

UNITED STATES EQUESTRIAN FEDERATION, INC.
ATHLETE SELECTION PROCEDURES
2023 Pan American Games – Santiago, Chile
Dressage
Review Date: November 18, 2022

1. SELECTION SYSTEM

1.1. Provide the minimum eligibility requirements for an athlete to be considered for selection to the Team:

1.1.1. Nationality/Passport Requirements - The athlete must be a national of the United States and in compliance with the FEI General Regulations, 24th Edition, Article 119 (see www.fei.org) at the time of application, selection, and until the conclusion of the 2023 Pan American Games (“the Event”). Athlete must hold a valid U.S. passport that will not expire for six months after the conclusion of the Games.

1.1.2. Minimum International Olympic Committee (IOC), International Paralympic Committee (IPC), Pan American Sports Organization (Panam Sports) or Americas Paralympic Committee (APC) standards for participation:

Any competitor in the Pan American Games must be a national of the United States. For additional information regarding an athlete who is a national of two or more countries, has changed his or her nationality or acquired a new nationality, refer to the Olympic Charter (Rule 41), the IPC Handbook (Section 2, Chapter 3.1), the Panam Sports Constitution (Article 34.4-7), or the Americas Paralympic Committee bylaws (Chapter 2.4.12 of the IPC Handbook).

1.1.3. Minimum International Federation (FEI) and/or Continental Federation (CF) standards for participation:

1.1.3.1. All athletes and horses wishing to compete on the 2023 Pan American Games U.S. Dressage Team (the “Team”) must meet the FEI qualification criteria in accordance with the FEI Dressage Rules [25th edition, updates effective 1 January 2022], Article 450. The rules and a list of qualifying events can be found on the FEI website (www.fei.org).

1.1.3.2. To be eligible for participation in the Event, Athletes and Horses must comply with all current FEI Rules.

1.1.3.3. The athlete must have been born on or before December 31, 2007 (see the FEI Dressage Rules [25th edition, updates effective 1 January 2022], Article 422).

1.1.3.4. For the Big Tour, a horse must be born on or before December 31, 2015 (eight (8) years of age) and have height at the withers exceeding 149 cm including shoes (see FEI Dressage Rules [25th edition, updates effective 1 January 2022], Article 422).

For the Small Tour, a horse must be born on or before December 31, 2016 (seven (7) years of age) and have height at the withers exceeding 149 cm including shoes (see FEI Dressage Rules [25th edition, updates effective 1 January 2022], Article 422).

1.1.4 Other requirements:

1.1.4.1 The athlete must be an active Competing Member of the United States Equestrian Federation (“USEF”) in good standing at the time of FEI Nominated Entry through the conclusion of the Event.

1.1.4.2 All horses listed on the application must be recorded with USEF pursuant to USEF General Rule 1102 in good standing at the time of FEI Nominated Entry through the conclusion of the Event.

1.1.4.3 Owners of the applicant Horse(s) must execute the USEF Horse Participation Agreement (Attachment B) by the Nominated Entry Deadline.

1.1.4.4 Athlete must successfully complete the USEF Application by the stated deadline - Athletes wishing to be considered for the Team must successfully complete an online application (Attachment A) with the appropriate application fee at www.usef.org. More than one (1) horse may be listed on the application. Applications submitted online on or before **May 1, 2023** at 11:59 PM Eastern will be charged seventy dollars (\$70.00) per application. Applications submitted online after **May 1, 2023 at 11:59 PM Eastern** and received by USEF on or before **May 15, 2023** at 11:59 PM Eastern will be

charged an application fee of three hundred dollars (\$300.00) per application. **NO APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER May 15, 2023 at 11:59 PM Eastern.**

- 1.1.4.5 Athlete must successfully complete all Games Registration requirements by the stated deadline.
- 1.1.4.6 Any athlete aged 18 or older will be required to undergo a background screen in accordance with the current [USOPC Background Check Policy](#).
- 1.1.4.7 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 [USOPC Athlete Safety Policy](#).
- 1.1.4.8 By signing the Application, the Athlete certifies that they and the Horse Owner(s) have received, read, and understand the Selection Procedures for the Team; 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](#) and the [USEF Safe Sport Policy](#) including the Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies (**Attachment E**); the Non-Discrimination Policy (see Section 14 below); and the [USEF Whistleblower & Anti-Retaliation Policy](#) (**Attachment J**) and that they understand these documents, and that they agree to be bound by them

