

## FEI Dressage World Championships Herning, Denmark, 10 – 14 August 2022 Para Dressage Selection Policy

### 1. Introduction

- 1.1 This is the British Para Dressage Selection Policy for the FEI World Para Dressage Championships 2022 (the “**Championship**”). The British Para 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, Independent Chair of Selectors, BD Selectors, athletes, and the World Class 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 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 Performance Manager (“**PM**”), the PD and the BD / BEF Chief Executive Officers (“**CEO**”).
  - 1.3.2 The amended or revised Policy and/or relevant sections will be communicated to all eligible athletes in a manner directed by the PD and the Selectors, and all amended or revised clauses will be published on the BD and BEF websites.

### 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 Equestrian Team GBR to qualify for the Team competition at the Paris 2024 Paralympic Games (more specifically, be placed in the seven (7) best ranked teams at the Championship, excluding France the 2024 host nation).
  - 2.1.2 **Secondary Objective:** To achieve the best possible results for Equestrian Team GBR. For the avoidance of doubt, the best results relate to the maximum number of gold, silver then bronze medals achievable.

### 3. Confidentiality

- 3.1 It is vitally important for the integrity of this Selection Policy and the selection process, 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/or 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. Three (3) voting Selectors will be appointed by the BD Board of Directors. 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), Sarah Rowell
  - Chief Selector (voting), Joyce Head
  - Selector (voting), Jane McGarel Groves
  - Selector (voting), Islay Auty
- 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 PM, 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 BD Para International Officer (“**PIO**”). The PIO will be responsible for keeping the Independent Chair of Selectors informed. 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 be recused from any discussion or vote or Selection Meeting.
- 4.5 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.

- 4.6 The Independent Chair of Selectors will ensure that:
- 4.6.1 The voting Selectors are aware of the selection criteria set out in this Selection Policy.
  - 4.6.2 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).
- 4.7 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. In such an event:
- 4.7.1 If the remaining voting Selectors reach an equality of votes, the Chief Selector will have the casting vote. In the event of the Chief Selector being required to abstain due to a conflict of interest, the PD, or appointed representative, will have the casting vote.
- 4.8 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.
- 4.9 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 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 Para Dressage Performance Manager and the Performance Director, or a nominated representative of the PD (as agreed with the BD CEO and PD), shall attend Selection Meetings:
- 5.2.1 As experts 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 strictest confidence.
- 5.3.2 WCP Chief Medical Officer ("**CMO**") or a nominated representative of the CMO 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 strictest confidence.
- 5.3.3 WCP Performance Support Services Representative and/or nominated representative.
- 5.3.4 WCP Performance Coaches.
- 5.3.5 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 and considerations for selection

- 6.1 The BD Para International Officer (PIO) will ensure that each athlete and horse being put forward to the Selectors as being available for selection is eligible to represent Great Britain at the Championship, including that:
- 6.1.1 The athlete is a national of United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and in compliance with the Fédération Equestre Internationale ("**FEI**") General Regulations, 24th Edition, Article 119 at the point 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 license by the National Federation of Great Britain 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 e.g., not serving a competition ban as a result of a proven human or equine doping or controlled medication violation, is not serving a competition ban as a result of any breach of ethical code or misconduct and is not in receipt of a lifetime ban from UK Anti-Doping (UKAD).
- 6.1.5 The athlete is a full and active member of BD, and not serving any suspensions under BD rules.
- 6.1.6 The owner is a member of BD and not serving any suspension under BD rules for 2022.
- 6.1.7 The athlete is fully registered with BD and 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 horses, 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 CMO 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 home support Team and the WCP support team.
- 6.2.5 Have accepted that they, their horses, and support teams will be required to take part in a Pre-Championship Final Preparation Camp.



