

UNITED STATES EQUESTRIAN FEDERATION
ATHLETE SELECTION PROCEDURES
2024 FEI VAULTING WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS FOR SENIORS
VAULTING – SQUAD
Bern, Switzerland
July 15 – July 21, 2024

1. SELECTION SYSTEM

1.1. Provide the minimum eligibility requirements for a Squad to be considered for selection to the Team:

1.1.1. Nationality/Passport requirements:

By the deadline for the application through the championships, the athlete must be a U.S. citizen, or in compliance with FEI Vaulting Rules, Article 702.4.1, Vaulting Rules 2024, 10th Edition, effective 1 January 2024, as well as FEI General Regulations, Article 119.

Athletes must hold a valid passport that will not expire for six months after the conclusion of the 2024 FEI Vaulting World Championships for Seniors (the “Event”).

1.1.2. Minimum International Federation (IF) standards for participation:

- a. All Squads wishing to compete on the 2024 United States Vaulting Team (“Team”) as a Squad must earn a FEI Certificate of Capability by June 3, 2024 as posted USEF Selection Procedures found herein. The FEI Certificate of Capability Criteria are found [here](#).
- b. The FEI rules and a list of 2024 FEI qualifying events can be found [Here](#).
- c. The horse must be a minimum of seven (7) years of age born on or before December 31, 2017 (the age is counted from January 1 of the year of birth) FEI Vaulting Rules [10th Edition, effective 1st January 2024], Article 717.1.
- d. The Squad athletes must be registered and in good standing with the FEI at the time of selection, and until the conclusion of the Event.
- e. The Horse must be registered and in good standing with the FEI at the time of selection, and until the conclusion of the Event.
- f. The Horse must meet all FEI criteria of eligibility for the Event.
- g. The Squad and horse must comply with FEI Rules for the Event.
- h. Horse Owners must be in good standing with the FEI at the time of Nominated Entries, and until the conclusion of the Event.
- i. The lunger(s) must be registered and in good standing with the FEI at time of Nominated Entries, and until the conclusion of the event. The lunger(s) must comply with FEI Rules for the Event.

1.1.3 Other requirements:

- a. The Squad athletes must be an active Competing Member of the United States Equestrian Federation (“USEF”) in good standing at the time of FEI Nominated Entries and until the conclusion of the Event.
- b. If the horse is U.S. owned, the horse must be recorded with USEF pursuant to USEF GR1102, and in good standing under USEF rules at the time of FEI Nominated

Entries and until the conclusion of the Event. Internationally borrowed horses must be in good standing with their country's National Federation at the time of FEI Nominated Entries and until the conclusion of the Event. See Section 1.2 for deadlines regarding submission of the horse plan.