1.2 Tryout Events:

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

At the conclusion of the initial qualifying period (September 15, 2022 – July 9, 2023), it is anticipated that up to eight (8) athletes will be selected to a Short List and will be required to compete in Observation Events. Additional athletes may be added to the Short List (see Section 1.2.3). Selected Short List athletes are anticipated to be required to compete in Observation Events between July 10, 2023 and October 20, 2023. The details regarding the Observation Events will be published www.usef.org, no later than May 15, 2023 and may include events in Europe and/or events within the United States. Waivers may be considered for the Observation Events upon approval by the Selectors (see section 1.3.3).

The memo regarding the start of the initial qualifying period can be found [here](#).

- 1.2.2 Describe how athletes qualify for the events listed in 1.2.1:

Small Tour Applicants: Tryout Events/Qualifying Competitions will include all U.S. and foreign CDI 1*/2*/3*/4*/5*/CDI-W or CDIO events offering the Small Tour classes between September 15, 2022 – July 9, 2023. A list of these competitions can be found at <https://data.fei.org/Calendar/Search.aspx>.

Athlete/horse combinations qualifying for the Small Tour must complete the FEI Prix St. Georges test and the FEI Intermediate I test in combination at least at three CDI Tryout Events/Qualifying Competitions. Athlete/horse combinations must also complete one FEI Intermediate I Freestyle test at a CDI Tryout Event/Qualifying Competition during the qualifying period; however, the FEI Intermediate I Freestyle test score will not be used in the calculation of an athlete/horse combination's average on the ranking list. Each FEI Prix St. Georges and FEI Intermediate I test will count as half (50%) of an athlete/horse combination's overall average from each CDI Tryout Event/Qualifying Competition (i.e. PSG 50% + I-I 50% = 100%) on the ranking list. Athlete/horse combinations must complete a minimum of two CDI Tryout Event/Qualifying Competitions after January 1, 2023.

If an athlete/horse combination completes the FEI Prix St. Georges test at four or more CDI Tryout Events/Qualifying Competitions, the athlete/horse combination's lowest FEI Prix St. Georges test will be automatically dropped (regardless of if the FEI Intermediate I or Intermediate I Freestyle test was ridden) on the ranking list. If an athlete/horse combination completes the FEI Intermediate I test at four or more CDI Tryout Events/Qualifying Competitions, the athlete/horse combination's lowest

FEI Intermediate I test will be automatically dropped (regardless of if the FEI Prix St. Georges or FEI Intermediate I Freestyle test was ridden) on the ranking list.

Big Tour Applicants: Tryout Events/Qualifying Competitions will include all U.S. and foreign CDI 3*/4*/5*/CDI-W or CDIO events offering the Big Tour classes between September 15, 2022 – July 9, 2023. A list of these competitions can be found at <https://data.fei.org/Calendar/Search.aspx>.

Athlete/horse combinations qualifying for the Big Tour must complete the FEI Grand Prix test and the FEI Grand Prix Special test in combination at least at three CDI Tryout Events/Qualifying Competitions. Athlete/horse combinations must also complete one FEI Grand Prix Freestyle test at a CDI Tryout Event/Qualifying Competition during the qualifying period; however, the Grand Prix Freestyle test score will not be used in the calculation of an athlete/horse combination's final average on the ranking list. Each FEI Grand Prix and FEI Grand Prix Special test will count as half (50%) of an athlete/horse combination's overall average from each CDI Tryout Event/Qualifying Competition (i.e. GP 50% + GPS 50% = 100%) on the ranking list. The FEI Short Grand Prix test may also count towards the ranking list. Athlete/horse combinations must complete a minimum of two CDI Tryout Event/Qualifying Competitions after January 1, 2023.

If an athlete/horse combination completes the FEI Grand Prix test at four or more CDI Tryout Events/Qualifying Competitions, the lowest FEI Grand Prix test score will be automatically dropped (regardless of if the FEI Grand Prix Special or FEI Grand Prix Freestyle test was ridden) on the ranking list. If an athlete/horse combination completes the FEI Grand Prix Special test at four or more CDI Tryout Events/Qualifying Competitions, the lowest FEI Grand Prix Special test score will be automatically dropped (regardless of if the FEI Grand Prix Freestyle test was ridden).

