

UNITED STATES EQUESTRIAN FEDERATION, INC.
ATHLETE SELECTION PROCEDURES
2022 FEI Eventing World Championship
EVENTING
Pratoni, Italy

NOTE – Until a Chef d’Equipe is appointed, the President of the USEF may appoint a person or persons to fulfill the role within these Selection Procedures of the Chef d’Equipe.

I. SELECTION SYSTEM

A. Minimum eligibility requirements for an athlete to be considered for nomination to the Team

1. Nationality/Passport Requirements: The athlete must be a national of the United States and in compliance with FEI General Regulations, 24th Edition, Article 119 (see www.fei.org) at the time of application, selection, and until the conclusion of the 2022 FEI Eventing World Championship (“the Event”).

2. Minimum International Federation (IF) Requirements:

1. All Athletes and horses wishing to compete on the 2022 FEI Eventing World Championship United States Team (“Team”) must earn a FEI Certificate of Capability as specified by the FEI by having achieved one qualifying result at a CCI5*-L, or one CCI4*-L and one CCI4*-S, to be eligible to compete in the Event. The FEI qualifying result for the FEI Eventing World Championship and the relevant details relating to approved selected events is outlined in Attachment F or found [at this link](#).
2. The Athlete must have been born before December 31, 2004 (see the FEI Regulations for Eventing, 25th Edition, Article 503.2).
3. Horses must be born on or before December 31, 2014 (eight years of age) (see the FEI Regulations for Eventing, 25th Edition, Article 503.4).
4. The Athlete and horse must be registered with the FEI.
5. The Athlete and horse must comply with FEI Rules for the Event.

3. Other Requirements

1. The Athlete must be an Active Competing member of the United States Equestrian Federation (“USEF”) in good standing from time of application, selection, and until the conclusion of the Event.
2. The horse must be recorded with USEF pursuant to USEF GR1102 and in good standing from time of application, selection, and until the conclusion of the Event.
3. Application: Athletes wishing to be considered for the Team must complete and submit an online Application (Attachment A) with the appropriate application fee at www.usef.org. Application and fees submitted online on or before April 15, 2022 will be charged \$70 per application. No application will be accepted after April 15, 2022.
4. USEF Horse Participation Agreement: Owners of horses named to the FEI Nominated Entry, as described in Section I.B below, must sign the USEF Horse Participation Agreement (Attachment B). A horse owner’s failure to sign the USEF Horse Participation Agreement may result in the removal of the horse/athlete combination from the FEI Nominated Entry.
5. The Athlete must certify, by signing the Online Application (Attachment A), that they have received and read the Selection Procedures for the Team; the USEF Code of Conduct (Attachment C); the USEF Release, Assumption of Risk, Waiver and Indemnification (Attachment D); and the USEF Safe Sport Policy (Attachment E), and that they understand those documents and agree to be bound by them.
6. Horse owner(s) eligible to be accredited for the Event must be an Active USEF member in good standing at the time of the Event until the conclusion of the Event.
7. Any Athlete age 18 or older will be required to undergo a background screen in accordance with the current USEF Background Check Policy.

B. Selection Trials

1. Below are the event names, dates, and locations of all Selection Trials, and/or Preparation Events to be used as part of the selection process. Athlete/horse combination wishing to be considered for the FEI Nominated Entry must complete or must have already completed at least one of the following Selection Trials. The 2021 and 2022 Selection Trials, as published to all potential 2022 World Equestrian Games applicants on March 24, 2021 (Attachment F), include the following:

2021

Land Rover Kentucky Three-Day Event (USA)	CCI5*-L	April 21-25
Jersey Fresh International Three-Day Event (USA)	CCI4*-L	May 5-9
Longines Luhmühlen Horse Trials (GER)	CCI5*-L	June 17-20
The Event at Rebecca Farm (USA)	CCI4*-L	July 21-25
Tokyo Olympic Games	Olympic Games-C	July 29 – August 2
SsangYong Blenheim Palace International Horse Trials	CCI4*-L	September 16-19
Morven Park Fall International (USA)	CCI4*-L	October 7-10
Military Boekelo-Enschede (NED)	CCIO4*-L	October 7-10
Maryland 5 Star at Fair Hill (USA)	CCI5*-L	October 13-17
Les 5 Etoiles de Pau (FRA)	CCI5*-L	October 27-31
Galway Downs International Three-Day Event (USA)	CCI4*-L	November 3-7
Tryon International Three-Day Event (USA)	CCI4*-L	November 11-14

2022

Twin Rivers International Horse Trials (USA)	CCI4*-L	April 14-17
Land Rover Kentucky Three-Day Event (USA)	CCI5*-L	April 24-29
Badminton Horse Trials (GBR)	CCI5*-L	May 4-8
Tryon International May 3 Day Event (USA)	CCI4*-L	May 11-15
MARS Bromont CCI Three Day Event (CAN)	CCI4*-L	June 8-12
Longines Luhmühlen Horse Trials (GER)	CCI5*-L	June 16-19

Additional competitions may be identified as Selection Trials should it become necessary and where practical. Notification will be given at least 30 days prior to the start of the Selection Trial.