- c. Individual owners of U.S. Horses must be active competing members in good standing with USEF pursuant to USEF Rules at the time of FEI Nominated Entries and until the conclusion of the Event.
- d. Application – Squad coaches, or a Squad designee wishing to be considered for the Event must complete and submit an online Application (Attachment A) with the appropriate application fee at www.usef.org. Applications submitted online on or before **January 6, 2024 at 11:59 PM ET** will be charged three hundred dollars (\$300.00) per Application. Applications submitted online after January 6, 2024 at 11:59 PM ET and received by USEF on or before January 13, 2024 at 11:59 PM ET will be charged an application fee of one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) per application. **NO APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER JANUARY 13, 2024 at 11:59 PM ET.** Each athlete must certify, by signing the Application (Attachment A), that they have received, understand, and have read these Selection Procedures for the Event, the [USEF Code of Conduct](#) (Attachment C), the USEF Release, Assumption of Risk, Waiver and Indemnification (Attachment D), the [U.S. Center for SafeSport Code](#), the [USEF Safe Sport Policy](#), including the [Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies](#) (Attachment E), the [USEF Non-Discrimination Policy](#), and the [USEF Whistleblower & Anti-Retaliation Policy](#) and that they understand these documents and agree to be bound by them.
Note: The squad coach, or designee, is responsible for disseminating all required paperwork to their Squad members for appropriate signatures and is responsible for returning completed paperwork to USEF. This includes the [Squad Signature Page](#) (Attachment I) found on the USEF Vaulting webpage.
- e. Horse Participation Agreement: Individual owners of U.S. horses named to the FEI Nominated Entry (See 2.2.d) must sign the USEF Horse Participation Agreement (Attachment B) prior to the FEI Nominated Entry deadline (See 2.2.d). A U.S. horse owner(s)' failure to timely sign the USEF Horse Participation Agreement may result in the removal of the horse and/or Squad from the FEI Nominated Entry. The Owner(s) must certify, by signing the Horse Participation Agreement, that they have received, understand, and have read these Selection Procedures for the Event, the [USEF Code of Conduct](#) (Attachment C), the USEF Release, Assumption of Risk, Waiver and Indemnification (Attachment D), the [U.S. Center for SafeSport Code](#), the [USEF Safe Sport Policy](#), including the [Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies](#) (Attachment E), the [USEF Non-Discrimination Policy](#), and the [USEF Whistleblower & Anti-Retaliation Policy](#) and that they understand these documents and agree to be bound by them.
- f. U.S. Lungers will be required to sign the Horse Owner and Lunger Agreement (Attachment F). By signing the Agreement, the U.S. Lunger certifies that they have received, read, and understand these Selection Procedures, the [USEF Code of Conduct](#) (Attachment C), the USEF Release, Assumption of Risk, Waiver and Indemnification (Attachment D), the [U.S. Center for SafeSport Code](#), the [USEF Safe Sport Policy](#), including the [Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies](#) (Attachment E), the [USEF Non-Discrimination Policy](#), and the [USEF Whistleblower & Anti-Retaliation Policy](#) and that they understand these documents and agree to be bound by them.
- g. U.S. Lungers are required to be Senior Active Members in good standing of USEF

- from the time of FEI Nominated Entries through the conclusion of the Event.
- h. Any athlete age 18 or older will be required to undergo a background screen in accordance with the current USEF Background Check Policy.
 - i. Any athlete age 18 or older as of the Closing Ceremony will be required to remain current with the U.S. Center for SafeSport’s education and training requirements in accordance with the USEF Safe Sport Policy.

2. Tryout Events:

2.1 Event names, dates and locations of all trials, competitions, and camps to be used as part of the selection process:

Squads wishing to be considered for Team selection for the Event must earn a minimum of two (2) Scores during the Qualifying Period, January 1, 2023 - April 17, 2024, as outlined below and in 1.2. (See Section 1.2.e for special consideration). All qualification scores must have been achieved by a minimum of the same four (4) athletes.

- a. Scores may be obtained at any of the following competitions during the Qualifying Period, January 1, 2023 – April 17, 2024, in the applicable Squad Event (“Tryout Event(s)”):
 - FEI CVI 2* or CVIJ 2* Events, CVI 3* or CVIO4* Classes;
 - CH-M-V and CH-M-J-V; and
 - USEF 3* A Team or 2* B Team Classes.

Scores from both FEI and USEF events must include one round of Compulsories and one round of Freestyle at the event.

Any change in more than two (2) members of a Squad represents an entirely independent Squad and will be listed separately on the 2024 Vaulting World Championship For Seniors– Senior Squad List..

Special consideration: the Selectors may grant a waiver for up to one (1) required qualification score, if it is in the perceived best interests of fielding the Team. The Selectors may grant a waiver based on these factors (no priority order):

1. Previous international experience of the Squad;
2. Previous experience and submission(s) to virtual judging completed in 2023 or 2024;
3. The circumstances, facts, and in the case of illness or injury to a horse or athlete, documentation by the Team Veterinarian or physician(s) approved by USEF; and/or
4. Unforeseen circumstances which create a logistical emergency.

Requests for “special consideration/waivers” must be made, in writing, to the USEF Director of Vaulting, Michelle McQueen, at mmcqueen@usef.org, before April 17, 2024 at 5:00PM ET. Request must include specific details about why a special consideration should be considered. Selectors reserve the right to deny requests for special consideration/waivers. Squads will be notified in writing of any decisions as soon as practicable.

Should a waiver request be denied and the score requirement not be met, the Squad will no longer be considered for the Event Short List.