The Rankings can be found [here](#).

If an athlete/horse combination is eliminated and/or does not receive a score from any test at any CDI Tryout Event/Qualifying Competition, for purposes of ranking, no score will be shown for that test on the Ranking. Exception: If an athlete or horse has been disqualified by USEF or FEI for a medication rule violation from a sample collected in connection with a Tryout Event/Qualifying Competition, that score may be marked as zero and counted in the ranking.

See Section 1.3.3 for information regarding special considerations and waivers to the above requirements.

1.2.3 **Short List:** After the conclusion of the Qualifying Competition period (July 9, 2023) up to eight (8) athletes (of the Big and Small Tour applicants) will be named to a Short List and be required to compete at Observation Event(s). Each athlete will be selected with a horse listed on their application (it is possible for an athlete to be selected with an additional horse(s)). There will be no ranking of Short List athlete/horse combinations. The athlete/horse combinations recommended to the Dressage Sport Committee by the Selectors, in consultation with the Chef d'Equipe and Team Veterinarian for the Observation Events and approved by the USEF Board of Directors, Executive Committee, or an Ad Hoc approved by the Board of Directors will be selected based on the following (in no priority order):

1. Scores from tests from any 2022 or 2023 FEI Dressage events*;
2. Ranking from CDI Tryout Events/Qualifying Competitions*;
3. Potential of the athlete and/or horse to contribute to a medal winning team in 2023 and/or future teams meaning that consideration may be given to a talented athlete in order to provide experience for potential future teams;
4. Consistency of scores over 74%;
5. Recent scores and the trend in the scores;

6. The competition format of the 2023 Pan American Games, including the bonus points;
7. Previous international experience of athlete and/or horse;
8. “Errors of Course” (FEI Dressage Rules [25th edition, updates effective 1 January 2022], Article 430) or Incomplete Qualifying Competitions due to elimination or withdrawal; and
9. Behavior of athlete and people associated with the athlete (including, without limitation, owners, coaches, and grooms) that may have an impact on creating a positive team environment.

*For all combinations, the FEI Short Grand Prix may be considered by the Selectors as a lesser importance as this test will not be used at the Event.

In exceptional circumstances, an additional athlete/horse combination may be added to the Short List (possibly exceeding eight (8) athletes) if the scores are reflective of a combination that could assist in the overall Team performance. In reviewing the possibility of adding the combination to the Short List, Selectors will use the criteria cited above, in addition to the combination’s scores achieved over the last six (6) months in FEI Dressage Events.

Please note that an invitation to the Observation Events is not a guarantee that an athlete/horse combination will be named to the Team for the Event.

Chef d’Equipe Permissions: Once athlete/horse combinations have been named to the Short List they will come under the control of the Chef d’Equipe through the completion of the Event. They shall not compete without the permission of the Chef d’Equipe.

1.3 Step-by-step description of the selection process for these Games (include maximum Team size):

1.3.1 **Selection of Short List** – See section 1.2.3

1.3.2 **Observation Events** – Up to eight (8) athletes will be selected to a Short List and required to compete in Observation Events. Additional athlete/horse combinations may be added to the Short List (see section 1.2.3). Selected Short List athlete/horse combinations are anticipated to be required to compete in Observation Events between July 10, 2023 and October 20, 2023. The details regarding the Observation Events will be published www.usef.org no later than May 15, 2023 and may include events in Europe and/or events within the United States. Waivers may be considered for the Observation Events upon approval by the Selectors (see Section 1.3.3).

1.3.3 **Special Considerations and Waivers**

In exceptional circumstances, athlete/horse combinations may be selected to the Short List and invited to compete at the Observation Events that have not completed the minimum qualifications outlined in section 1.2.2 subject to the approval of the USEF Board of Directors, Executive Committee, or an Ad Hoc approved by the Board of Directors.

Additionally, an athlete named to the Short List may request special consideration for Team selection without competing in the required number of Observation Events by submitting a written request prior to or during the Observation Events to the Selectors who will approve or disapprove the request based on these factors:

- An athlete/horse combination that has demonstrated “Proven Ability” (See definition on page 14) to succeed at CDI competitions;
- Previous international experience of the athlete and/or horse;
- 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
- Unforeseen circumstances which create a logistical emergency.