All of the athlete/horse combinations on the Team and those on the Reserve List (see I.C.1) will be required to demonstrate their continued preparation, soundness, and ability by competing at Preparation Event(s) except as explained below. By no later than June 1, 2022, all details regarding the Preparation Event(s) will be posted on the USEF website, www.usef.org. At present, it is anticipated that the Preparation Event(s) will be a CCI4*-S, an Advanced Horse Trial(s), or Advanced Combined Test(s) to be held sometime after August 1, 2022

In exceptional circumstances, the Selectors may grant a waiver for all or part of the requirements if it is in the perceived best interests of the results of the Team.

2. Provided below are the event names, dates, locations ,and description of how Athletes qualify for any “preliminary or qualifying” events or procedures that are prerequisites to attend any of the events listed above: Athletes must qualify for the Selection Trials per the FEI Rules for Eventing 25th Edition. The FEI rules may be found at www.fei.org.

C. Provided below is a comprehensive step-by-step description of the method that explains how Athletes will go through the selection process to become Team nominees (including maximum Team size).

1. By no later than the date of the Nominated Entry (TBD), the Selectors, in consultation with the Chef d’Equipe, the Team Veterinarian (and members of the Veterinary Advisory Group if requested), and USEF Physician, if requested, will recommend five (5) athlete/horse

combinations to be named to the Team, and up to the maximum number of reserves able to be nominated on the Nominated Entry, for recommendation to the USEF Eventing Sport Committee or its designees and approval by the USEF Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the USEF Board of Directors. The Selectors may name “direct reserve horse(s)” for an Athlete(s) named to the Team. A direct reserve horse would be an automatic replacement should the original horse on which an athlete was named have to be substituted. The Team named to the Final Entry will be the group named here unless a combination is removed for one of the reasons in Section III “Reasons for Removal.” These combinations will make up the FEI Nominated Entry, which will be forwarded to the FEI by no later than Date TBD (23:59 CET).

From the Team of five (5) athletes, four (4) will compete for the Team and Individual medals and one (1) will compete only for Individual Medals. The Selection of the four (4) to compete for Team and Individual medals will be confirmed after the First Horse Inspection at the Championships by the Chef d’Equipe who will have consulted with the Selectors. See also I.C.6.

Reserve List: In addition to recommending the FEI Nominated Entry, the Selectors, in consultation with the Chef d’Equipe and the Team Veterinarian (and members of the Veterinary Advisory Group if requested), may recommend Athletes to serve as substitute (see Definitions on page 14) athlete/horse combinations for the FEI Nominated Entry, upon the recommendation of the USEF Eventing Sport Committee or its designees and subject to the approval of the USEF Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the USEF Board of Directors.

The Selectors, in evaluating athlete/horse combinations to be named to the Team and the Reserve List will base their evaluations on the following factors:

- i. The overall performance and soundness of the athlete/horse combination in those 2021/2022 competitions designated as Selection Trials with emphasis on dressage scores; current fitness; cross country and show jumping performance: jumping without faults and/or incurring time penalties; boldness; rideability; and speed; and
- ii. Additional international experience of the athlete/horse combination; preference may be given to athlete/horse combinations who have demonstrated ability to succeed in multiple international eventing competitions; and
- iii. Consistency in form and results of the athlete/horse combination, results at Selection Trials will be of primary importance but the Selectors may also take in to consideration results achieved at 4* and 5* levels in 2022; and
- iv. Athlete’s fitness; and
- v. The horses’ fitness, taking in to account the terrain where the Event will be held; and
- vi. The athlete/horse combination’s will to win and the suitability of the combination to win an individual medal or contribute to a team medal at the Event; and
- vii. Willingness of the athlete to work within the confines of the Event accreditation allocation and restrictions; and
- viii. Behavior of athlete and people associated with the athlete (including, without limitation, owners, family members, coaches, grooms and supporters) that may have an impact on creating a positive team environment. Athlete will be informed of any concerns regarding behavior prior to the Selectors making their selection decision.

Chef d’Equipe Permissions: Once athlete/horse combinations have been named to the Nominated Entry List, they will come under the control of the Chef d’Equipe through the conclusion of the Event. The Athlete must discuss their training, competition, and coaching schedule with the Chef d’Equipe. The Chef d’Equipe will approve the schedule, and deviations must be communicated to and approved by the Chef d’Equipe. They shall not compete without the permission of the Chef d’Equipe.

2. TBD: Definite Entries: By no later than the closing date for the Definite Entries for the Event, the five (5) athlete/horse combinations named to the Team can only be replaced as outlined in Section III.A.