- b. Squads on the Short List will be required to participate in two (2) Observation Events, scheduled to be held between **April 17, 2024 – June 3, 2024 (Selection Period)**. Only Senior level 3* USEF and 3* or 4* FEI events will be considered.

In addition, the Selectors may add a required Training Camp as an Observation Event during the Selection Period. If this is required, details will be circulated to Squads no later than March 1, 2024 and Squads will be required to participate.

In the case of extraordinary circumstances such as medical or veterinary issues, the Selectors, by unanimous agreement, may grant a waiver to excuse Squads from the Observation Events, including the required Training Camp, if it is determined to be in the best interest of the Team. Any request for a waiver from an Observation Event must be made in writing to Michelle McQueen, USEF Director of Vaulting, at mmcqueen@usef.org, by the conclusion of the Selection Period. The Selectors will approve or disapprove the request based on these factors (no priority order):

- The Squad has demonstrated “Proven Ability” (See definition on page 18) to succeed at World Vaulting Championships in the Squad event;
- Previous international experience of the Squads;
- Previous experience and submission(s) to virtual judging completed in 2023 or 2024;
- The circumstances, facts, and in the case of illness or injury to a horse or athlete, documentation by the Team Veterinarian or physician(s) approved by USEF;
- Unforeseen circumstances which create a logistical emergency; and/or
- FEI Certificate of Capability or evidence of prior scores/experience which indicates if FEI requirement of certificate of capability will be earned.

If a waiver request is made during an Observation event, Selectors may grant a request based on the criteria above. Should a waiver request be denied and the score requirement not be met, the Squad will no longer be considered for the FEI Nominated Entry.

2.2 Step-by-step description of the selection process for this Event (include maximum Team size):

a. 2024 Vaulting World Championships for Seniors Short List

Squads must submit their two (2) qualification scores to USEF no later than **April 17, 2024** at **11:59 PM ET**, through the Record of Experience (See definitions page 17) form posted on the [USEF website](https://www.usef.org), which will be made available no later than January 15, 2024. Squads must also submit a narrative detailing their prior Record of Experience and preparation.

The scores and Records of Experience will be reviewed by a panel of five Selectors. (See Definitions: USEF VAULTING SELECTORS, on page 17 for a detailed description of Selectors.) Selectors will be announced no later than January 31, 2024 at <https://www.usef.org/compete/disciplines/vaulting>.

On or around **April 17, 2024**, the Selectors, in consultation with the USEF Vaulting Director of Performance, will review the Squads' scores and Record of Experience and recommend a "Short List" of up to four Squads. There will be no ranking order on the Short List. The Selectors will recommend the Short List to the Vaulting Sport Committee, and the USEF Vaulting Sport Committee shall submit its recommendation for approval by the USEF Board of Directors, Executive Committee, or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the USEF Board of Directors. In evaluating Squads to be named to the Short List, the following factors will be considered (no priority order):

- Scores earned during the Qualifying Periods.
 - Additional consideration to consistency of scores and trend in scores.
 - Additional consideration to most recent scores achieved.
- Previous international experience of the Squad.
 - Additional consideration to recent major competitions in Europe.
- Behavior of athletes, lunger, and people associated with the Squad (including, but not limited to, owners, coaches, and grooms) that may have an impact on creating a positive team environment.
- FEI Certificate of Capability or evidence of prior scores/experience which indicate if FEI requirement of certificate of capability will be earned.
- Record of Experience

Note: Any change in more than two (2) members of a Squad represents an entirely independent Squad and must be listed separately on the 2024 VAULTING WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP FOR SENIORS– Senior Squad List. All qualification scores must have been achieved by a minimum of the same four (4) vaulters

Squads who are not named to the SHORT LIST will no longer be in consideration for nomination for the Event FEI Nominated Entry.

b. Final Submission of Record of Experience – June 3, 2024

By no later than June 3, 2024 at 5:00PM EST, Squads listed on the Short List will be asked to complete and submit their Final Record of Experience: the two (2) scores listed in their first Record of Experience and a minimum of two (2) additional scores earned at Observation Events during the Selection Period. The Final Record of Experience will list a minimum total of four (4) scores unless a waiver has been granted for the Observation Events or Tryout Events.

