



SELECTION PROCEDURES

2023 FEI North American Youth Championships DRESSAGE

August 8-13, 2023 Traverse City, Michigan

I. SELECTION SYSTEM

1) Minimum eligibility requirements for an athlete to be considered for nomination:

a) Citizenship: The athlete must be a Bermuda citizen and in compliance with FEI Article 119 (General Regulations, which can be found on the FEI's website at www.fei.org) at the time of application, selection, and until the conclusion of the 2023 FEI North American Youth Championships ("the Event" or "NAYC").

b) Minimum International Federation (IF) standards for participation:

i) Athletes are eligible as Young Riders from the beginning of the calendar year in which they reach the age of 16 until the end of the calendar year in which they reach the age of 21.

ii) Athletes are eligible as Juniors from the beginning of the calendar year in which they reach the age of 14 until the end of the calendar year in which they reach the age of 18.

iii) A horse must be a minimum of seven (7) years old to be competed in the Young Rider division. A horse must be a minimum of six (6) years old to be competed in the Junior division. Ponies and mules are ineligible to qualify for or compete in the NAYC. Horses must be over 149 cm with shoes (FEI Rules for Dressage Events, Article 422.1).

iv) The athlete and horse must be registered and in good standing with the BEF and the FEI prior to being named to the nominated entry and until the conclusion of the Event.

v) The athlete and horse must comply with FEI Rules for the Event.

2) Other requirements:

a) The athlete must be a member in good standing of the Bermuda Equestrian Federation ("BEF") at the time of application through the conclusion of the Event, and in order for the athlete to earn a qualifying score.

b) The horse must be recorded with the BEF, and in good standing under at the time of application through the conclusion of the Event, and in order for the horse to earn a qualifying score.

c) The horse must be Registered with BEF at the time of application through the conclusion of the Event, and in order for the horse to earn a qualifying score.

d) FEI Rider Registration and FEI Horse Registration must be completed in accordance with FEI rules no later than the date of USDF nominated entries. USEF strongly encourages the registrations to be completed by the end of the Qualifying period.

e) The FEI passport must be completed and FEI validated in accordance with FEI rules no later than the date of USDF nominated entries. It is strongly encouraged for athletes to complete and FEI validate horse passports in the beginning of the qualifying process. Please be reminded that FEI Passports may take many business days for processing after they are received by USEF.

f) The owner of the horse must be a Member in good standing of the BEF and the USEF at the time of application through the conclusion of the Event, and in order for the horse to earn a qualifying score.

g) Athlete/horse combinations must have earned a Certificate of Capability.

h) Certificate of Domicile: A rider may have only one domicile, which is where the rider has their permanent home and where, whenever absent, intends to return. A minor's domicile follows that of the parent or guardian who has lawful custody of the minor (unless the minor is emancipated from their parent/guardian).

For purposes of these selection procedures, a minor is any rider that has not yet reached their 18th birthday as of January 1, 2023. Every rider or parent/guardian if the rider is a minor shall complete and submit a Certificate of Domicile with the Application. If a rider, or legal guardian if the rider is a minor, is found to have submitted inaccurate or misinformation or failed to submit the Certificate of Domicile within five (5) business days, the rider may be subject to disqualification from participating in the Event.

3) Qualifying Events:

A series of competitions held throughout the U.S. have been designated as USEF/NAYC Qualifying Competitions. A list of these designated USEF/NAYC Qualifying Competitions is available on the USEF website:

<https://www.usef.org/compete/disciplines/dressage/dressage-championships---national--fei/north-americanyouth-championships>

or by contacting the USEF Dressage Department. It can also be found on the USDF website: <http://www.usdf.org/competitions/competitions-championships/najyrc/index.asp>.

a) Qualifying Tests for the FEI Young Rider division, the FEI Young Rider Team Test (current edition), the FEI Young Rider Individual Test (current edition), and the FEI Young Rider Freestyle Test (current edition), must be used for qualification for the NAYC. For the FEI Junior division, the FEI Junior Team Test (current edition), the FEI Junior Individual Test (current edition), and the FEI Junior Freestyle Test (current edition), must be used for qualification for the NAYC.