The Selectors, in evaluating athlete/horse combinations to be named to the Team and the Reserve List will base their evaluations on the following factors:

- i. The overall performance and soundness of the athlete/horse combination in those 2021/2022 competitions designated as Selection Trials with emphasis on dressage scores; current fitness; cross country and show jumping performance; jumping without faults and/or incurring time penalties; boldness; rideability; and speed; and
- ii. Additional international experience of the athlete/horse combination; preference may be given to athlete/horse combinations who have demonstrated ability to succeed in multiple international eventing competitions; and
- iii. Consistency in form and results of the athlete/horse combination, results at Selection Trials will be of primary importance but the Selectors may also take in to consideration results achieved at 4* and 5* levels in 2022; and
- iv. Athlete's fitness; and
- v. The horses' fitness, taking in to account the terrain where the Event will be held; and
- vi. The athlete/horse combination's will to win and the suitability of the combination to win an individual medal or contribute to a team medal at the Event; and
- vii. Willingness of the athlete to work within the confines of the Event accreditation allocation and restrictions; and
- viii. Behavior of athlete and people associated with the athlete (including, without limitation, owners, family members, coaches, grooms and supporters) that may have an impact on creating a positive team environment. Athlete will be informed of any concerns regarding behavior prior to the Selectors making their selection decision.

3. Mandatory Training: All Team and Reserve athlete/horse combinations may be required to participate in Mandatory Training except as explained below. By no later than May 1, 2022, relevant details of the Mandatory Training session(s) will be circulated to the Team and Reserve List. At present it is envisioned that a Mandatory Training session(s) will be held sometime after July 1, 2022 in the United States.

In exceptional circumstances, the Selectors may grant a waiver for all or part of the requirements if it is in the perceived best interests of the results of the Team.

4. Preparation Event(s): All of the athlete/horse combinations on the Team (see I.C.1) will be required to demonstrate their continued preparation (including fitness), soundness, and ability by competing at a Preparation Event(s), except as explained below. By no later than May 1, 2022, all details regarding the Preparation Event(s) will be posted on the USEF website, www.usef.org. At present, it is anticipated that the Preparation Event(s) will be a CCI4*-S, an Advanced Horse Trial(s), or Advanced Combined Test (s) to be held sometime after July 1, 2022.

In exceptional circumstances, the Selectors may grant a waiver for all or part of the requirements if it is in the perceived best interests of the results of the Team.

5. Replacements/Substitutions: Last Date of Substitution will be two (2) days before the First Horse Inspection unless an earlier date is specified in the Approved FEI Schedule or is required due to logistical restrictions. The date will be published to all athletes selected to the FEI Nominated Entry List as soon as practicable. To clarify, horses will only be allowed to travel to the Event location on horse transportation approved by the Managing Director of Eventing or Director of Sport.

6. TBD: Declaration of Starters- The Declaration of Starters will be in accordance with the FEI Regulations.

7. After the Declaration of Starters and up to two (2) hours before the scheduled starting time of the first Dressage Test: After the Declaration of Starters and up to two (2) hours before the starting time of the Dressage Phase, USEF has the ability to replace athletes and/or horses on the Team for reasons set forth in Section III.B. During this time period, athletes named to compete for the Team medals may only be replaced with the athlete named to compete for the Individual medals. However, the reason for a substitution must only be because either, the athlete is unfit to compete **due to injury or illness**, or there is a strong veterinary case for substitution, or the performance of the Team member has dropped off to such an extent that for the success of the Team a substitution is vital. The latter situation will almost certainly occur as a result of a veterinary problem which it may or may not be possible to define given the time/resources available at the time. Replacements may only be made by recommendation of the Chef d'Equipe, with approval of the Eventing Team Leader and USEF Chef de Mission for reasons set forth in Section III.A. Any replacement for veterinary reasons must be upon the recommendation of the Chef d'Equipe and must also have the approval of the Team Veterinarian. Any replacement for medical reasons must be documented by a physician(s) physically present at the Event venue.

D. Provided below are the names of all committees/groups who oversee the selection process, including the name(s) and role(s) of their members: The USEF Eventing Selectors, USEF Eventing Sport Committee or its designees, and the USEF Eventing Chef d'Equipe will oversee the selection process, which must be reviewed and approved by the USEF Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the USEF Board of Directors. (See Attachment J for list of USEF committees, their roles, and list of members.)

E. Other Considerations:

1. Equine Drug Testing: All applicant horses are subject to drug testing both in-competition and out-of-competition.

In-Competition: All horses entered to compete in any FEI or USEF competition are subject to drug testing at any time from when the competition begins until the competition ends or beginning when the horse arrives for the competition until the competition ends, whichever beginning occurs first. Blood and/or urine samples may be collected and tested for substances prohibited or forbidden under the subject competition rules. National competitions may invoke GR 409 whereby samples will be tested for FEI prohibited substances, including metabolites and markers.

Positive Finding: At any time during the selection period that the presence of a prohibited or forbidden substance, or a metabolite or marker, is detected in the sample collected in-competition, 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 Discipline Director for dissemination of information as appropriate. In such instance, the positive finding 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 a panel ("Selection Hearing Panel") comprised of at least one member of the USEF Eventing Sport Committee along with at least two members of the Hearing Committee, one of which must be an Eligible Athlete. The Chairman of the USEF Veterinarian Committee, or his designee, may serve Ex Officio and a member of the Veterinarian Panel selected for the Event may serve Ex Officio.

