

## FEI World Eventing Championships

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Pratoni, del Vivaro, Italy

14<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> September 2022

### (A) Introduction

1. This is the British Equestrian Eventing Selection Policy for the World Eventing Championship 2022 (the “**Championship**”). The British Equestrian Eventing squad for the Championship will be selected by the British Eventing (“**BE**”) Selectors (the “**Selectors**”) in accordance with this Policy and will be entered and supported by British Equestrian (“**BEF**”) through its World Class Programme (“**WCP**”).
2. This Selection Policy is compiled in consultation with the BE Board of Directors, the BEF Board of Directors, BE CEO, BE International Director, Independent Chair of Selectors (ICS), Selectors, athletes, the Performance Director (PD), the Performance Manager (PM) and the High Performance Coach (HPC) as defined below.
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 (B) below:
  - 3.1. Any amendments of or revisions to this Selection Policy must be approved in writing by the ICS and the PM
  - 3.2. The amended or revised Selection Policy will be communicated in its entirety to all athletes in a manner directed by the Selectors, the PM and the BE International Director, and all amended or revised clauses will be published on the BE and BEF websites.

### (B) Objectives

4. 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**”).
5. **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 placed in the six (6) best ranked teams at the Championship).

6. **Secondary objective:** To win the Team Competition gold medal at the Championship.
7. **Tertiary objective:** To win as many Individual medals as possible at the Championship.

### **(C) Confidentiality**

8. 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 the 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.
9. 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.

### **(D) The Selectors**

10. A non-voting Independent Chair of Selectors (ICS) and two (2) voting Selectors will be nominated by an Interview panel consisting of the PD and/or the CEO of the BEF, the Eventing PM, the CEO of BE and a Board Member from BE and ratified by the BE Board, in consultation with the WCP PD and PM. A third (3) voting Selector will automatically be appointed from his/hers position on the BE Board as International Director. Throughout this Selection Policy the term “**Selectors**” refers to the Independent Chair of Selectors and the three (3) voting Selectors.
11. The Selectors so appointed comprise:

Independent Chair of Selectors (non-voting)	Graeme McPherson
Selector (voting)	Nigel Taylor, BE International Director
Selector (voting)	Sarah Bullen
Selector (voting)	Mark Philips
12. By the dates set out in section (I) below
  - 12.1. The Selectors shall select a squad (the “**Squad**”) for the Championship of up to five (5) athlete/horse combinations
  - 12.2. The Selectors shall 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/HPC/Team Vet (as defined below). The Selectors may, but are not obliged to, place Reserve Combinations in rank order.
13. All Selectors must declare any potential or perceived or actual interest or conflict of interest in the selection process as soon as possible. In the event that any interest or conflict of interest on the part of a voting Selector exists, the ISC may vary the process set out in this Policy as he sees fit, including by requiring any conflicted voting Selector to recuse himself or herself from any discussion or vote or Selection Meeting.

14. 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.
15. The ICS will ensure
  - 15.1. That the voting Selectors are aware of the selection criteria set out in this Selection Policy
  - 15.2. That the process set out in this Policy by which the Squad is selected for the Championship is followed correctly at Selection Meetings.
16. All Selectors, with the exception of the ICS, 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 that event, if the remaining voting Selectors reach an equality of votes, the PM will have the casting vote. Should a Selector be unable to attend a Selection Meeting for any reason the PM will assume the role of that Selector and vote in their absence.
17. 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 onto the Team. 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.

#### **(E) Selection Meetings**

18. For the purpose of selecting the Squad the Selectors shall meet (in person or remotely) as often as they consider appropriate and necessary prior to the dates identified in section (I) below. Such meetings are referred to in this Policy as "**Selection Meetings**".
19. The Eventing Performance Manager ("**PM**") Richard Waygood or a nominated representative of the PM shall attend all Selection Meetings.
  - 19.1. As an expert for the purpose of assisting the Selectors to select the Squad by providing information, insight and expert opinion including, but not limited to, assessment of past and anticipated performance and assessment of risk factors
  - 19.2. (If necessary) for the purpose of voting to select the Squad in the circumstances set out in clause 16 above (but not otherwise).
20. The following individuals may also attend Selection Meetings as experts for the purpose of assisting the Selectors to select the Squad and shall play such part in any Selection Meeting as the Selectors consider appropriate:
  - 20.1. High Performance Coach ("**HPC**") Chris Bartle. The HPC will provide information and expert insight and opinion including, but not limited to, assessment of past and anticipated performance, assessment of risk factors and recommendations regarding final preparation and training for any combination under consideration
  - 20.2. Team Veterinary Surgeon and/or a nominated representative will provide will provide

