the IO is the point of contact relating to this Selection Policy.

### 13. Appeals process and procedure

- 13.1 Athletes have the right to appeal against a selection decision, 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 have reasonably 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 A challenge must be made by submitting notice in writing ("**the Appeal Notice**") to the BD CEO within 48 hours of the relevant athlete being informed of the Selectors' decision.
- 13.4 On receipt of the Appeal Notice the CEO will seek to bring together all parties for a without prejudice discussion that may, if all are agreed, take the form of facilitated mediation.
- 13.5 For the avoidance of doubt the process linked to the challenge shall continue to run during the course of such discussion. However, in the event that both parties notify the CEO (within 48 hours of the receipt of the notice of challenge) that such discussion has resolved the challenge, the process shall be stayed.