Out-of-Competition: Blood and/or urine samples may be collected out-of-competition at any time throughout the selection period, which is defined as commencing on June 1, 2022, following notification to the applicant at least 24 hours prior to collection. 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.

Positive Finding. At any time during the selection period that the presence of a prohibited or forbidden substance, or a metabolite or marker, is detected 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 Discipline Director for dissemination of information as appropriate. In such instance, the positive finding may result in the elimination of the horse and/or athlete from the Selection Process unless the Veterinarian Panel appointed for 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.

This provision does not abrogate the enforcement of applicable equine anti-doping rules at Federation licensed competitions, including competitions where GR409 is invoked whereby samples will be tested for FEI prohibited substances, including metabolites and markers.

Also see the section on Veterinary Treatment, a violation of which may result in elimination under this provision. Before elimination occurs in either instance, the owner and Athlete will be afforded a hearing by the Selection Hearing Panel.

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 a competition licensed by the Federation if it has been administered in any manner or otherwise contained in its tissues, body fluids or excreta as a prohibited substance as defined in the FEI Equine Anti-Doping and Controlled Medication Regulations, which can be found at www.fei.org.

- 2. Soundness:** Horses that are candidates for selection for the Event may be examined at any time during the selection process, which is defined as commencing on June 1, 2022, for soundness by the Team Veterinarian (and members of the Veterinary Advisory Group if requested).

Following the Preparation Event(s), all horses considered for selection will be examined for soundness by the Team Veterinarian (or a member of the Veterinary Advisory Group). Athletes may have their own veterinarian present at their own expense. Horses found unsound by the Team Veterinarian (or a member of the Veterinary Advisory Group) may result in the elimination of the horse/athlete combination from the selection process. Such elimination is determined by the unanimous recommendation of the Selectors, as well as the Chef d'Equipe and the USEF Eventing Sport Committee or its designees, subject to the approval of the USEF Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the Board of Directors.

In addition, all horses selected to the Team will be examined for soundness by the Team Veterinarian (and members of the Veterinary Advisory Group if requested) prior to traveling to the Event. Horses found unsound by the Team Veterinarian (or a member of the Veterinary Advisory Group) may result in the elimination of the horse/athlete combination. Such elimination is determined by the unanimous recommendation of the Selectors, as well as the Chef d'Equipe and the USEF Eventing Sport Committee or its designees, subject to approval by the USEF Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the Board of Directors.

- 3. Team Veterinarian Request:** Applicants, at their own expense, must make available, upon the request of the Team Veterinarian, 24 months of complete veterinary records of horses considered for selection. In addition, applicants, at their own expense, are responsible for

supplying any follow-up diagnostic information requested by the Team Veterinarian for horses considered for selection. Applicants, at their own expense, will also be responsible for completing any treatment prescribed by the Team Veterinarian for horses considered for selection. Failure to comply with any request of any member of the Team Veterinarian may result in the removal of the horse/athlete combination from the selection process by the Selectors upon the recommendation of the Team Veterinarian (and members of the Veterinary Advisory Group if requested) and with the approval of the USEF Eventing Sport Committee or its designees and with the approval of the USEF Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the Board of Directors.

- 4. Veterinary Treatment:** Once the Team is announced and prior to the departure of horses to the Event venue for purposes of competing in the Event, athletes on the Team or those named as reserves to the Team will be required to obtain written permission from the Team Veterinarian, prior to Team horses or those named as reserves to the Team obtaining treatment by any person other than a member of the Team Veterinarian (or a member of the Veterinary Advisory Group). This permission must be obtained in writing.

Failure to adhere to this policy may result in the removal of the horse/athlete combination from the selection process by the Selectors upon the recommendation of the Team Veterinarian (and members of the Veterinary Advisory Group if requested) and with the approval of the USEF Eventing Sport Committee or its designees and the approval of the USEF Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the Board of Directors.

- 5. Medical Request:** In the event of illness or injury, applicants may be required to submit to a medical examination by physicians(s) approved by the USEF International Disciplines Council at any time during the selection process for the purposes of determining the applicant's ability to compete at the Event that is the subject of the selection. Failure to submit to such examination may result in the removal of the applicant from the selection process by the Selectors upon the recommendation of the USEF approved physician(s) and the USEF Eventing Sport Committee or its designees and the approval of the USEF Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the Board of Directors. Following the examination, should the USEF physician(s) find the applicant to be unfit to compete, the applicant will be removed from the selection process upon the recommendation of the USEF Eventing Sport Committee, and with the approval of the USEF Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the Board of Directors.

II. **DISCRETIONARY SELECTION (IF APPLICABLE)**

- A. Rational for utilizing discretionary selection (if any):** The option of discretionary selection is used to field the best Team possible for the Event.