These tests must be held as individual classes, which are specifically designated as NAYC Qualifying. "Test of Choice" (TOC) classes will not count. For calculation purposes, the athlete/horse combination's overall average score will be determined by averaging the scores earned in the Team and the Individual Test.

4) Drop Scores:

If an athlete/horse combination competes in more than two (2) designated USEF/NAYC Qualifying Competitions (must have earned scores in two (2) Team Tests and two (2) Individual Tests) GAIG/USDF Regional Championships, USEF Young Rider and Junior Dressage National Championship and/or CDI/Y/Js, the lowest score earned in the Team Test and the lowest score earned in the Individual Test will be dropped regardless of whether or not these scores were earned in the same competition. Only one (1) score will be dropped from the Team Test and only one (1) score will be dropped from the Individual Test.

5) Certificate of Capability:

In addition to the above outlined qualifying process, athlete/horse combinations will also be required to earn a Certificate of Capability, as described in above, within the Qualifying Period which begins July 26, 2022 and ends May 1st, 2023.

a. Young Rider Championship – Each athlete/horse combination must earn a Certificate of Capability by attaining a minimum overall average of 64.000% on the final ranking list. In addition, they must earn, at least one (1) score of 65.000% in the FEI Young Rider Freestyle during the qualification period at an official qualifying event.

b. Junior Championship – Each athlete/horse combination must earn a Certificate of Capability by attaining a minimum overall average of 64.000% on the final ranking list. In addition, they must earn at least one (1) score of 65.000% in the FEI Junior Freestyle during the qualification period at an official qualifying event.

II. DRESS & SADDLERY

Please refer to USEF Rules for dress and saddlery requirements (DR 120-121) if competing in a USEF/NAYC Qualifying Competition or FEI Dressage Regulations if competing in CDI/Y/J competitions and/or the NAYC. Snaffle bridles are permitted for NAYC qualifying classes, USEF Junior qualifying classes, and USEF Young Rider qualifying classes. Please refer to FEI Dressage Rules for Saddlery and Equipment for CDI/Y/J and FEI Championships.

One whip no longer than 47.2 inches (120 cm), including lash, may be carried in designated USEF/NAYC Qualifying Competitions. However, when riding in a CDI/Y/J, FEI whip and bridle rules supersede USEF rules.

III. SCHOOLING & WARMUP

Under penalty of disqualification for NAYC qualifying purposes, within 24 hours prior and at no time during a competition offering FEI Young Rider or FEI Junior Qualifying classes at a designated USEF/NAYC Qualifying competition, may any horse entered in an FEI Young Rider or FEI Junior Qualifying class be ridden by anyone other than the athlete entered in the class on that horse. Exception: grooms riding on a loose rein. For NAYC Qualifying Competitions held at USEF licensed Dressage Competitions, the competition starts when horse and/or athlete arrive on the show grounds and ends at the conclusion of the USEF licensed Dressage Competition.

For NAYC qualifying classes which are included in a CDI/Y/J, per FEI Art. 422.3.6, no one other than the Athlete may ride the horse he/she is entered with, after arrival on the show ground and official opening of the stables according to the FEI approved schedule as well as for the duration of the whole Event under penalty of disqualification (also see FEI DR Art. 429.10.4).

Upon arrival on the show grounds, only the athlete when riding, walking, leading, or lunging a horse (lunge whip allowed), is allowed to carry a whip (maximum 120 cm) anywhere on the showground. The groom may also walk, lead, and lunge a horse as above. Other parties are allowed to carry a whip, provided it is not in connection with the training of the horse. Under no circumstances is the whip allowed to be used to school the horse in the stables. For CDI-Y/J's, horses may not leave the stables, the competition area, or the areas supervised by Stewards for any purpose unless authorized by a recognized FEI Official of the event or a veterinarian acting in the interest of the health and welfare of the horse.

Any Athletes who are listed on both the Junior and Young Rider Nominated Entry must declare in which event they will participate by the Definite Entry Deadline.