Squads are responsible for reviewing and verifying the Record of Experience and notifying Michelle McQueen, at mmcqueen@usef.org, USEF Director of Vaulting, in writing no later than June 3, 2024 at 5:00PM ET of any discrepancies found. No changes will be accepted after June 3, 2024 at 5:00PM ET.

Squads who have not met the FEI Certificate of Capability by June 3, 2024 will not be considered for the Nominated Entry.

c. Submission of Horse Plan

Additionally, before June 3, 2024 at 5:00PM ET, Squads on the Short List must submit their complete horse plans for the Event. The horse plan must include a record of the primary and reserve horses' experience and scores, confirmed pre-Event training plans, signed horse lease documents, and all information required for a Nominated Entry for horse and lunger. All Horse Plans must be submitted using the forms available on

<https://www.usef.org/compete/disciplines/vaulting>. The Horse Plan form will be available by April 17, 2024.

Selectors will consider the following in their review of the Horse Plan:

- Previous experience of the Squads on the horse to be used at the Event;
 - Additional consideration will be given to recent training and competitions on the horse to be used at the Event; and
- Previous horse scores from FEI events;

All horses must have met the FEI's criteria for eligibility for Championships by June 3, 2024 and the criteria in Section 1.1.

d. **TBD FEI Nominated Entry**

After June 3, 2024 but no later than seven (7) days prior to the closing date for the FEI Nominated Entry, TBD, 2024, based upon the procedures set forth herein, the Selectors, in consultation with the USEF Vaulting Director of Performance and Chef d'Equipe, will recommend a ranked list of Squads up to the maximum number able to be nominated under FEI Rules for the Event for the FEI Nominated Entry to the USEF Vaulting Sport Committee for recommendation to the Board of Directors subject to the approval of the USEF Board of Directors, Executive Committee, or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the USEF Board of Directors.

In selecting Squads for the FEI Nominated Entries, recommendations and approval will be based on all of the following factors (no priority order):

- Scores earned during the Qualifying and Selection Periods;
 - Additional consideration to consistency of scores and trend in scores;
- Performance at the Observation Training Event (if applicable);
- Information submitted on the required Horse Plan in Section 2.2c;
- Previous international experience of the Squads;
 - Additional consideration to recent major competitions in Europe;
- Behavior of Squads, lunger, and people associated with the Squad (including, but not limited to, owners, coaches, and grooms) that may have an impact on creating a positive team environment.

The remaining Squads on the Short List, up to the maximum number permitted under FEI rules for the Event, may be named as ranked "alternate" Squads for the FEI Nominated Entry for the Event. The Selectors will determine the ranked order of alternate Squads on the entry based on the factors, listed above.

In the event an athlete applies for multiple events in the Senior Championships, the Selectors, in consultation with the Director of Performance and Chef d'Equipe, may choose the category that the Athlete will be listed for based on what is in the best interest of the Team. This decision will be made prior to the Nominated Entry Date TBD, 2024.

e. **Declaration of Horse(s) and Lunger(s):** By June 3, 2024 all Squads who are named on the Short List must supply the USEF with:

- Name of the horse(s) on which they intend to compete;
- FEI passport number of the horse(s); and

- Name of the horse's owner(s).

Note: Per FEI rules, if a horse substitution is required, Squads may compete on horses not listed on their entry if the horse meets all FEI requirements to participate in the Event provided they are declared in accordance with FEI rules for the Event.

The horse must meet the FEI's criteria of eligibility for the event to be named.

After June 3, 2024 but no later than seven (7) days prior to the closing date of the FEI Nominated Entry, TBD, 2024, all Squads who are named on the FEI Nominated Entry must supply the USEF with the name of the lunger(s) with which they intend to compete. All lungers listed on the Squads' entry must comply with the requirements as stated in Section 1.