information and expert insight and opinion including, but not limited to, horse soundness, assessment of known risk factors and recommendations regarding final preparation for any combination under consideration.

- 20.3. WCP Lead of Athlete Health Ash Wallace and/or a nominated representative may provide information and expert insight and opinion including, but not limited to athletes' fitness and/or anticipated ability to compete in and complete the Championship
- 20.4. WCP Performance Support Services Representative who will provide data analyses for the selectors.
- 20.5. A British Athletes' Commission Representative
21. A BEF-appointed minute taker shall attend all Selection Meetings and shall keep a written minute of the Selection Meeting.
22. The following individuals ("**Observers**") may also attend Selection Meetings and shall play such part in any Selection Meeting as the Selectors consider appropriate:
  - 22.1. The BEF Performance Director ("**PD**") or a nominated representative of the PD
  - 22.2. The CEO of BEF
  - 22.3. The CEO BE
  - 22.4. A representative of UK Sport.
23. None of the individuals identified in clause 20, 21 or 22 above shall be entitled to a vote at the point of selection of the Squad in any circumstances.

**(F) Eligibility and availability for consideration for selection**

24. The BE International Secretary will ensure that each athlete and horse put forward to the Selectors as being available for selection for the Championship is eligible to represent Great Britain at the Championship, including as follows:
  - 24.1. That the athlete is a national of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and in compliance with the Fédération 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
  - 24.2. That the athlete holds a valid UK passport that does not expire within the six (6) month period following the conclusion of the Championship
  - 24.3. That 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, 24<sup>th</sup> Edition, Articles 113 and 117.
  - 24.4. That 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 provisional suspension or competition ban as a result of any breach, or alleged breach in the case of a provisional suspension, of any ethical code or misconduct.

- 24.5. That the athlete is a full and active member of British Eventing and not serving any suspensions under BE rules
- 24.6. That the horse is fully registered with BE and the FEI for 2022
- 24.7. That the athlete and horse each satisfy the minimum eligibility criteria as defined in the FEI Eventing Regulations and is not, for any reason, ineligible to take part in the Championship under BEF, FEI or BE rules
25. As a condition of selection for the Championship an athlete will be expected
- 25.1. To 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.
- 25.2. Will be obliged to abide by any BEF and BE charter which may be in force. The BE Code of Conduct and the British Equestrian Team Charter are set out on the respective BE and BEF websites.
- 25.3. To 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). The selection process examination may include the taking of blood for pre-Championship testing and any samples taken may be screened for prohibited substances
- 25.4. Declare to the WCP Chief Medical Officer (CMO) or LAH any current or existing physical or mental health reasons 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 Facilitate open communication between their own Sports Science and Medicine (“SSM”) Teams and the WCP SSM Teams
- 25.5. Facilitate open communication between their own Sports Science and Medicine (“SSM”) Teams and the WCP SSM Teams

#### **(G) Qualification period**

26. The qualification period for horses and athletes will be in accordance with FEI Eventing Regulations, which are available at [www.fei.org](http://www.fei.org).

#### **(H) Selection criteria**

27. The Selectors will select the Squad by reference to the criteria set out below and will be aligned to achieving the stated objectives of this policy in section B:
- 27.1. The results achieved by athlete/horse combination. When considering results, due regard will be given to
- (1) results from CCI4\* and CCI5\* events, including CCI-L, CCI-S and CCIO-NC-S

- (2) the status of the judges and the competition
- (3) the dressage movements that are aligned to the dressage test chosen for the Championships
- (4) the difficulty of the cross-country/show jumping courses
- (5) the terrain
- (6) the quantity and competitiveness of the starters.