If a named athlete's request is approved by the Selectors, an additional athlete/horse combination may be named to the Short List to compete in the Observation Events.

If USEF does not receive invitations for all combinations named to compete at the Observation Events, the Chef d'Equipe, in consultation with the Selectors, will recommend athlete/horse combinations for their designated Observation Events subject to the approval of the USEF Board of Directors, Executive Committee, or an Ad Hoc approved by the Board of Directors including any CDIOs. Additionally, if an Observation Event is found unsuitable for selection purposes following the publication of the FEI Definite Schedule, the Chef d'Equipe, in consultation with the Selectors, may recommend an additional Observation Event or may recommend athlete/horse combinations for their designated Observation Events subject to approval of the USEF Board of Directors, Executive Committee, or an Ad Hoc approved by the Board of Directors including any CDIOs.

In consultation with the athlete, Selectors and Chef d'Equipe, there may be an opportunity for an athlete/horse combination to attend additional Observation Events. If this request is made by the Selectors, they will articulate their reasoning for making the request to the athlete.

1.3.4 FEI Nominated Entry (DATE) - By no later than the closing date for the FEI Nominated Entry (TBD), and based upon the procedures set forth herein, the Selectors, in consultation with the Chef d'Equipe and Team Veterinarian, will recommend up to the maximum number of athletes and horses able to be nominated under FEI Rules for the Event to the USEF Dressage Sport Committee subject to approval of the USEF Board of Directors, Executive Committee, or an Ad Hoc approved by the Board of Directors. The FEI Nominated Entry will be forwarded to the FEI by no later than the FEI Nominated Entry date. Recommendations to the FEI Nominated Entry will be based on the following (in no priority order):

1. Scores from tests from any 2022 or 2023 FEI Dressage events*;
2. Ranking from CDI Tryout Events/Qualifying Competitions*;
3. Potential of the athlete and/or horse to contribute to a medal winning team in 2023 and/or future teams meaning that consideration may be given to a talented athlete in order to provide experience for potential future teams;
4. Consistency of scores over 74%;
5. Recent scores and the trend in the scores;
6. The competition format of the 2023 Pan American Games, including the bonus points;
7. Previous international experience of athlete and/or horse;
8. The experience and standing of the judges in relevance to the 2023 Pan American Games;
9. The FEI rankings and other competitors and individual placings;
10. "State of Preparedness" (see definition of page 14) of athlete and or horse;
11. "Errors of Course" (FEI Dressage Rules [25th edition, updates effective 1 January 2022], Article 430) or Incomplete Qualifying Competitions, Observations Events due to elimination or withdrawal;
12. Behavior of athlete and people associated with the athlete (including, without limitation, owners, coaches, and grooms) that may have an impact on creating a positive team environment.
13. Meet FEI Dressage Pan American Games Qualification Criteria.

*For all combinations, the FEI Short Grand Prix may be considered by the Selectors as a lesser importance as this test will not be used at the Event.

FEI Qualification Criteria

Horse/athlete combination must have achieved at least:

Small Tour - 64% panel score twice from January 1st, 2022, in a CDI or at Games (Central American and Caribbean Games, ODESUR South American Games) at a minimum the same level test. CDIs must have at least

2 FEI Judges of a nationality other than the athlete. The two eligibility scores must be obtained at two separate events (Note: The term “event” is to be interpreted according to the FEI General Regulations).

Big Tour - 58% panel score from January 1st, 2022, in a CDI 2* or higher in a GP. CDI competitions must have at least 2 FEI Judges of a nationality other than the athlete and must have been approved by the FEI before the start of the event.

The deadline to achieve the Certificate of Capability is September 24, 2023.