- 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](http://www.britishdressage.co.uk) and [www.britishequestrian.org.uk](http://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.
- 6.4 To be eligible to participate in the Championship:
- 6.4.1 All athletes must be internationally classified with either a ‘Review’ or ‘Confirmed’ sport class status. At the time of nomination an athlete must have an IPC International Classification with an international sport class status of R – Review or C – Confirmed, or if there has been no opportunity to be internationally classified, the athlete must be evaluated by international classifiers and determined likely to classify in the sport class in which he/she would be qualified for the Team; provided that athletes with an international sport class status of N- New are allowable as Entries on the official team nomination into the Championship.
  - 6.4.2 All athlete/horse combinations must have achieved, as a combination, the minimum eligibility requirements (MER) with an FEI Certificate of Capability between 1 January 2021 and the Championship Nominated Entries.
  - 6.4.3 A horse must have been born on or before 31 December 2016 (6 years of age) the age being counted from 1 January of the year of birth.
  - 6.4.4 All athletes must have been born on or before 31 December 2006 (16 years of age).
  - 6.4.5 All horses entered for the Equestrian Events at the Championship must have a valid FEI passport, or an FEI approved national passport with a valid FEI recognition card as a means of identification and to establish ownership. These documents must be duly completed and correct at the time of competition.

## 7. Qualification Period

- 7.1 The qualification period for horses and athletes to compete will be in accordance with the FEI Para Dressage regulations which are available at [www.fei.org](http://www.fei.org).

## 8. Designated Events and Selection Criteria

- 8.1 The Selectors will select the Team with reference to the events and criteria below and will be aligned to achieving the stated Objectives (Section 2):
- CPEDI 3\* (KEYSOE, UK) 14 – 20 March 2022
  - The BD Festival of Para Dressage, Gold Semi Final (Wellington, UK) 8-12 June 2022

- Scores achieved at European CPEDI3\* events between 1 January 2022 and the Championship nominated entry meeting
  - CPEDI 3\* (Hartpury, UK) 6 – 10 July 2022
- 8.2 In the event of the cancellation of any/all of the 'designated selection events', or circumstances that adversely affect these events, the BEF reserves the right to include a domestic 'designated selection event'.
- 8.3 A number of CPEDI3\* invitations for European CPEDI 3\* events may be issued by the Selectors. Invitations will be prioritised against the performance needs of an athlete/horse combination, the opportunity to view combinations against their foreign competitors to provide competition exposure and experience for combinations in consideration for the Championship.
- 8.4 Athletes should refer to the BD rulebook/website for details of the competition dates and points-based qualification process for the domestic Championships referred to in (22). The Selectors reserve the right to invite athlete/horse combinations who have not qualified for these Championships to compete Hors Concours so that their results can be considered as part of the selection process.
- 8.5 The results achieved by the athlete/horse combination. When considering results due regard will be given to:
- 8.5.1 Scores from designated events (see 22) during the period of 1 January 2022 up to the date of nominated entries. With emphasis on firstly Team, then Individual, then Freestyle tests.
  - 8.5.2 Results obtained at CPEDI 3\* events between 1 July 2021 and 31 December 2021, including the Tokyo 2021 Paralympic Games.
  - 8.5.3 Athlete/horse combinations whose scores most closely demonstrate World Championship medal winning potential in their grade. (Medal winning based Tokyo 2021 Paralympic Games and results from the FEI database).
  - 8.5.4 The combinations trend in scores.
  - 8.5.5 The trend in scores internationally within a grade.
  - 8.5.6 The standing of the judges and the competition.
  - 8.5.7 The consistency of medal potential scores.
  - 8.5.8 Consideration of reasons and justification behind any incomplete competitions from 1st January 2022 up to and including Championship entries (date TBC subject to receiving FEI schedule) due to elimination, withdrawal and or/retirement.
- 8.6 Proven ability of the athlete/horse combination to produce Peak Performances in high pressure conditions.

- 8.7 Commitment of the athlete to preparing optimally for the Championship, as outlined by PM/PD, Team Vet and Human Sport Science and Medicine (HSSM) team for each combinations' specific requirements in order to produce optimal results in the environment.
- 8.8 Fitness and soundness of the horse and ability to compete to full potential.
- 8.9 Fitness and health of the athlete and ability to compete to full potential.
- 8.10 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.
- 8.11 The owner/s commitment to make their horse/s available as a reserve.
- 8.12 The PM, in collaboration with the Selectors, may ask athletes and horses to participate in specific training or Championship preparation days. The PM will inform the athletes concerned of the details regarding these requirements. Participation will be compulsory except under exceptional circumstances agreed with the PM/PD.

