



## BYRDS REGIONAL SELECTION POLICY 2017



### OBJECTIVE OF SELECTION POLICY

The over-riding objective of the BYRDS Selection Policy is to guide selection of Regional Teams in a fair, equitable and transparent way. Selection for BYRDS 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 Human and Equine doping and medication control.

The Selection Policy applies to the selection of riders and pony/horse combinations and teams for the following:-

- BYRDS Home Internationals (including Ireland)
- BYRDS 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 BYRDS Competitor Certificate (not compulsory for Fledglings). 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 BYRDS 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/s they are applying for when sending in progress charts. Received progress charts will be deemed as 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 BYRDS Committee.

Riders may only represent their region in one category each calendar year, i.e. BYRDS or Seniors.

## **BYRDS Regional Support**

British Dressage is keen to maximise opportunities for all involved in the sport. BYRDS 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 BYRDS 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 / BYRDS Representative if they have attended training in another region.
- Residential camps will be counted as **two** BD Regional Training events.
- This may include BYRDS 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).
- BYRDS riders are required to submit their progress charts to their RDO / BYRDS Representatives **by the required deadline**.

## **SELECTION CRITERIA**

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

### **BYRDS 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 2017. Results may be obtained from any official regional/national BYRDS training day, camp or competition, including the BYRDS 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.

Rider and pony/horse combinations who have competed in a Pony, Junior 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.

## BYRDS 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 BYRDS 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.

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 BYRDS 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 BYRDS Committee.

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

Selection will be based on results from British Dressage competitions. Riders and pony/horse combinations must obtain at least 4 scores of 64% or above 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
1 & 2 July	Inter Regionals	15 May	2 June	16 June
28 – 30 July	Home International	19 June	3 July	14 July
21 – 26 August	Under 25's Championships	14 July	24 July	7 August

## **Eligibility for Classes**

For the BYRDS Inter-Regional, BYRDS 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 76, 77 and 72 in the BD Members Handbook 2017.**

For all the BYRDS 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. Appointed Selectors will be as free from 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 on request.

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.

The **BYRDS Selection Panel** will comprise the following:-

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

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

The names of all BYRDS Regional Selectors must be forwarded to Karen Ryder by 31 January 2017. All members of the panel must sign a declaration of interest.

The BYRDS Representative / RDO is responsible for maintaining a record of all submitted progress charts.

The long list of selected riders and pony/horse combinations for each competition (selected riders and pony/horses plus reserves) must be forwarded to the British Dressage office via email at least one week prior to the close of entries; each selector to have indicated that they agree with their Regional Selection. The British Dressage office may conduct spot checks with Regional Selectors to ensure that the submitted lists are correct.

## **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 BYRDS 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 from the announcement of the Team up to the start of competition. However the reason for a substitution must only be because either there is a strong **rider health or** veterinary case for substitution.

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 BYRDS 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 BYRDS 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.

\\BDFILESVR\User-Profiles\Karen.Ryder\Documents\U21 & BYRDS  
\Regional Training\BYRDS Regional Selection Policy 2017 (Draft 3).doc