- 1.3.5 **FEI Definite Entry (DATE)** - After the Observation Events but no later than the closing date for the FEI Definite Entry for the Event, the Selectors in consultation with the Chef d’Equipe will evaluate the athletes and horses submitted on the FEI Nominated Entry and nominate to the FEI as required the Team composed of three (3) Athletes and three (3) Horses or four (4) Athletes and four (4) Horses per FEI Dressage Regulations [25th edition, effective 1st January 2014, Updates effective 1st January 2022], Articles 423 and 449 at the recommendation of the USEF Dressage Sport Committee and approval of the USEF Board of Directors, Executive Committee, or an Ad Hoc approved by the Board of Directors. The Selectors may also recommend a reserve athlete/horse combination and/or reserve horse which may be required to travel with the Team for the mandatory final training (see Section X).

The Chef d’Equipe and Selectors when evaluating the athlete/horse combinations for the Team and the reserve athlete/horse combination will base their evaluations on the following (in no priority order):

1. Scores from tests from any 2022 or 2023 FEI Dressage events;
2. Ranking from CDI Tryout Events/Qualifying Competitions*;
3. Potential of the athlete and/or horse to contribute to a medal winning team in 2023 and/or future teams meaning that consideration may be given to a talented athlete in order to provide experience for potential future teams;
4. Consistency of scores over 74%;
5. Recent scores and the trend in the scores;
6. The competition format of the 2023 Pan American Games, including the bonus point;
7. Previous international experience of athlete and/or horse;
8. The experience and standing of the judges in relevance to the 2023 Pan American Games;
9. The FEI rankings and other competitors and individual placings;
10. “State of Preparedness” (see definition of page 12) of athlete and or horse;
11. “Errors of Course” (FEI Dressage Rules [25th edition, updates effective 1 January 2022], Article 430) or Incomplete Qualifying Competitions, Observations Events due to elimination or withdrawal;
12. Behavior of athlete and people associated with the athlete (including, without limitation, owners, coaches and grooms) that may have an impact on creating a positive team environment.
13. The physical conditions in which the Games will be held, including the travel to the Games, and the potential impact of those conditions on the athlete/horse combinations’ performance; and

*For all combinations, the FEI Short Grand Prix may be considered by the Selectors as a lesser importance as this test will not be used at the Event.

State of Preparedness (see definition on page 12): In consultation with the athlete, Selectors and Chef d’Equipe, there may be an opportunity for an athlete/horse combination to attend additional competitions after being named to the Team or a reserve position. If this request is made by the Selectors, they will articulate their reasoning for making the request to the athlete.

Replacements/Substitutions per FEI Dressage Rules [25th edition, updates effective 1 January 2022], Article 449. See section IV.B for the method in which substitute athletes and horses should be selected, should a vacancy occur.

Declaration of Starters per FEI Dressage Rules [25th edition, updates effective 1 January 2022], Article 424.

2. DISCRETIONARY SELECTION

2.1 Rationale for utilizing discretionary selection: Discretionary selection is used to field the best team possible for the Event.

2.2 Discretionary criteria and how it will be used: See Section 1.3.

2.2.1 **Soundness** - Horses that are candidates for selection for the Event may be examined at any time during the selection process and through the conclusion of the Event for soundness by the Team Veterinarian and a member of the Veterinarian Panel and/or a Selector upon the request of the Selectors, Chef d'Equipe, or USEF Dressage Sport Committee. Horses found to be unsound by the Team Veterinarian or Veterinarian Panel may result in the elimination of the athlete/horse combination from the selection process, but only with the recommendation of the Selectors, Chef d'Equipe, and approval of the USEF Board of Directors, Executive Committee, or an Ad Hoc approved by the Board of Directors.

2.2.2 **Team Veterinarian Request** – Applicants, at their own expense, shall make available, upon the request of the Team Veterinarian, 24 months' worth of complete veterinary records of horses considered for selection. In addition, applicants, at their own expense, shall be responsible for supplying any follow-up diagnostic information requested by the Team Veterinarian for horses under consideration for selection. Applicants, 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 athlete, for horses under consideration for selection. Failure to comply with any reasonable request of the Team Veterinarian may result in the removal of the athlete/horse combination from the selection process by the Selectors upon the recommendation of the Team Veterinarian and with the recommendation of the Selectors, Chef d'Equipe, and approval of the USEF Board of Directors, Executive Committee, or an Ad Hoc approved by the Board of Directors.