- B. Discretionary criteria and explain how it will be used:** See Section I.C.1

C. Discretionary Selection Committee

1. Names of the committee(s) that will be responsible for discretionary selection.

1. USEF Eventing Selectors
2. USEF Eventing Sport Committee or its designees
3. USEF Eventing Chef d'Equipe
4. USEF Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group
5. USEF Eventing Team Veterinarian and members of the Veterinarian Advisory Group

- 2. Complete list of the members of the committee(s), their titles and their NGB role that qualifies them to serve in this capacity:** See Attachment J for the list of USEF committees, their roles and list of members. See Attachment G for list of the USEF Team Veterinarian and the Veterinary Advisory Group.

Selectors: Five (5) individuals (the “Selectors”) will be appointed by the USEF International Disciplines Council upon the recommendation of the USEF Eventing Sport Committee or its designees. Selectors are subject to the USEF Code of Conduct and Code of Ethics and Conflict of Interest policies (Attachment H) and the USEF Safe Sport Policy (Attachment E). These Selectors are members of the Eventing community who are knowledgeable and experienced in Eventing at the international level, and are senior members in good standing with USEF, including one Eventing Eligible Athlete Representative as defined by the USEF (see Definitions on page 13) but who is not an applicant for the Team (the "Eligible Athlete Representative Selector"). In making their decision, the Selectors will consult with the USEF Chef d'Equipe, the Team Veterinarian, and the USEF Eventing Sport Committee or its designees and approved by the USEF International Disciplines Council.

A minimum of one Substitute Selector will also be named. A Substitute Selector will take the place of a Selector who has a conflict of interest or a substantial appearance of a conflict of interest. There will be a minimum of 33.3% Athlete representation on the panel of Selectors as defined in the USEF Bylaws.

Ad Hoc Selection Group: The Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the Board of Directors. There will be a minimum of 33.333% Eligible Athlete Representation on the panel of Selectors

3. Specify the process that will be used to identify and handle any potential conflicts of interest involving a member of the committee.

Any Selector that has a possible conflict of interest must disclose it. If such conflict exists, the Selector must recuse him/herself from discussions and voting. Further, the Selector should not otherwise influence other Selectors in the nomination process. However, a Selector who recused him/herself, but who has relevant and necessary information with respect to athlete performance, may, if requested by the Selectors, provide such information to the committee so long as such information is provided in a fair and unbiased manner and the Selector who declared the conflict of interest does not vote toward the final decision.

III. REMOVAL OF ATHLETES

A. Prior to the acceptance of the nomination by the FEI, USEF has jurisdiction over potential nominees:

An athlete may be removed from the Short List/FEI Nominated Entries for any of the following reasons, as determined by the USEF and in accordance with the procedures:

- Voluntary withdrawal: Athlete must submit a written letter to the USEF CEO.
- Injury or illness as certified by a USEF approved physician (or medical staff). If an athlete refuses verification of their illness or injury by a USEF approved physician (or medical staff), their injury will be assumed to be disabling and they may be removed.
- Violation of the USEF Code of Conduct (Attachment C).
- Failure of an owner to sign the Horse Participation Agreement (Attachment B).
- Injury or illness of the horse as determined by the Team Veterinarian (and members of the Veterinary Advisory Group if requested). If an athlete and/or horse owner(s) refuses to have the horse examined by the Team Veterinarian (and members of the Veterinary Advisory Group if requested), the injury or illness will be assumed to be disabling and the horse may be removed.
- Exceptional circumstances having a direct bearing upon obtaining the best qualified Team for the Event, in consultation with the Chef d'Equipe and Selectors.
- Behavior of the Athlete and people associated with the athlete (including, without limitation, accredited owners, coaches, grooms, family members and supporters) that may have an impact on creating a positive team environment that will affect (either positively or negatively) the ability to win a team medal.
- Detection of a prohibited substance in the horse.
- Failure to comply with the USEF Safe Sport Policy (Attachment E) or U.S. Center for SafeSport's Code.

- Failure to adhere to all WADA, FEI, USEF and/or USADA anti-doping protocols, policies and procedures including participation in the out-of-competition testing as required by WADA, FEI, USEF and USADA Rules.
- Failure to comply with any request of the Team Veterinarian (or a member of the Veterinary Advisory Group).
- Failure to obtain written permission from the Team Veterinarian (or a member of the Veterinary Advisory Group) prior to the horse receiving veterinary treatment by any veterinarian who is not the Team Veterinarian or a member of the Veterinary Advisory Group.
- Failure to submit a written request not to attend the mandatory Training Session(s) prior to the start of the mandatory Training Session(s), if possible, but no later than the conclusion of the Training Session, to the Selectors.
- Failure to submit a written request not to attend the Preparation Event(s) prior to the start of the Preparation Event, if possible, but no later than the conclusion of the Preparation Event, to the Selectors.
- Failure to train or prepare the horse for the Event as directed by the Chef d'Equipe.
- Loss of form or failure to show readiness in or out of competition, as determined by the majority decision of the Selectors and with the approval of the Chef d'Equipe. Loss of form is defined as: deterioration in performance, demonstrated inability to produce results at the level at which the combination was performing at the time at which they were selected. Failure to show readiness is defined as: the athlete's performance is not at the level necessary to remain on the Team.

