



## BD YOUTH REGIONAL SELECTION POLICY 2018



### OBJECTIVE OF SELECTION POLICY

The over-riding objective of the BD Youth Selection Policy is to guide selection of Regional Teams in a fair, equitable and transparent way. Selection for Youth teams is open to all British Dressage members under the age of 25.

Selection is subject to compliance with British Dressage, BEF and FEI Rules on doping and medication control for Human and Equine.

The Selection Policy applies to the selection of riders / teams for the following:-

- Youth Home Internationals
- Youth Inter-Regional Competition
- Sheepgate British Dressage Under 25's Championships – **Team Competition**

### ELIGIBILITY / AVAILABILITY FOR CONSIDERATION

The RDO is responsible for ensuring that all riders & pony/horse combinations available for selection have **current** full British Dressage membership. All riders must have completed the BD Youth Competitor Certificate (not compulsory for Under 12's). Riders who can provide evidence of either passing a British Showjumping Pony Proficiency Award, a Pony Club Proficiency Test Certificate of level C or above or BHS Stage 1 or 2 are not required to complete the BD Youth Competitors Certificate.

It is the parent's/rider's responsibility to ensure that riders & ponies/horses are eligible for selection at their nominated level, according to the rules and schedule at the close of entry.

Only riders & pony/horse combinations fulfilling the criteria stated in the Selection Policy and competition schedule will be considered for selection.

Riders applying for consideration for selection **MUST** ensure their availability for the dates of the respective competition they are applying for. Received applications will deem to be automatic acceptance of the published competition dates.

Rider & pony/horse combinations will only be considered for **two** team competitions in any one calendar year. However, in exceptional circumstances (e.g. the region has too few riders and pony/horse combinations who meet the relevant selection criteria, this restriction may be waived with the approval of the BD Youth Committee.

Riders may only represent their region in one category each calendar year, ie: BD Youth or Senior's. Para riders may go forwards for the Para Home International and one other competition; either BD Youth or Senior Inter-Regionals, or Sheepgate Under 25's team competition.

## **BD YOUTH ELIGIBILITY**

British Dressage is keen to maximise opportunities for all involved in the sport. BD Youth offers support and guidance together with high quality training, designed to improve riders' performance and enjoyment. British Dressage hopes that members who participate in Regional Training will build existing friendships and discover new ones. This will promote a strong team spirit within the regions and provide inspiration for all to achieve their goals.

To promote the above, British Dressage requires members, who wish to be considered for teams, to comply with the following:-

- Rider & pony/horse combinations are required to attend **three** BD training events in the 12 month period preceding the final selection date. Attendance at Regional Training in **other** regions may be included and riders should inform their RDO / Youth Representative if they have attended training in another region.
- Residential camps will be counted as **two** BD Regional Training events.
- This may include youth High Performance Camps, Prime or Progress Squad Training or Regional Training.
- **One** non-ridden session can be considered (e.g. DVD evenings, veterinary talks, competitor certificate test days. This list is not exhaustive. Events not mentioned may count as agreed with your RDO so please check.
- Riders will be required to complete a Competition and Regional Training Record for **each** competition. This should be sent by email to the relevant RDO or Youth Representative by the required deadline.

## **SELECTION CRITERIA**

The Selectors reserve the right not to send a team or individual to any competition.

### **Youth Inter-Regional Squad Competition**

To be considered for selection, riders must be squadded annually after 1 January. Selection will be based on the results from 3 squad test sheets in the preceding 12 months from cut-off date (see below). One result must have been obtained after 1 January 2018. Results may be obtained from any official regional/national Youth training day, camp or competition, including the Youth High Performance camps.

In the event of a rider moving up a squad level within the year (i.e. prior to a regional competition, and or, after a camp), one of the submitted results may be the final score at the lower level.

The mean average score of each combination will be calculated and selection will be based on the highest average scores at each level.

Rider and pony/horse combinations who have competed in a Pony, Junior, COH or YR International competition **in any discipline**, either in this country or abroad and gained a Union Jack pocket badge are not eligible to compete in that calendar year. Riders who have a European Championship pocket badge and have represented GB at European team level **in any discipline** are not eligible to take part.

## **BD Youth Home International**

At levels from Novice to Medium riders will be asked to submit their highest **four** scores at affiliated dressage competitions in the 12 months preceding selection. **AT LEAST TWO OF WHICH** are to be within 6 months of the deadline for submission of scores **and at least two scores must be from qualifier tests**. Only scores achieved at the relevant level can be considered (i.e. the level at which the rider is hoping to compete). Freestyle scores cannot be considered at any level.

A rider may present more than one horse at more than one level for selection although only one rider and one horse will be selected (see additional information below).

Scores achieved at the BD Youth Home International can be included provided that they were achieved in the 12 months preceding selection.

The scores submitted should be from a minimum of two different judges.

The mean average score of each combination will be calculated and selection will be based on the highest average scores at each level.

Where scores are very close (less than 1% between them) the selection panel will review the competition record, and any additional information, in order to make decisions based on consistency and **recent** form. Past form at major events and team events may be taken into consideration. Further preference can also be given to Long Arena Qualifiers as opposed to short arena results and tests that are judged by a panel.

A list of selected combinations will be published on the regional pages of the BD website following selection.

Due to the limited number of spaces available at the BD Youth Inter Regional & Home International riders may only be selected with one horse per competition. However, in exceptional circumstances (e.g. the region has too few riders who meet the required eligibility levels), this restriction may be waived with the approval of the BD Youth Committee.