Note: Squads may use lungers at the Event not listed on their entry if the lunger meets all FEI and USEF requirements to participate in the Event provided they are declared in accordance with FEI rules for the Event.

f. **TBD FEI Definite Entry:**

After the FEI Nominated Entry, TBD, 2024 but no later than seven (7) days prior to the closing date for the Definite Entries, TBD, 2024 for the Event, USEF may nominate up to the maximum number of Squads allowed by the FEI for the Event from the ranked Nominated Entries on the FEI Definite Entry based on the criteria outlined in Section d above. The Definite Entries will be comprised of the Team with any ranked alternates substituted due to removals, see Section 4 below, upon the recommendation of the Selectors and the USEF Vaulting Committee, and the approval of the USEF Board of Directors, Executive Committee, or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the USEF Board of Directors.

- g. **Declaration of Starters:** The declaration of starters will be done in accordance with the FEI Vaulting Rules, [10th Edition, effective 1st January 2024], Article 706.

3. DISCRETIONARY SELECTION

3.1 Rationale for utilizing discretionary selection: The option of discretionary selection is used to field the best Team possible in the Event.

3.2 Define the discretionary criteria to be used (if any): For discretionary selection used please see the following sections:

- 2.2.a– Selection for the Short List
- 2.2.b– FEI Nominated Entry
- 2.2.f – FEI Definite Entry
- 2.2.g – Declaration of Starters

3.3 Other Discretionary Criteria:

- a. Horses that are candidates for selection for the Event may be examined at any time following the application deadline and through the conclusion of the Event for soundness by the Team Veterinarian. Horses found to be unsound by the Team Veterinarian may result in the elimination of the Squad or horse from the selection process, at the recommendation of the USEF Vaulting Sport Committee and the approval of the USEF Board of Directors or an

Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the Board of Directors.

- b. Team Veterinarian Request** – Horse owners and/or Lungers, **at their own expense**, shall make available, upon the request of the Team Veterinarian, 24 months' worth of complete veterinary records of horses being considered for selection. In addition, Horse owners and/or Lungers, **at their own expense**, shall be responsible for supplying any follow-up diagnostic information requested by the Team Veterinarian for horses being considered for selection. Horse Owners and/or Lungers, **at their own expense**, shall complete any treatment prescribed by the Team Veterinarian, after consultation with the horse's treating veterinarian if such a consultation is requested by the Squad, for horses being considered for selection. Failure to comply with any reasonable request of the Team Veterinarian may result in the removal of the horse and/or Squad from the selection process upon the recommendation of the Team Veterinarian and the USEF Vaulting Sport Committee, and approval by the USEF Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection group approved by the Board of Directors.
- c. Veterinary Treatment** – From the time of the submission of the Horse Plan, through the Event and until to the departure of the U.S. horses for the Event venue for the purpose of competing in the Event, Squads on the will be required to consult with the Team Veterinarian prior to horses being treated by any person other than the Team Veterinarian. This permission must be obtained by using an official USEF Vaulting Veterinary Treatment Request Form (Attachment I). If Squads are using foreign-owned borrowed horses, it is highly recommended that a Certificate of Health stating the horse is fit to compete under Equine Athlete Drug and Medication Rules (EADMR) be submitted to the Team Veterinarian as soon as practical. Failure to adhere to this policy and/or the directives of the Team Veterinarian as outlined on the USEF Vaulting Veterinary Treatment Request Form may result in the removal of the Squad/horse combination from the selection process upon the recommendation of the Team Veterinarian and the USEF Vaulting Sport Committee, and approval by the USEF Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the Board of Directors.
- c. Medical Request** - In the event of illness or injury, athletes may be required to submit to a medical examination by a physician(s) approved by the USEF CEO any time during the selection process for the purposes of determining the applicant's ability to compete at the Event. Failure to submit to such examination may result in the removal of the applicant from the selection process upon the recommendation of the USEF approved physician(s) and with the approval of the USEF Vaulting Sport Committee and the USEF Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the Board of Directors. Following the examination, should the USEF approved physician(s) find the applicant to be unfit to compete, the applicant will be removed from the selection process with the recommendation of the USEF Vaulting Sport Committee, and the approval of the USEF Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the Board of Directors.