In these procedures, the removal of an Athlete is closely related to the process by which they will be substituted. Therefore, the reasons for which an Athlete may be removed are thoroughly addressed in Section IV.

An athlete removed from the FEI Nominated Entry or Team pursuant to this provision has the right to a hearing under the USEF Bylaws.

B. After acceptance of nomination by the FEI:

The USEF has jurisdiction over the Team once the Nominated Entry is submitted to the FEI. An athlete may be removed from the Team at any time for the following reasons:

- Voluntary withdrawal: An Athlete must submit a written letter to the USEF CEO.
- Violation of WADA, FEI, USEF and USADA anti-doping protocol, policies and procedures.
- Injury or illness as certified by a USEF approved physician (or medical staff).
- Injury or illness of the horse as determined by the Team Veterinarian (and members of the Veterinary Advisory Group if requested).
- Violation of the USEF Code of Conduct (Attachment C).
- Failure to comply with the USEF Safe Sport Policy (Attachment E) or U.S. Center for SafeSport's Code.

C. An athlete may be removed from the FEI Nominated Entries, FEI Definite Entries, Team at any time for violation of WADA, FEI, USEF and/or USADA anti-doping, protocol, policies and procedures. See III A and B above.

IV. SUBSTITUTION OF HORSE/ATHLETE COMBINATIONS

A. Following is the process by which the substitute/replacement pool of Athletes will be identified:

The list of Athletes on the FEI Nominated Entry will comprise the pool of substitute athlete/horse combinations.

B. Substitution/replacement Athletes and horses will be selected, should a vacancy occur according to the following method:

1. **Prior to acceptance of the Nominated Entries:** Once the Team for the Event has been announced and prior to the acceptance of the Nominated Entries (by no later than Date TBD), Team members and substitutes may be substituted with substitute horse/athlete combinations for any of the reasons outlined in III.A (reasons for removal). If an athlete on the team has been named with a “direct reserve horse” and the horse on which they were initially named to the team had to be substituted, the horse will be replaced by the direct reserve horse. Any substitutions for veterinary reasons must also have the approval of the Team Veterinarian (and members of the Veterinary Advisory Group if requested). Any substitutions for medical reasons must also be documented by a physician(s) approved by the USEF International Disciplines Council. The USEF Eventing Selectors provide a recommendation on substitution to USEF Eventing Sport Committee or its designees, and the USEF Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the Board of Directors. Any substitution other than voluntary withdrawal must be upon the recommendation of the Selectors, and at the recommendation of the USEF Eventing Sport Committee, and subject to the approval of the Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the Board of Directors.

2. **After the acceptance of the Definite Entries and until the Last Date for Substitutions (see Section I.C(5)):** After acceptance of the Definite Entries and until the Last Date for Replacements, the athletes and/or horses named to the Definite Entries may be removed for reasons set forth in Section III. B. During this time period, athlete/horse combinations on the Squad may be replaced with a reserve athlete/horse combination or a horse on the FEI Nominated Entries. Replacements may only be made by recommendation of the Chef d’Equipe, with majority approval of the Selectors, and in accordance with the FEI Eventing Rules 25th Edition and/or for reasons set forth in Section III.B and subject to approval by the US Equestrian Chef de Mission. To fill openings, if they occur, the Chef d’Equipe, in consultation with the Selectors and Team Veterinarian, will evaluate the Athletes and horses named to the Team, the reserve list, and the FEI Nominated Entries and may recommend that a replacement be made. The Chef d’Equipe and Selectors when evaluating athletes and horses will base their evaluations on the factors outlined in Section I.C.1.b. Any substitution for veterinary reasons must be upon the recommendation of the Chef d’Equipe and must also have the approval of the Veterinary Panel approved by the USEF International Disciplines Council. Any substitution for medical reasons must be documented by a physician(s) who is approved by the USEF International Disciplines Council.

3. **Last Date of Substitution** will be two (2) days before the Horse Inspection unless an earlier date is specified in the Approved FEI Schedule or is required due to logistical restrictions. The date will be published to all athletes selected to the FEI Nominated Entry as soon as it can be decided upon. To clarify, horses will only be allowed to travel to the event location on horse transportation approved by the Managing Director of Eventing.

4. **Declaration of Starters:** will be in accordance with Article 529 of the FEI Rules for Eventing 25th Edition. At this point, the Chef d’Equipe will declare the starting order within the team.