## **British Dressage Under 25's Championships at Sheepgate – Team Competition**

Selection will be based on results from British Dressage competitions. Riders must submit their four highest scores at the level in which they apply to be selected. Riders must complete, maintain and submit their progress charts.

## Selection Dates

Competition scores and regional training being used for selection should be achieved in the 12 months prior to the cut- off date in the table below.

Date of Competition	Event	Cut-Off Dates for Training and Results	Teams Announced	Entries Close
30 June – 1 July	Inter Regionals	14 May	1 June	15 June
3 – 5 August	Home International	18 June	2 July	13 July
20 – 25 August	Under 25's Championships	13 July	23 July	6 August

## Eligibility for Classes

For the Youth Inter-Regional, Youth Home International and Sheepgate U25's there is additional information about which horses or riders are eligible to take part in each class. **Please also check rules 72, 73, 75 and 77 on pages 88 – 91 of the BD Members Handbook 2018.**

For all the BD Youth Team events above past form at major and team events may be taken into consideration by the Selectors. Recent form will take priority.

## SELECTION PANEL

All Selectors will be appointed by the British Dressage Regional Committee. They will have the knowledge and experience required to effectively select teams and will be as free from all vested interests / conflicts of interest as is possible. A register of Declarations of Interest will be maintained by the CEO of British Dressage and is available for inspection.

If any one of the Selectors is either the parent/legal guardian or has privately trained any rider who is being considered for selection they will agree to stand down from selecting riders & ponies/horses for that competition.

If any one of the Selectors has privately trained any rider who is being considered for selection they must not take part in the selection decision involving that individual.

The **BD Youth Selection Panel** will comprise the following:-

- Youth Representative
- Regional Chair
- One other individual considered to have suitable experience and no perceived conflict of interest.

In the event of the Youth Representative and / or the Regional Chair being a BD Youth Coach in that region they must step down from selection and be replaced by a second non-involved individual. In the case of the Youth Representative they may still participate in the selection process in an advisory but non-voting capacity.

NB: Subject to budgetary constraints, Regional Committees are encouraged to consider using the third selection position for an individual from outside the region. Where this is not possible, it is vital the selector should have no connections to individuals being considered.

### **CHANGING REGIONS**

Riders are eligible for regional teams in the region relevant to their home postal address or region the rider has opted to represent. If a rider wishes to be considered for selection in a region which is not that of their postal address, they must inform the Youth Representative and RDO prior to submitting their progress chart to that region. A rider may only ride for one region in any calendar year. In the event of a family relocating to another region the rider may be considered for selection in that year after verification with British Dressage.

### **SUBSTITUTION**

The Selectors may substitute a team member for a reserve between the announcement of the Team and up to one hour before the Veterinary Inspection (at the Home International) or the start of competition (at the Inter Regionals).

If the decision is made to change a team member for a reserve then this issue must be handled in a very sensitive and sympathetic manner.

### **CONFIDENTIALITY**

It is vitally important for the integrity of the Selection Policy and those involved in its application both as riders, owners, selectors or other officials, that there is at all times a high degree of confidentiality relating to information which may have a bearing on selection.

### **TEAM SPIRIT**

Team spirit is of utmost importance and each region expects riders and their supporters to have good attitude and participate in all the required activities. A high level of commitment to all the varied aspects for the preparation process is imperative.

### **FITNESS**

Although good results in competitions are important, the onus is on riders not to over campaign their horses / ponies.

It is important that riders plan ahead so they and their horse or pony are in the best form for the designated Home International / Inter Regional / British Dressage U25's Championships at Sheepgate.

### **FINANCE**

All competitions will be entirely self-funded by riders.

Regions may conduct fund-raising activity to assist riders with the funding of attendance at the competition. Details will be available via the RDO.

### **RULES**

All selected riders agree to abide by the rules of the competition at all times.

## **CHANGES IN POLICY**

The BD Youth Committee will have the right to amend or change selection policies where necessary at any time in order to fulfil the objectives of the Selection Policy as long as these changes and amendments are clearly communicated to all parties.

## **CANCELLATION / POSTPONEMENT**

In the event of cancellation the relevant parties will be notified straight away. In the event of postponement a situation might arise where a new and / or different squad needs to be selected in which case all parties will be notified and normal procedure for selection will be followed.

## **FORCE MAJEURE**

In the event of exceptional circumstances beyond the NGB's control (e.g. disease outbreak in horses or humans, war or terrorism), the British Dressage Board reserves the right to make the decision either to change the Selection Policy or procedure, which might include withdrawing the teams from competition or cancelling the competition.

## **VETERINARY / MEDICAL**

**Short listed** riders must notify their RDO or Youth Representative of any change in their own health or fitness status, or their horse / pony health status or veterinary / medical management immediately.

## **ENQUIRIES**

Enquiries about the Selection Policy can be made by contacting your RDO in the first instance.

## **APPEALS PROCESS AND PROCEDURES**

Riders have the right to appeal against the decision of the Selectors. Appeals must be made in writing within 48 hrs of the announcements. Appeals must be sent to the Chief Executive of British Dressage. If the Chief Executive is not able to satisfy the appellant's concerns the appeal may be forwarded to the BEF. The processes and procedures of the BEF Appeals Process are set out in the BEF Rule Book.