3.4 Name of the committee that will be responsible for making discretionary selections, along with a complete list of the members' titles:

- USEF Vaulting Sport Committee
- Selectors
- Team Veterinarian
- Physician approved by USEF
- Chef d'Equipe
- USEF Board of Directors, Executive Committee, or an Ad Hoc Selection Group

- approved by the Board of Directors.
- USEF Vaulting Director of Performance
- (See Attachment H for list of USEF Committees, their roles, and list of member).

3.4.1 Process that will be used to identify and handle any potential conflicts of interest involving a member of the committee(s) listed above:

All individuals involved in the selection of the Team must comply with the USEF [Conflict of Interest and Gifts & Entertainment Policy](#), to include completing and submitting a disclosure form for review by the USEF Legal Department and USEF Audit Committee prior to convening the committee.

Any individual involved in the selection of the Team who has an actual, potential, or perceived conflict of interest must disclose it to the USEF Legal Department and USEF Audit Committee prior to the start of the selection process. Additionally, they may be required to recuse oneself from the review process and/or voting. A conflict of interest exists when a personal, family, financial, professional, club, team or business interest of the committee member poses a direct or indirect relationship, connection, or affiliation, past or present, with an Athlete or Horse in contention for the applicable team selection that could compromise the committee member's ability to participate in the selection process in an unbiased manner. If a conflict exists, the USEF Legal Department and Audit Committee shall review the conflict and determine the individual's level of involvement (e.g., whether that individual must recuse oneself from participating in discussions and/or voting). For example, if it is determined that an individual must recuse oneself from voting, the Audit Committee may still determine that an individual who has relevant and necessary information with respect to athlete performance, for example a team coach or high performance director, may, if requested by individuals involved in the selection of the Team, provide such information to the other individuals involved in the selection process so long as such information is provided in a fair and unbiased manner and so long as the individual with the conflict of interest does not participate in the deliberation or vote toward the final decision (See the USEF [Conflict of Interest and Gifts & Entertainment Policy](#)). The individual must not otherwise influence other individuals involved in the selection process.

Additionally, any person (including any potentially impacted Athlete, Owner, or Coach of a potentially impacted Athlete or Horse) with a good faith belief that an individual has a conflict of interest may report the alleged conflict of interest to USEF General Counsel and/or Audit Committee. Reports may be made anonymously. No individual shall retaliate in any way against a person who, in good faith, reports an alleged conflict of interest.

Any recused individual shall be replaced in accordance with the relevant USEF appointment process.

4 REMOVAL OF SQUAD Athletes

- 4.1 At any time during the selection process through the conclusion of the Event, USEF has jurisdiction over athletes. An Athlete or Horse may be removed for any of the following reasons, as determined by USEF:**

- 4.1.1 Voluntary withdrawal. Athlete must submit a written letter to the USEF CEO.
- 4.1.2 Injury or illness as certified by a physician (or medical staff) approved by USEF. If an Athlete refuses verification of their illness or injury by a physician (or medical staff) approved by USEF, their injury will be assumed to be disabling and he/she may be removed.
- 4.1.3 Failure to participate in Mandatory Training and/or Observation Event.
- 4.1.4. Violation of the USEF Code of Conduct (Attachment C).
- 4.1.5 Violation of the U.S. Center for SafeSport Code or USEF Safe Sport Policy.
- 4.1.6 Failure of the horse owner to timely sign the Horse Participation Agreement (Attachment B).
- 4.1.7 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.
- 4.1.9 Detection of a Prohibited Substance in the Horse (see below).
- 4.1.10 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.
- 4.1.11 Non-compliance with the eligibility requirements listed in Section 1.1. of these selection procedures.
- 4.1.12 Exceptional circumstances having a direct bearing upon obtaining the best qualified team for the Event, but only with the recommendation of the Chef d’Equipe and with the unanimous approval USEF Vaulting Sport Committee, and final approval from the CEO in consultation with the Chef de Mission and General Counsel.
- 4.1.13 Failure to comply with a request of the Team Veterinarian or with the USEF Vaulting Veterinary Treatment Request Form protocols.
- 4.1.14 Any other reason expressly written herein.

An athlete who is removed from the Team pursuant to this provision has the right to a hearing per the USEF’s Bylaws, Part VII, and the USOPC Bylaws, Section 9.