Although the performance in all three phases will be taken into account by the Selectors, they reserve the right to select an athlete/horse combination with an outstanding talent or record in one of the three phases of the competition, if they consider that will best achieve the Objectives

27.2. Proven ability to produce peak performances in conditions similar to the Championship

27.3. The likely contribution of the combination to achieve the Objectives or win medals.

27.4. The commitment of the athlete to preparing optimally for the Championship, as outlined by the PM/HPC, Team Vet and human health team for each combination's specific requirements in order to produce optimal results in the environment

27.5. The fitness and soundness of the horse. As a condition of selection for the Championship

- (1) Athletes are obliged to notify the Team Vet of any change in their horses' health status or veterinary management immediately
- (2) Athletes are expected to facilitate open communication between their own veterinary surgeon and the Team Vet.

27.6. The fitness and health of the athlete and his/her ability to compete to their full potential:

- (1) As a condition of selection for the Championship athletes are obliged to declare any current or existing physical or mental health reasons that might reasonably be considered as a possible impairment of their ability to perform at their peak. This information will be held in the strictest confidence
- (2) The WCP Chief Medical Officer or WCP Lead of Athlete Health may also 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.

27.7. The willingness of the athlete, along with his/her owners, coaches, sport science and medicine ("SSM") staff, grooms and others that may be assisting the athlete during the Championship, to contribute to the objectives of this Selection Policy, and abide by any BEF charter in force at the time that the Squad is selected

27.8. Conduct of the athlete and people associated with the athlete (including, without limitation, owners, partners, coaches and grooms) that may have a positive or negative impact on the team environment both on and off the field of play. To include Squad Training sessions pre and post selection.

27.9. The owner's commitment to make their horse/s available as reserve both non travelling and travelling to the Championships

28. The Selectors, in collaboration with the PM and HPC, may at their absolute discretion ask athletes and horses to participate in specific training, tests or competitions where they deem this appropriate and necessary prior to selection decisions being made. The PM will inform the athletes concerned of the details regarding these requirements.

### **(I) Selection timetable**

29. Athletes selected onto the Squad and as Reserve Combinations will be informed of their selection by the PM.

30. On or about 21<sup>st</sup> June 2022 the Selectors will select the nominated list of athlete/horse combinations ("***the long-list***") from which the Squad will subsequently be selected.

31. On or about 16<sup>th</sup> August 2022 (and subject to receiving the FEI Official Schedule) the Selectors will select from the nominated list, the Squad of five (5) athlete/horse combinations to compete at the Championship

32. Reserve Combinations will be selected from the nominated list and may or may not be published in order of merit.

33. The PM, in consultation with the BEF and BE, will announce the Squad for the Championship on or around 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2022, unless circumstances dictate otherwise.

34. The PD in conjunction with the International Secretary is responsible for the final submission of athlete/horse combinations by the BEF to the FEI.

### **(J) Substitution**

35. At any time between the announcement of the Squad and the departure of the Squad to the Championship, the Selectors (in consultation with the PM, the HPC, the Team Vet and the WCP Lead of Athlete Health) may in the circumstances set out below

35.1. Substitute an athlete/horse combination from the Squad in to the Team.

35.2. Select a Reserve Combination from the nominated list onto the Squad to replace a removed athlete/horse combination.

36. In the event that the PM or the HPC or the WCP Lead of Athlete Health 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

36.1. The athlete will be examined by a WCP-approved Human SSM Practitioner

36.2. Such examination may at the discretion of the PM and/or the HPC involve the athlete being required to ride certain dressage movements or jump selected fences on their selected horse

- 36.3. The decision as to whether to substitute that athlete/horse combination will be made by the Selectors after the completion of that examination in consultation with the PM, the HPC, the PD and the WCP Lead of Athlete Health.
37. In the event that the PM or the HPC or the 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 Squad
- 37.1. The horse will be examined by the Team Vet or by a WCP-approved veterinarian
- 37.2. The decision as to whether to substitute that athlete/horse combination will be made by the Selectors after the completion of that examination in consultation with the PM, the HPC, the PD and the Team Vet.
38. It is a condition of selection to the Squad 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 HPC. In the event that an athlete or horse
- 38.1. Fails to follow such a programme, and/or
- 38.2. Fails to reach agreement with the HPC or PM as to an alternative programme
39. The Selectors shall be entitled to reconsider (in consultation with the PM, the HPC, the PD, the Team Vet and/or the WCP Lead of Athlete Health) the selection of the athlete/horse combination to the Squad and to substitute the athlete/horse combination from the Squad.