## 9 Selection Timetable

- 9.1 On or around Wednesday 22nd June 2022 (subject to receiving the FEI official schedule with confirmation of nominated entry date) the Selectors will select a list of:
  - 9.1.1 An appropriate number of athlete/horse combinations ("**the nominated entries**"), up to a maximum of eight (8) combinations, will be submitted at the nominated entry date, from which the Team will subsequently be selected.
- 9.2 Athletes will be informed of the Nominated meeting selection outcomes by the PM.
- 9.3 On or around Tuesday 12 July 2022 (subject to receiving the FEI official schedule with confirmation of the definite entry date) the Selectors will evaluate the athlete/horse combinations submitted on the nominated entry list and will select **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 PM.
- 9.5 The PM, in consultation with the BEF and BD, will announce the Team and Reserve combinations for the Championship on or around 20th July 2022 (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 any athlete decide at any time and for whatever reason to withdraw from the selection process they are obliged to notify the 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 PM, PD, Team Vet and CMO) 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 on to the Team to replace the removed combination.
- 10.2 In the event that the PM, PD, CMO considers an athlete may be unfit to compete (defined as not being able to compete at the standard at which they were selected), for medical reasons:
- 10.2.1 The athlete will be examined by a WCP approved Human Sport Medical Practitioner
  - 10.2.2 Such an examination may require the athlete to ride Dressage test movements
  - 10.2.3 The decision as to whether to substitute that athlete/horse combination will be made by the Selectors after completion of any examination and in consultation with the PM, PD, and CMO (or appointed representative).
- 10.3 In the event that the PM, PD or Team Vet considers that a horse might be unfit to compete due to veterinary reasons, or unable to compete to the performance standard anticipated at the point of selection to the team:
- 10.3.1 The horse will be examined by the Team Vet or a 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 an examination and in consultation with the PM, PD and 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 perform in a suitable training and competition programme to be agreed with the PM.
- 10.5 In the event that an athlete or horse:
- 10.5.1 Fails to follow such a programme, and/or
  - 10.5.2 Fails to reach an agreement with the PM/PD as to an alternative suitable programme
- The Selectors shall be entitled to reconsider (in consultation with the PM, PD, Team Vet and CMO) the selection of the athlete/horse combination to the Team and to substitute the athlete/horse combination from the Team.

## 11 General

- 11.1 **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.

- 11.2 **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) the procedures for selection set out in the Selection Policy will be followed.
- 11.3 **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.
- 11.4 **Communication (Publication)** – the Selection Policy will be published on the BEF and BD websites and copies will be available on request from the BD/BEF office.
- 11.5 **Enquiries** – enquiries about the Selection Policy can be made either in writing or by telephone to the BD/BEF office or the PM.
- 11.6 **Point of contact** – the PM is the key point of contact relating to this Selection Policy.

## 12 Appeals process and procedures

- 12.1 Athletes have the right to appeal against a selection decision of the Selectors, but only on the grounds:
- 12.1.1 That the Selectors did not comply with this Selection Policy when making the decision appealed against, and/or
  - 12.1.2 That in making the decision appealed against the Selectors made a decision that no rational body of competent Selectors could reasonably have made.
- 12.2 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 Selectors are acting as experts.
- 12.3 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.
- 12.4 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.

- 12.5 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.
- 12.6 The full details of the BEF Appeal Process are set out on the BEF website: [www.britishequestrian.org.uk/assets/About%20the%20BEF/Rulebook/2021%20Rulebook/Annex%20H%20-%20201%20-%20%20BEF%20Selection%20Appeal%20Rules.pdf](http://www.britishequestrian.org.uk/assets/About%20the%20BEF/Rulebook/2021%20Rulebook/Annex%20H%20-%20201%20-%20%20BEF%20Selection%20Appeal%20Rules.pdf) and copies of the BEF Selection Appeal Rules can be obtained from the BEF office.