IV. REMOVAL OF ATHLETES

Prior to and after the Definite Entries Deadline, the BEF has jurisdiction over athlete/horse combinations who might participate at the Event. An athlete/horse combination whose name is included on a Region's Final Ranking and/or submitted on Nominated Entry may be removed for any of the following reasons, as determined by the BEF and in accordance with these procedures.

- Voluntary withdrawal. The athlete must advise BEF of their withdrawal in writing.
- Injury or illness as certified by a physician (or medical staff) approved by the BEF.
- Violation of the U.S. Center for SafeSport Code or USEF Safe Sport Policy.

▪ Injury or illness of the Horse as determined by the Team Veterinarian and/or Veterinary Panel. If an Athlete and/or Horse owner refuses to have the Horse examined by the Team Veterinarian and/or Veterinary Panel, the injury or illness will be assumed to be disabling and the horse may be removed.

- Detection of a Prohibited Substance in the Horse (see below).

- Failure to adhere to all World Anti-Doping Agency (“WADA”), FEI, USEF, and/or U.S. Anti-Doping Agency (“USADA”) anti-doping protocols, policies or procedures regarding Athletes and Horses, including participation in required Out-of-Competition testing.
- Non-compliance with the eligibility requirements listed above in these selection procedures.

V. SUBSTITUTION OF ATHLETE

An athlete removed from the Region’s Final Ranking and/or Nominated Entry pursuant to this provision has the right to a hearing per the USEF’s Bylaw 703 and USEF General Rules, Chapter 6, GR605 or USOPC Bylaws, Section 9.

An athlete may be removed at any time for violation of FEI and/or WADA anti-doping protocol, policies, and procedures. In such instances, the adjudication process will be managed through the FEI.

a) Athletes must adhere to all USOPC, IOC, USEF, FEI, USADA and WADA anti-doping protocols, policies, and procedures, and may be drug tested.

b) Equine Anti-Doping: All Horses are subject to drug testing both in competition and out of competition.

c) All Horses entered to compete in any FEI or USEF Event are subject to drug testing at any time from when the Event begins until the Event ends or beginning when the Horse arrives for the Event until the Event ends, whichever beginning occurs first. Blood and/or urine samples may be collected and tested for substances prohibited or forbidden under the subject Event rules. National Events may invoke GR409 whereby samples will be tested for FEI prohibited substances, including metabolites and markers 1.

d) Positive Finding: At any time during the observation and selection period that the presence of a prohibited or forbidden substance, or a metabolite or marker, is detected in the sample collected in-Event, the results, including the level detected for controlled medications, will be reported to the USEF Chief Executive Officer and General Counsel. They will notify the Director of Sport Programs or the Discipline Director for dissemination of information as appropriate. In such instances, the positive finding may result in the elimination of the Horse and/or Athlete from the Selection Process.

e) Before elimination occurs, the Owner and Athlete will be afforded a hearing by a panel (“Selection Hearing Panel”) comprised of at least one disinterested member of the applicable discipline Sport Committee along with at least two disinterested members of the Hearing Committee, one of which must be an Athlete Representative.

f) The Chairman of the USEF Veterinary Committee, or his designee, may serve Ex Officio and a member of the Veterinary Panel selected for the Championship may serve Ex Officio.

g) Blood and/or urine samples may be collected out-of-competition at any time throughout the selection period, which is defined as commencing on the start date of the

USEF Qualifying Period following notification to the Athlete at least 24 hours prior to collection of samples. Samples collected from Horses out-of-competition will be tested for the presence of substances prohibited by the FEI, including metabolites and markers. Failure to make the Horse available for collection of samples may result in the elimination of the Horse and/or Athlete from the Selection Process. Before elimination occurs, the Owner and Athlete will be afforded a hearing by the Selection Hearing Panel.

h) Positive Finding: At any time during the selection period that the presence of a prohibited or forbidden substance, or a metabolite marker, in the sample, the results, including the level detected for controlled medications, will be reported to the USEF Chief Executive Officer and General Counsel, who will notify the Director of Sport Programs or the Discipline Director for dissemination of information as appropriate.

i) In such instances, the positive finding may result in the elimination of the Horse and/or Athlete from the Selection Process unless the Veterinary Panel appointed for the Selection of the Event certifies that the substance detected has been approved or is legitimate and appropriate under the circumstances. Before elimination occurs, the Owner and Athlete will be afforded a hearing by the Selection Hearing Panel.

