

FEI European Jumping Championships Milano, San Siro (29th August – 3rd September 2023) Senior Selection Policy

1. Introduction

- 1.1. This is the British Equestrian Jumping Selection Policy for the European Championship (the “**Championship**”). The British Equestrian Jumping squad for the Championship will be selected by the British Showjumping Selector (the “**Selector**”) in accordance with this Policy. Once selected, the team will be entered and supported by British Equestrian (“**BEF**”) through its World Class Programme (“**WCP**”).

2. Objectives

- 2.1. The Selector 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**”).
 - a. **Primary objective:** To select athlete/horse combinations that will maximise the potential of providing Championship experience and preparation in advance of Paris 2024.

3. Outcome of Selection Process

- 3.1. The Selector shall select a squad of up to a maximum of 5 athlete/horse combinations. Of which 4 will make up the team and will compete in the team competition.
- 3.2. The Selector may also select several reserve athlete/horse combinations (“**Reserve Combinations**”). The selector retains the option to place the reserve list in rank order.

4. Selection criteria

- 4.1. The Selector will consider the criteria set out below, in any order and with any weighting, using their absolute discretion and expert opinion to select athlete/horse combinations onto the Squad. They must, at all times, use their discretion honestly and with due integrity.

The athlete/horse combination’s results. Due regard will be given to:

- (a) Results in 2022/23 FEI CSIO5* Nations Cup competitions & respective Grand Prix classes.
- (b) 5* Grand Prix classes will normally take priority over 4* Nations Cup competitions and respective Grand Prix classes.
- (c) Results at other CSI5* and CSIO4*/CSI4* competitions will be taken into consideration, along with CSI3* MER Grand Prix’s.
- (d) The combination’s likelihood to develop into a contributor to maximise the probability of achieving the Objectives.
- (e) The standing of the competition.
- (f) The quality and competitiveness of the starters (competitiveness of the field).

- (g) Consideration of the reasons and justification behind any incomplete competitions from 1 January 2023 up to and including the Championship entries date TBC (dependant on the definite entry date) due to elimination, withdrawal and/or retirement.
- (h) The rate of progression of the combination.
- (i) Results on other horses at 5* level.
- (j) Proven ability to produce peak performances/double clear rounds on a given day.
- (k) Proven ability to produce peak performance under high pressure conditions.
- (l) The commitment of the athlete to preparing optimally for the Championship, as outlined by PD/PM, Team Vet and Human Health team for each combination's specific requirements in order to produce optimal results in the environment.
- (m) The fitness and health of the horse and ability to compete to full potential.
- (n) The fitness and health of the athlete and ability to compete to full potential.
- (o) The willingness of the athlete, their Home Team and others that may be assisting the athlete during the Championship, to contribute to the objectives of this Selection Policy.
- (p) 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.
- (q) The owner/s commitment to make their horse/s available as reserve both non travelling and travelling to the Championship.
- (r) The Selector, in collaboration with the PD, or a nominated representative of the PD (as agreed with the CEO of BS and the PD and Technical Expert), 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. The Selector will inform the athletes concerned of the details of these requirements.

5. Eligibility, availability, and conditions for consideration for selection

- 5.1. All athlete/horse combinations must have registered their intent to compete with British Showjumping to be considered for selection at the Championships within the timeframes set out in 7.1.
- 5.2. The registration form can be found [here](#).
- 5.3. The British Showjumping Performance Department will ensure that each athlete and horse put forward to the Selector as being available for selection for the Championships is eligible to represent Great Britain at the Championships, including that:
 - a. 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, 24th Edition, Article 119 at the time of the application, selection and until the conclusion of the Championship.
 - b. The athlete holds a valid UK passport that does not expire within the six (6) month period following the conclusion of the Championship.
 - c. 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, 24th Edition, Articles 113 and 117.
 - d. 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 competition ban as a result of any breach of any ethical code or misconduct and is not in receipt of a funding ban from UK Sport.
 - e. The athlete is a full and active member of British Showjumping and not serving any suspensions under either the British Showjumping and/or BEF rules.

- f. If the owner is a member of British Showjumping they are not serving any suspension under British Showjumping and/or BEF rules for 2023.
- g. Willingness of the athlete and their home team (i.e. owners, coaches, sports science and medical staff, grooms and others that may be assisting the athlete in the build up to and during the Championships) to contribute to the objectives of the Selection Policy, and to abide by any [British Equestrian Team Charter](#) and BS Code of Conduct that may be in force.
- h. The athlete is fully registered with the FEI for 2023.
- i. The horse is fully registered with British Showjumping and the FEI for 2023.
- j. The athlete and horse each satisfy the minimum eligibility criteria as defined in the FEI Regulations and are not, for any reason, ineligible to take part in the Championship under BEF, FEI or British Showjumping rules.