5 REPLACEMENT OF SQUADS & HORSES

5.1 Describe the selection and approval process for determining replacement Athlete(s) & Horse(s) should a vacancy occur:

5.1.1 Prior to acceptance of the FEI Nominated Entry: Once USEF’s FEI Nominated Entry, TBD, 2024, for the Event has been announced but prior to their submission of the FEI Nominated Entry, Squads may be substituted with an alternate Squads in order of their listing on the FEI Nominated Entry as outlined in Section 2.2.d. at the recommendation of the Chef d’Equipe, majority vote of the Selectors, in consultation with the USEF Vaulting Sport Committee, and subject to the approval of the USEF Board of Directors, Executive Committee, or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the USEF Board of Directors. Any substitutions for medical or veterinary reasons, must also be documented by a USEF-approved physician(s) or veterinarian(s) respectively.

5.1.2 After the submission of the FEI Nominated Entry and prior to acceptance of the FEI Definite Entry: Once the Squads and alternates for the Event have been announced and prior to the closing date for the Definite Entry, TBD, 2024 Squads may only be substituted with an alternate Squads in order of their listing on the FEI Nominated Entry as outlined in Section 2.2.d at the recommendation of the Chef d'Equipe, majority vote of the Selectors, in consultation with the USEF Vaulting Sport Committee, and subject to the approval of the USEF Board of Directors, Executive Committee or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the USEF Board of Directors. Any substitutions for medical or veterinary reasons must also be documented by a USEF-approved physician(s) or veterinarian(s) respectively.

5.1.2 After the acceptance of Definite Entry and until one hour before the first horse inspection: After the Squads have been accepted on the Definite Entry, TBD, 2024 a Squads may only be substituted with an alternate in accordance with the FEI Regulations Rules for Vaulting, [9th Edition, effective 1st January 2020], for veterinary or medical reasons, or for breach of the USEF Codes of Conduct, or for failure to abide by the USEF Safe Sport Policy or U.S. Center for SafeSport Code, upon the recommendation of the Chef d'Equipe, the Selectors, the Vaulting Sport Committee or its designees, and subject to the approval of the USEF Board of Directors, Executive Committee, or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the USEF Board of Directors.

Any substitution for veterinary reasons other than voluntary withdrawal must have the approval of the Team Veterinarian approved by the USEF CEO.

Any substitution for medical reasons other than voluntary withdrawal must be documented by a physician(s) who is approved by the USEF CEO.

5.1.3 After the acceptance of the Definite Entry and before the Declaration of Starters: After the Definite Entry, has been submitted to the FEI, Squads may only be substituted with an alternate Squads in accordance with the FEI Regulations Rules for Vaulting, [10th Edition, effective 1st January 2024], and/or according to the following criteria. Squads may only be replaced with alternate Squads for veterinary reasons, if a Squad cannot vault on another horse, for medical reasons, or for breach of the USEF Code of Conduct, or for failure to abide by the USEF Safe Sport Policy, upon the recommendation of the Chef d'Equipe and with the concurring approval of at least three (3) of the five (5) Selectors, and the approval of the USEF Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the USEF Board of Directors. Any alternate for veterinary reasons must also have the approval of the Team Veterinarian approved by the USEF CEO. Any alternate for medical reasons must be documented by a physician(s) approved by the USEF CEO.

6. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

USEF will retain the approved Selection Procedures and all supporting documents, including scouting or evaluation forms, etc., and data from the selection process for six months past the date of the Closing Ceremony of the Games.

7. REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

The following documents are required to be signed by a Squad and Horse owner as a condition of nomination to the Event (include as attachments or provide links):

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

Squads and U.S. 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 the documents.

8. PUBLICITY/DISTRIBUTION OF PROCEDURES

The USEF approved Selection Procedures (complete and unaltered) will be posted/published by the USEF in the following public location(s):

8.1 USEF Web site: www.usef.org

These procedures will be posted as soon as possible, but not more than five business days following notice of approval by USEF.

8.2 Other: These procedures will also be available by mail or email upon request.

9. DATE OF NOMINATION

The FEI Nominated Entries will be submitted to the FEI no later than **Date TBD**.