2.2.3 **Veterinary Treatment** - Once the athletes are named to compete in the Observation Events (including any athlete with permission not to compete), by no later than the date of FEI Nominated Entry, and prior to the departure of the horses for the Event venue for the purpose of competing in the Event, athletes will be required to obtain written permission from the Team Veterinarian prior to treatment of "invited" horses being treated by any person other than the Team Veterinarian or Veterinary Panel. This permission must be obtained by using an official USEF Dressage Veterinary Treatment Request Form (Attachment H).

Failure to adhere to this policy and/or the directives of the Team Veterinarian as outlined on the USEF Dressage Veterinary Treatment Request Form may result in the removal of the athlete/horse combination from the selection process by the Selectors upon the recommendation of the Team Veterinarian and approval of the USEF Board of Directors, Executive Committee, or an Ad Hoc approved by the Board of Directors.

2.2.4 **Medical Request** - In the event of illness or injury, applicants may be required to submit to a medical examination by a physician(s) approved by the USEF CEO at 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 by the Selectors upon the recommendation of the USEF approved physician(s), and approval of the USEF Board of Directors, Executive Committee, or an Ad Hoc 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 may be removed from the selection process pending approval of the USEF Board of Directors, Executive Committee, or an Ad Hoc approved by the Board of Directors.

2.3 Names of the committee(s) that will be responsible for making discretionary selections, along with a complete list of the members' titles (See Attachment G for the complete list).

- USEF Dressage Selectors (Definition can be found on page 14)
- USEF Dressage Chef d'Equipe
- USEF Dressage Veterinary Panel
- USEF Dressage Team Veterinarian
- USEF Dressage Sport Committee
- USEF Board of Directors, Executive Committee, or Ad Hoc

2.3.1 Process that will be used to identify and handle any potential conflicts of interest involving a member of the committee:

All members of the selection committee must comply with the USEF conflict of interest 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 member of the selection committee who has an actual, possible, 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 and/or 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 committee member's level of involvement (e.g., whether that committee member must recuse oneself from participating in discussions and/or voting). For example, if it is determined that a committee member must recuse oneself from voting, the Audit Committee may still determine that a committee member who has relevant and necessary information with respect to athlete performance, for example a team coach or high performance director, may, if requested by the selection committee, provide such information to the committee so long as such information is provided in a fair and unbiased manner and so long as the committee member with the conflict of interest does not participate in the deliberation or vote toward the final decision. The committee member must not otherwise influence other members of the committee 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 a committee member 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 committee member 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 USEF selection committee appointment process.

3. REMOVAL OF ATHLETES

3.1. **Prior to the acceptance of the nomination by the USOPC, USDF has jurisdiction over potential nominees:**

An Athlete or Horse may be removed for any of the following reasons, as determined by the USEF:

- 3.1.1. Voluntary withdrawal. Athlete must submit a written letter to the USEF CEO.
- 3.1.2. Injury or illness as certified by a physician (or medical staff) approved by the USEF. If an Athlete refuses verification of their illness or injury by a physician (or medical staff) approved by the USEF, their injury will be assumed to be disabling and he/she may be removed.
- 3.1.3. Failure to participate in Mandatory Training and/or Competition as defined in Section 9 of these procedures.

- 3.1.4. Violation of the [USEF Code of Conduct](#)
- 3.1.5. Violation of the [U.S. Center for SafeSport Code](#) or [USEF Safe Sport Policy](#).
- 3.1.6. Failure of the horse owner to sign the Horse Participation Agreement (Attachment X).
- 3.1.7. Injury or illness as certified by the Team Veterinarian and/or Veterinary Panel. If an Athlete or owner refuses to have the Horse examined by the veterinarian approved by USEF, the injury or illness will be assumed to be disabling and they may be removed.
- 3.1.8. Failure to adhere to the agreed upon plans, programs, guidance and/or directives of the Chef d'Equipe.
- 3.1.9. Detection of a prohibited substance in the horse (see below).
- 3.1.10. 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.
- 3.1.11. Non-compliance with the eligibility requirements listed in Section 1.1. of these selection procedures.
- 3.1.12. Failure to comply with a request of the Team Veterinarian and/or member of the Veterinary Panel.
- 3.1.13. Exceptional circumstances having a direct bearing upon obtaining the best qualified team for the Event, in consultation with the Chef d'Equipe and Selectors.
- 3.1.14. Failure to comply with reasonable requests regarding Logistical information and deadlines.
- 3.1.15. Behavior of the athlete and people associated with the athlete (including, without limitation, accredited owners, coaches and grooms) 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.