**(K) Post Squad selection – Team Selection and Running Order**

40. The PM and HPC, in consultation with the Team Vet, will select from the Squad
- 40.1. Four (4) athlete/horse combinations (the “**Team**”) to compete for the Team Competition in addition to the Individual Competition at the Championship
- 40.2. The one (1) remaining athlete/horse combination to compete (alongside the Team combinations) only in the Individual Competition at the Championship.
41. The Team will be announced in accordance with 2022 FEI Eventing regulations.
42. The PM and HPC, in consultation with the Team Vet, will decide the proposed running order at the Championship for the athlete/horse combinations selected to the Team.
43. Subject to clause 40 above, selections and decisions made pursuant to clauses 39 and 41 above will be communicated by the PM to the athletes selected onto the Squad before or after arrival at the Championship venue, after assessment of the condition of the horses post-travel and after assessment of ground, weather and other conditions at the Championship. The PM in consultation



with the HPC and Vet may subsequently make amendments to the Team and or the running order up to and after the first Horse Inspection, if he deems it appropriate or necessary to do so for any reason that may impact on the Objectives of the Policy. This is a condition of selection by the athletes and owners, this decision will be final and non-contestable.

### **(L) General**

44. Code of conduct/charter – athletes, owners, grooms and athletes’ “home teams” are expected to abide by any BEF charter which may be in force.
45. Athletes and their support teams are expected to behave at all times in a manner that does not bring the sport, BEF, the WCP or BE into disrepute or potentially negatively affect performance.
46. Clean sport – selection is subject to compliance with FEI and BEF equine anti-doping and controlled medication rules, and FEI, BEF and World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) rules on human anti-doping.
47. 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 Squad 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 (A) above) the procedures for selection set out in this Selection Policy will be followed.
48. Force majeure – in the event of exceptional circumstances beyond the BEF or BE’s control, such as disease outbreak in horses or humans, war or terrorism, withdrawal of WCP funding, the BE 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.
49. Communication (Publication) – the Selection Policy will be published on the BE and BEF website, and copies will be available on request from the BE/BEF office.
50. Enquiries – enquiries about the Selection Policy can be made either in writing or by telephone to the BEF office or the PM.
51. Point of contact – the PM is the key point of contact relating to this Selection Policy.

### **Appeals process and procedures**

52. Athletes have the right to appeal against a selection decision of the Selectors, but only on the grounds
  - 52.1. That the Selectors did not comply with this Selection Policy when making the decision appealed against, and/or

- 52.2. That in making the decision appealed against the Selectors made a decision that no rational body of competent Selectors could reasonably have made.
53. 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.
54. 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.
55. A copy of the Appeal Notice must also be submitted to the CEO of BE. The CEO of BE 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.
56. 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.
57. Please note, one of the overriding objectives of the BEF Appeals Procedure is to enable the BEF to deal with selection appeals as quickly as is reasonably possible. Any Appeals Process will therefore be dealt with on an expedited basis with the aim being (to the extent possible) to complete the Appeals Process within five (5) to seven (7) days of the relevant selection decision.
58. The full details of the BEF Appeal Process is set out on the BEF website [www.britishequestrian.org.uk/assets/About%20the%20BEF/Rulebook/2021%20Rulebook/Annex%20H%20-%201%20-%20%20BEF%20Selection%20Appeal%20Rules.pdf](http://www.britishequestrian.org.uk/assets/About%20the%20BEF/Rulebook/2021%20Rulebook/Annex%20H%20-%201%20-%20%20BEF%20Selection%20Appeal%20Rules.pdf) and copies of the BEF Selection Appeal Rules can be obtained from the BEF office.