10. ANTI-DOPING REQUIREMENTS

- A. Human Anti-Doping: Athletes must adhere to all WADA, FEI, and USADA anti-doping protocols, policies, and procedures, as applicable. This includes participation in Out-of-Competition Testing as required by the WADA, FEI, and USADA rules, as applicable.
- B. Equine Anti-Doping: All Horses are subject to drug testing both in competition and out of competition.
 1. In-Competition. 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.
 - a. 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.
 - b. 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 Squad from the Selection Process.
 - c. 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.

- d. 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.
2. 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 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.
 - a. 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.
 - b. 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.
3. 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.
4. 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.

11. DEVELOPMENT OF SELECTION PROCEDURES

The following committee/group (include names and titles) was responsible for creating these Selection Procedures: USEF Vaulting Sport Committee, the International Discipline Committee, and the USEF Board of Directors. See Attachment H for list of USEF committees, their roles, and list of members.

12. USEF BYLAWS AND GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

Athletes wishing to file a grievance challenging a denial or threatened denial to participate in competition, please see Athlete 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.

13. NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

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.

14. FUNDING DISCLAIMER

Selection to the team does not guarantee that funds will be available for the expenses related to the Event.

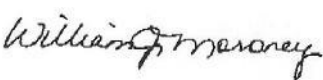

15. INTERNATIONAL DISCLAIMER

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 Squads 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 may require revisions, pursuant to their resubmission to the FEI.

16. USEF SIGNATURES

I certify that I have read and understand the standards/criteria set by the FEI and incorporated those standards/criteria into our Selection Procedures. I further certify that the information provided herein regarding Athlete Selection Procedures represents the method approved by USEF.

Position	Print Name	Signature	Date
USEF CEO	William J. Moroney		12/18/2023
USEF Director of Vaulting	Michelle McQueen		12/18/2023

Any questions regarding these Selection Procedures should be addressed to, USEF Director, Vaulting High Performance Programs, United States Equestrian Federation, 4001 Wing Commander Way, Lexington, KY 40511, Phone (908) 997-3003, [Email: mmcqueen@usef.org](mailto:mmcqueen@usef.org).

Approved by the USEF Vaulting Sport Committee on:

Approved by the USEF International Discipline Committee on:

Approved by the USEF Board of Directors on:

DEFINITIONS

USEF VAULTING SELECTORS - Five individuals (the "Selectors") will be appointed by the USEF Board of Directors upon the recommendation of the USEF Vaulting Sport Committee and the. The Selectors are subject to the USEF Code of Conduct (Attachment C) and Code of Ethics and Conflict of Interest Policy of the USEF (Attachment G). The Selectors are Senior Active Members in good standing of USEF, who are also current members of the Vaulting community and who are knowledgeable and experienced in Vaulting at the international level, in making their decisions, the Selectors will consult with the Chef d'Equipe, and the Team Veterinarian. A minimum of one Replacement Selector will also be named. A Replacement Selector will take the place of a Selector who has a conflict of interest or a substantial appearance of a conflict of interest.

ATHLETE: for the purposes of these procedures, Athlete shall include the athletes and lungers.

ALTERNATE an athlete after the FEI Definite Entry has been submitted.

REPLACEMENT – Replacing an Squad/horse combination after the Final Entry has been submitted.

RECORD OF EXPERIENCE - Scores earned during the qualifying period including competition, name, date and location, list of judges and scores earned by event (round). A narrative of the Squad and horse preparation including training activities during the Qualifying Period, attendance at clinics and camps, overseas preparation and any additional preparation for the World Championships. Additionally, the Squad may include other narrative information about prior competition experience and success.

STATE OF PREPARDNESS – Squad/horse combinations overall state of readiness to perform successfully at International Vaulting Competition, not just limited to health and soundness of the horse.

PROVEN ABILITY –

For Seniors: An Squad/horse combination that has submitted one (1) score during the Qualifying period from the following Events.

- FEI CVI 3* or CVIJ 2* Events
- USEF 2* B Team or 3* A Team Classes.
- FEI CHIO, CVI 3* or CVI 4* Classes
- CH-M-V, CH-M-J-V