5. **After the Declaration of Starters** and up to two (2) hours before the scheduled starting time of the first Dressage Test: After the Declaration of Starters and up to two (2) hours before the starting time of the Dressage Phase, USEF has the ability to replace athletes and/or horses on the Team for reasons set forth in Section III.B. During this time period, athletes named to compete for the Team medals may only be replaced with the athlete named to compete for the Individual medals. However, the reason for a substitution must only be because either, the athlete is unfit to compete **due to injury or illness**, or there is a strong veterinary case for substitution, or the performance of the Team member has dropped off to such an extent that for the success of the Team a substitution is vital. The latter situation will almost certainly occur as a result of a veterinary problem which it may or may not be possible to define given the time/resources available at the time. Replacements may only be made by recommendation of the Chef d’Equipe, with approval of the Eventing Team Leader and USEF Chef de Mission for reasons set

forth in Section III.A. Any replacement for veterinary reasons must be upon the recommendation of the Chef d'Equipe and must also have the approval of the Team Veterinarian. Any replacement for medical reasons must be documented by a physician(s) physically present at the Event venue.

C. Group or committee that will be responsible for making Athlete substitution determinations:

1. Group or committee who determines the substitution/replacement pool:

1. USEF Eventing Selectors, USEF Team Veterinarian and the Veterinary Advisory Group as requested, USEF Eventing Sport Committee or its designees, USEF Board or Directors or Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the Board of Directors.

2. Group or committee who determines a substitution/replacement to the Team:

1. Prior to acceptance of the Definite Entries: USEF Eventing Selectors, USEF Team Veterinarian and the Veterinary Advisory Group as requested, USEF Eventing Sport Committee or its designees, and the USEF Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the Board of Directors.
2. After the acceptance of the Definite Entries and until the Declaration of Starters: By the USEF upon recommendation of the US Equestrian Chef de Mission, Chef d'Equipe, USEF Eventing Selectors and USEF Team Veterinarian and the Veterinary Advisory Group as requested.
3. After the Declaration of Starters and until two (2) hours before the start of the Dressage Phase: By the USEF upon recommendation of US Equestrian Chef de Mission, Eventing Team Leader, Chef d'Equipe and USEF Team Veterinarian and the Veterinary Advisory Group as requested.

V. **SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:** USEF will retain all supporting documents, including evaluation forms and data from the selection process, for six months past the date of the Closing Ceremonies of the Event.

VI. **REQUIRED DOCUMENTS:** The following documents are required to be properly executed by applicants and horse owners as a condition of nomination for the Event and are included as attachments:

- Application (Attachment A)
- Horse Participation Agreement (Attachment B)
- USEF Code of Conduct (Attachment C)
- USEF Release, Assumption of Risk, Waiver and Indemnification (Attachment D)

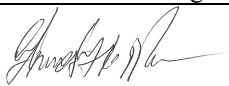
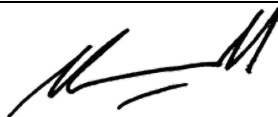
Applicants and horse owners will be required to certify that they have received and read a copy of the USEF Code of Conduct and USEF Safe Sport Policy and that they understand them and agree to be bound by them.

In addition, all persons participating in any decision made pursuant to the Selection Procedures, including but not limited to the Selectors, the Team Veterinarian, and members of the Veterinary Advisory Group, Physicians, members of the USEF Eventing Sport Committee or its designees, the International Disciplines Council, and the Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the Board of Directors, will be required to abide by the USEF Code of Ethics and Conflict of Interest policies (Attachment H).

Reference is made to the attached USEF Code of Ethics and Conflict of Interest Policies for a full and accurate statement of the requirements of those policies. In particular, however, no individual may participate in a particular phase of the selection process if, after full disclosure, the individual is found by the applicable committee to have a disqualifying conflict of interest in the particular phase of the selection process in question per the attached USEF Code of Ethics and Conflict of Interest policies.

VII. **ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS:** Applicants will be required to read the USEF Athlete Agreement (Attachment I) and are requested to sign this document.