j) These provisions do not abrogate the enforcement of applicable Equine anti-doping rules at Federation licensed Events, including Events where GR409 is invoked whereby samples will be tested for FEI prohibited substances, including metabolites and markers.

k) USEF GR409.2 Equine Drugs and Medications, Prohibited Substance Provisions: No Horse and/or pony competing in a Breed or Discipline designated as (or part of) a No Prohibited Substance Group is to be shown in any class at an Event licensed by the Federation if it has been administered in any manner or otherwise contained in its tissues, body fluids or excreta a prohibited substance as defined in the FEI Horse Anti-Doping and Controlled Medication Regulations, which can be found at www.fei.org.

VI. SUBSTITUTION OF ATHLETES

Following is the process by which the substitute pool of athlete/horse combinations will be identified:

Each Region's Final Ranking and/or ranked list of athlete/horse combinations on the Nominated Entry will comprise the pool of substitute athletes for that Region.

Substitute athlete/horse combinations will be selected, should a vacancy occur, according to the following method in accordance with the FEI Definite Schedule for the Event.

a) Prior to Definite Entries, the BEF has the discretion to substitute athlete/horse combinations for the reasons set forth above.

b) Openings, if they occur, whether by voluntary withdrawal or removal, will be filled according to the Region's Final Ranking and/or ranked list of athlete/horse combinations on the Nominated Entry.

c) Any substitution for reasons set forth above, except by voluntary withdrawal, must have the recommendation of approval of the BEF Executive Board or its designees.

After the Definite Entries and until two (2) hours before the Horse Inspection, the BEF has the discretion to substitute athlete/horse combinations on the Definite Entries for reasons set forth above, except by voluntary withdrawal, upon recommendation of approval by the BEF Board of Directors or its designees. During this time period, Team members may only be replaced with a substitute athlete/horse combination in order of their ranking. Substitutions may only be made in accordance with Article 449.1.2 of the current FEI Rules for Dressage Events.

Group or committee that will be responsible for making athlete/horse combination substitution determinations:

- The BEF Board of Directors or its designees or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the Board of Directors.

VII. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

The BEF will retain all approved Selection Procedures and all supporting documents, including evaluation forms and data from the selection process for six (6) months past the final day of the Event.

VIII. REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

The following are required to be properly executed by applicants (found on the BEF website):

- Application
- Certificate of Domicile
- Code of Conduct

IX. SAFE SPORT

- Every NAYC participant over the age of 18 including, athletes, Team Staff, Team Chef d'Equipe and Team Coach, shall successfully complete a criminal background check and Safe Sport training as required by the Safe Sport Policy prior to the start of the Event. All participants are responsible for reading and understanding the USEF Safe Sport Policy.

X. PUBLICITY/DISTRIBUTION OF PROCEDURES

The BEF approved Selection Procedures (complete and unaltered) will be posted/published by BEF on their website.

XI. INTERNATIONAL DISCLAIMER

These procedures are based on the FEI rules and regulations as presently known and understood. Any change in the selection procedures caused by a change in FEI rules and regulations will be distributed to the affected athletes immediately. The selection criteria are based on the latest information available to the BEF. However, the selections are always

subject to unforeseen, intervening circumstances, and realistically may not have accounted for every possible contingency.

XII. NON-DISCRIMINATION CLAUSE

The BEF/USEF does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion (creed), sex, gender identify, gender expression, age, national origin (ancestry), disability, marital status, sexual orientation, or military status, in any of its activities or operations. Everyone involved in the development of selection procedures and selection process must abide by the Non-Discrimination Policy.

XIII. NGB/PSO SIGNATURES

I certify that I have read, understand, and incorporated our International Federation standards/criteria into our Selection Procedures and that the information provided herein regarding Athlete Selection Procedures represents the method approved by BEF and USEF.

Any questions regarding these Selection Procedures should be addressed to: Angela Halloran-Smith, National Coach for Dressage, Bermuda at bdgnatcoachangela@gmail.com