



MEMORANDUM

Date: 25 February 2025
To: U.S. FEI Dressage Athletes
From: Laura Roberts, Managing Director of Dressage
Re: 2025 Aachen CDIO5* Application & Selection Process

The U.S. anticipates receiving an invitation for a four member CDIO5* team at the 2025 Aachen CHIO June 27 – July 6, 2025. This memo is intended to provide athletes with information regarding the application and selection process for the 2025 Aachen CDIO5* U.S. Dressage Team.

APPLICATION – Athletes wishing to be considered for selection for the Aachen CDIO5* must apply by **5:00PM ET, Monday, April 14, 2025**, through the [USEF Athlete Dashboard](#).

PREPARATION EVENTS – Athlete/horse combinations wishing to be considered to the Aachen CDIO5* U.S. Dressage Team will be expected to compete in the Hagen CDI3* June 5-8, 2025, as a preparation event. NOTE: there will not be a designated preparation event in the U.S. in 2025.

FINAL TRAINING GATHERING – It is anticipated that combinations will be required to attend a final training gathering in Europe ahead of the Aachen CDIO5*.

SELECTION PROCESS – Selection for the Aachen CDIO5* team will be conducted according to the 2025 USEF CDIO Athlete Selection Procedures which can be found on the USEF website [here](#). Per the selection procedures, athlete/horse combinations must have a minimum overall average of 70% on the USEF Dressage Grand Prix 8-month ranking list to be considered for the Aachen CDIO5* U.S. Dressage Team.

NOMINATED ENTRY (Date TBD) - the Dressage Sport Committee, or its designees, in consultation with the USEF Dressage Coaching Staff and/or Chef d'Equipe, will recommend up to eight athlete/horse combinations to the nominated entry, named in alphabetical order, to the USEF Board of Directors, Executive Committee, or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the USEF Board of Directors for approval. When making their recommendation, the Sport Committee, Board of Directors, Executive Committee, or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the USEF Board of Directors will take into consideration the following factors (in no order of priority):

- Ranking on the USEF Dressage Grand Prix 8-Month Ranking List;
- The potential to produce scores above 70% in the Big Tour (GP, GPS and/or GPF);
- Recent scores and indication of an upward trend in the scores;
- Previous international experience of the athlete and/or athlete/horse combination including the demonstrated ability to succeed in CDIs or CDIOs;
- Recent FEI Grand Prix or FEI Short Grand Prix test scores at CDIs. The USEF Grand Prix Dressage National Championships may also be considered;
- The age of the horse and thus the perceived likelihood of the horse contributing to future Championship or Games success; and

- The “State of Preparedness” of the athlete/horse combination. Athlete/horse combinations overall state of readiness to perform successfully at International Dressage Competition, not just limited to health and soundness of the horse.

FUNDING – Funding support is planned to be available for up to eight (8) athlete/horse combinations which are named to the Aachen CDIO5* nominated entry list. These athlete/horse combinations will be expected to compete at the Hagen CDI3* June 5-8, 2025, and attend a final training gathering in Europe in preparation for the Aachen CDIO5*.

QUESTIONS – If you have any questions, please contact Laura Roberts, USEF Managing Director of Dressage at lroberts@usef.org or 859.225.6986.