- VIII. PUBLICITY/DISTRIBUTION OF PROCEDURES:** The USEF Board of Directors approved Selection Procedures (complete and unaltered) will be posted/published by USEF in the following locations and will include the USEF approval date when known:
- USEF website: www.usef.org: These procedures will be posted as soon as possible, but not more than five (5) business days following notice of approval by the USEF Board of Directors.
 - Other: The Selection Procedures and Application Packet will also be available by mail or email upon request.
- IX. DATE OF NOMINATION:** The Nomination of Athletes form, including replacements, will be submitted to the FEI no later than the date of Nominated Entries as published by the FEI.
- X. MANDATORY TRAINING AND/OR COMPETITION:** Location, schedule and duration of mandatory training/outing: The location, schedule and duration of the Mandatory Outing will be posted on the USEF website no later than May 1, 2022. The details of the Mandatory Outing will be communicated directly to the athletes.
- XI. ANTI-DOPING REQUIREMENTS:** Athletes must adhere to all WADA, FEI, USEF and USADA protocols, policies and procedures. This includes participation in out of competition testing as required by WADA, FEI, USEF, and/or USADA rules, if applicable.
- XII. DEVELOPMENT OF SELECTION PROCEDURES:** The following committees/groups were responsible for creating these Selection Procedures: USEF Eventing Eligible Athletes Committee, USEF Eventing Sport Committee or its designees, the International Disciplines Council and the USEF Board of Directors. See Attachment J for list of USEF committees, their roles, and list of members.
- XIII. INTERNATIONAL DISCLAIMER:** These procedures are based on 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 USEF. However, the selections are always subject to unforeseen, intervening circumstances, and realistically may not have accounted for every possible contingency.
- If any force of nature, or force majeure, should cause the alteration or cancellation of any of the selection events listed in this document, these selection procedures will be revised, pursuant to their resubmission to the USEF.
- XIV. ATHLETE OMBUDSMAN:** Athletes wishing to file a grievance challenging a denial or threatened denial to participate in competition, please see the Athlete's Guide to Filing a Grievance Regarding Opportunity to Participate and Grievance Form. For procedural guidance for filing a grievance, please contact Emily Pratt at epratt@usef.org. Please contact the USOPC Athlete Ombudsman Office at (719) 866-5000, or ombudsman@usathlete.org, or visit www.athleteombudsman.org for guidance as to the USOPC grievance processes.
- XIV. FUNDING DISCLAIMER:** Selection to the Team does not guarantee that funds will be available to send a team.
- XV. DISCLAIMER:** See Attachment D – USEF Release, Assumption of Risk, Waiver and Indemnification.
- XVI. NGB SIGNATURES:** I certify that I have read, understand and incorporated our IF standards/criteria into our Selection Procedures and that the information provided herein regarding Athlete Selection Procedures represents the method approved by the United States Equestrian Federation.

Title	Print Name	Signature & Date
USEF President	Tom O'Mara	 1/6/2022
USEF Director of Sport	Will Connell	 1/6/2022

Any questions regarding these Selection Procedures should be addressed to Will Connell, USEF Director of Sport United States Equestrian Federation, 4001 Wing Commander Way, Lexington, KY 40511; (859) 225-2052 or by email: wconnell@usef.org.

Approved by the USEF Eventing Sport Committee on January 3, 2022

Approved by the USEF International Disciplines Council on January 4, 2022

Approved by the USEF Ad Hoc Selection Committee of the Board on January 6, 2022

DEFINITIONS

BOLDNESS: Whether the horse/athlete combination moves forward with confidence, aggression, and vigor demonstrating a positive attitude. When presented with a question (any situation that the horse/athlete must answer to successfully negotiate the test, e.g., an obstacle, change of terrain, handling crowds, jumping into water, etc.), whether the horse/athlete combination answer the question with the same positive attitude.

EVENTING ATHLETE REPRESENTATIVE:

For purposes of seating Athlete Representatives on Federation Committees, athletes must be a Federation Senior Active Member and meet the definitions set forth in the USOPC Bylaws, which include the following:

1. 10-Year Athlete Representative: An athlete who has represented the United States in one of the following within the 10 years preceding election or appointment:
 - a. a Delegation Event (Olympic, Paralympic, Pan Am, ParaPan); or
 - b. an Elite Protected Competition as defined by the Federation AAC and approved by the USOPC NGB Athlete Representative Review Working Group from time to time. See Federation website for the list of approved Elite Protected Competitions.
2. 10-Year+ Athlete Representative: Same as 10-Year Athlete Representative, but representation was not within the previous 10 years.
3. Actively Engaged Athlete Representative: An athlete who:
 - a. Is a 10-Year Athlete Representative;
 - b. Is a 10-Year+ Athlete Representative;
 - c. With the 24 months preceding election/appointment has been actively engaged in competitions defined by the Federation AAC and approved by the USOPC NGB Athlete Representative Review

Working Group from time to time. See Federation website for the list of approved competitions.

FITNESS: whether the horse and/or athlete competed at a high level more frequently than is consistent with delivering a peak performance at the event for which selection is being made. Whether the horse and/or athlete demonstrated in training the modicum of preparation necessary for preparedness for the rigors of the event for which selection is being made.

INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE: a competitive record over the past 2 - 3 years that indicates that the horse/athlete combination has successfully met the challenges of FEI international events, demonstrating an ability to perform under pressure consistently

LOSS OF FORM: deterioration in performance, demonstrated inability to produce results at the level at which the combination was performing at the time at which they were selected

RIDEABILITY: whether the horse exhibits in all three tests - dressage, cross-country, and show jumping - that it responds readily to the aids (directions) of the athlete as a result of his training; whether he moves forward, slows down, turns, and jumps any obstacle with composure, obedience, and confidence in himself and the athlete.

SPEED: evidence that in the international record of the horse/athlete combination, and in the final trials for the Team, that the horse/athlete combination shows the ability to complete the Event distances at the speed demanded.

SUBSTITUTE: to replace a horse/athlete combination after the USEF has named the Team.

SUITABILITY: the ability of the athlete/horse combination to fulfill the requirements and expectations and the overall state of preparedness to perform successfully