6. Qualification period

- 6.1. The qualification period for horses and athletes to compete will be in accordance with FEI regulations which are available at www.fei.org.

7. Process and Timelines

- 7.1. The nominated entries:
 - a. Athletes wishing to be considered for selection must enter their details on the [Register of Interest to Compete](#).
 - b. The [Register of Interest to Compete](#) at the **Championships** will close 48 hours before the nominated entries selection meeting date and only athletes on this list will be considered for selection.
 - c. On or around the 18th of July (subject to the nominated entry date) the Selector will select a list of nominated entries (the “**Nominated Entries**”). From which the Squad will subsequently be selected.
 - d. Athletes will be subsequently informed of the nomination meeting selection outcomes by the Performance Manager (“**PM**”) at the end of the selection meeting.
 - e. Athletes will have the right to appeal any selection decision within 48 hours of being informed of the decision.
 - f. The **Nominated Entries** will be submitted on the nominated entry date (and subject to receiving the FEI official schedule with confirmation of the nominated entry date).
- 7.2. The Definite entries:
 - a. On or around the 1st of August (subject to the definite entry date) the Selector will select from the nominated entry list:
 - i. The “**Squad**” of five (5) athlete/horse combinations to compete at the Championship (a team of four (4) plus the travelling reserve).
 - ii. “**Reserve Combinations**” (non travelling) as deemed required,
 - iii. The Selector may, but are not obliged to, place Reserve Combinations in rank order.
 - b. The Athlete/Horse combinations selected in accordance with 7.2.a. will form the definite entries (the “**Definite Entries**”)
 - c. Athletes will be subsequently informed of the Definite Entry selection meeting selection outcomes by the PM.
 - d. The 48hr window for appeals starts at the time the Athlete is informed of the selection decision.
 - e. The “**Squad**” and “**Reserves**” will be submitted at the definite entry date (and subject to receiving the FEI official schedule with confirmation of the definite entry date)

8. Confidentiality & Code of Conduct

- 8.1. It is vitally important for the integrity of this Selection Policy and its operation, and out of respect for the athletes, owners, the Selector, 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.
- 8.2. 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.

9. The Selection Panel

- 9.1. A non-voting Chair of Selection and one (1) voting Selector, supported by Technical Expert and Data Analysts, will be appointed by a panel consisting of the PD and/or the CEO of the BEF, the Jumping PM and the CEO and Chair of BS and ratified by the BS Board, in consultation with the WCP PD, or a nominated representative of the PD (as agreed with the CEO of BS and the PD) and PM.
- 9.2. The selection panel must declare any potential or perceived or actual interest or conflict of interest in the selection process as soon as possible and immediately upon any such new interest arising. In the event that any interest or conflict of interest on the part of the voting Selector exists, the Chair of Selection may vary the process set out in this Policy as he or she sees fit, in consultation with either BEF CEO or BS CEO.
- 9.3. Throughout this Selection Policy the term **“Selector”** refers to the Jumping PM.
- 9.4. The voting Selector 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.
- 9.5. The Selector must declare any potential or perceived or actual interest or conflict of interest in the selection process as soon as they arise to British Showjumping. The PM will be responsible for keeping the Independent Chair of Selectors informed.
- 9.6. The Independent Chair of Selectors will ensure that:
 - a. The voting Selector is aware of the selection criteria set out in this Selection Policy.
 - b. 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).
- 9.7. Conflicts of interest to be confirmed and declared at the start of selection meetings to allow the Chair to check and manage any issues.
- 9.8. If 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 recuse themselves from any discussion or vote or Selection Meeting.
- 9.9. The selection panel so appointed comprise:
 - a. Chair of Selection (non-voting) - TBC
 - b. Selector (voting) - Di Lampard
 - c. Technical Expert (non-voting) - Stanny Van Paescchen
 - d. Performance Services (non-voting) - Lewis Collyer

- 9.10. The PD, or a nominated representative of the PD (as agreed with the CEO of British Showjumping and the PD), shall attend Selection Meetings.
- 9.11. 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 Selector to select the combinations and shall play such part in any Selection Meeting as the Selector consider appropriate. The purpose of the expert is to assist the Selector to select the **“Squad”** by providing information, insight and expert opinion including but not limited to, the process of **“Squad”** selection, assessment of past and anticipated performance and assessment of risk factors:
- a. 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 Selector 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.
 - b. WCP Lead of Athlete Health (**“LAH”**) or a nominated representative of the LAH 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 Selector 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.
 - c. A WCP Performance Support Services Representative and/or nominated representative.
 - d. A British Athletes’ Commission Representative.
 - e. A BEF appointed minute taker shall attend all Selection Meetings and shall keep a written minute of the Selection Meeting.
 - f. The following individuals (**“Observers”**) may also attend Selection Meetings and shall play such part in any Selection Meeting as the Selector considers appropriate:
 - i. The CEO of BEF
 - ii. The CEO of British Showjumping
 - iii. A representative of UK Sport

10. Voting

- 10.1. Throughout the selection process, the Selector will act as an expert and is entitled within this Selection Policy, having regard to the criteria set out in this Policy, to use their discretion to select athlete/horse combinations. The selector 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.

11. Substitution

- 11.1. At any time between the announcement of the Team and the departure of the Team to the Championship, the Selector (in consultation with the PD, the Technical Expert, the Team Vet, and the LAH) may in the circumstances set out below:
- a. Substitute an athlete/horse combination from the Team, and
 - b. Select a Reserve Combination onto the Team to replace a removed athlete/horse combination.

- 11.2. If the PD, PM or LAH 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:
- The athlete will be examined by a WCP approved Human SSM Practitioner.
 - Such examination may, at the discretion of the PD and PM involve the athlete being required to ride or jump.
 - The decision as to whether to substitute that athlete/horse combination will be made by the Selector after completion of the examination in consultation with the PD, Technical Expert and LAH.
- 11.3. If the PD, the PM or 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 Team:
- The horse will be examined by the Team Vet or WCP approved veterinary surgeon.
 - The decision as to whether to substitute that athlete/horse combination will be made by the Selector after completion of that examination in consultation with the PD, the Technical Expert and the Team Vet.
- 11.4. It is a condition of selection to the Team that following selection athletes and horses make all reasonable efforts to maintain fitness, form and performance in a suitable training and competition programme to be agreed with the PM. If an athlete or horse:
- Fails to follow such programme, and/or
 - Fails to reach agreement with the PM as to an alternative programme.

The Selector shall be entitled to reconsider (in consultation with the PD, the Technical Expert, the Team Vet and/or LAH) the selection of the athlete/horse combination to the Team and to substitute the athlete/horse combination from the Team.

12. Appeals process and procedures

- 12.1. Athletes have the right to appeal against a selection decision of the Selector, but only on the grounds:
- That the Selector did not comply with this Selection Policy when making the decision appealed against, and/or
 - That in making the decision appealed against the Selector made a decision that no rational body of competent Selector 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 where the selection procedure and selection criteria have been followed. In reaching their decision the Selector are acting as experts.
- 12.3. An appeal must be made by submitting notice in writing (“**the Notice of Appeal**”) to the CEO of the BEF in accordance with the BEF Selection Appeal Rules 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 Notice of Appeal must also be submitted to the CEO of British Showjumping. The CEO of British Showjumping shall, on receipt of the Notice of Appeal, 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 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 Rules are set out on the BEF website:

Here and copies of the BEF Selection Appeal Rules can be obtained from the BEF office.

13. Policy Creation & Amendment

- 13.1. This Selection Policy is compiled in consultation with British Showjumping Board of Directors, the BEF Board of Directors, **PM**, British Showjumping Selector, athletes and the **PD**.
- 13.2. The Selector is 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.
- 13.3. Any amendments of or revisions to this Selection Policy must be approved by the PD, the BEF Chief Executive Officer ("**CEO**"), the British Showjumping CEO and the PM.
- 13.4. The amended or revised Policy and/or relevant sections will be communicated to all senior international athletes in a manner directed by the PD, PM and Selector, and all amended or revised clauses will be published on the British Showjumping website and BEF Website.

14. General

- 14.1. **Discretion** – the Selector is entitled, within the scope of this Selection Policy, to exercise their discretion to achieve the Objectives where it is reasonable to do so.
- 14.2. **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 in accordance with Section 1 above) the procedures for selection set out in the Selection Policy will be followed.
- 14.3. **Force majeure** – in the event of exceptional circumstances beyond the BEF or British Eventing's control, such as disease outbreak in horses or humans, war or terrorism, withdrawal of WCP funding, the British Eventing 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.
- 14.4. **Communication (Publication)** – the Selection Policy will be published on the BEF and British Showjumping website and copies will be available on request from the British Showjumping/BEF office.
- 14.5. **Enquiries** – enquiries about the Selection Policy can be made either in writing or by telephone to the BEF office or the PM.
- 14.6. **Point of contact** – the PM is the key point of contact relating to this Selection Policy.