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.

3.2. After acceptance of nomination by the USOPC:

Once Athlete entries have been submitted to the Local Organizing Committee by the USOPC, the USOPC has jurisdiction over the Team, at which time, in addition to any applicable USEF Code of Conduct, the USOPC's Code of Conduct and Grievance Procedures apply. The USOPC's Code of Conduct is included in the Games Forms made available prior to the respective Games; the USOPC's Grievance Procedures can be found at: www.teamusa.org/Footer/Legal/Governance-Documents

An athlete may be removed from the Team at any time for the following reasons:

- 3.2.1. Voluntary withdrawal. An athlete must submit a written to the USEF CEO
- 3.2.2. Injury or illness as certified by a USEF approved physician (or medical staff).
- 3.2.3. Injury or illness of the horse as determined by the Team Veterinarian.
- 3.2.4. Violation of the USEF Code of Conduct.
- 3.2.5. Violation of the USOPC Code of Conduct and Grievance Procedures.

- 3.3. An athlete may be removed as a nominee to the Team or from the Team for an adjudicated violation of IOC, IPC, Panam Sports, APC, WADA, IF, USADA and/or USOPC anti-doping protocol, policies, and procedures, as well as the U.S. Center for SafeSport Code, the USOPC Athlete Safety Policy and USEF Safe Sport Policy, as applicable.

4. REPLACEMENT OF ATHLETES AND HORSES

- 4.1. Describe the selection and approval process for determining replacement Athlete(s) AND Horses(s) should a vacancy occur:

- 4.1.1. **Prior to the acceptance of the USOPC Final Entries:** To fill openings, if they occur, the Selectors, in consultation with the Chef d'Equipe and Team Veterinarian, will evaluate the athletes and horses named to the Team, or as alternates named to the FEI Nominated Entries and may recommend that a substitution be made. These recommendations are upon the recommendation of the USEF Dressage Sport Committee, and subject to the approval of the

Board of Directors, Executive Committee, or an Ad Hoc approved by the Board of Directors, if available within a practical timeframe. The Chef d'Equipe and Selectors when evaluating athletes and horses will base their evaluations on the factors outlined in Section I.C.2-3. Any substitutions must be upon the recommendation of the Selectors, in consultation with the Chef d'Equipe, and the USEF Dressage Sport Committee, and subject to the approval of the Board of Directors, Executive Committee, or an Ad Hoc approved by the Board of Directors. Any substitutions for veterinary reasons must have the approval of the Team Veterinarian and when appropriate the Veterinary Panel. Any substitutions for medical reasons other than voluntary withdrawal must be documented by a physician(s) who is approved by the USEF or USOPC.

4.1.2. **After submission of Entries by Name to the Local Organizing Committee, including any applicable group or committee and until the Last Date for Replacements (See Definitions on page 14):**

After acceptance of the USOPC Final Entries and until the Last Date for Replacements, USEF has the ability to recommend to the USOPC to replace athletes and/or horses on the USOPC Final Entries for reasons set forth in Section III.B. During this time period, athlete/horse combinations on the Team may be replaced with an athlete/horse combination or a horse on the FEI Nominated Entries. Replacements may only be made by recommendation of the Chef d'Equipe, with approval of the Selectors, and in accordance with the FEI Rules and/or for reasons set forth in Section III.B and subject to approval by the USEF Chef de Mission and the USOPC. 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 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.3. Any substitution for veterinary reasons must be upon the recommendation of the Chef d'Equipe and must also have the approval of the Team Veterinarian. Any substitution for medical reasons must be documented by a physician(s) who is approved by the USEF or USOPC.

5. **SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:** USEF will retain all 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 Ceremonies of the Event.
6. **REQUIRED DOCUMENTS:** In addition to the USOPC Code of Conduct, the following documents are required to be signed by an Athlete as a condition of nomination to the Pan American Games:
 - Application (Attachment A)
 - USEF Horse Participation Agreement (Attachment B)
 - USEF Code of Conduct (Attachment C)
 - USEF Release, Assumption of Risk, Waiver, and Indemnification Agreement (Attachment D)
 - USOPC Code of Conduct and Grievance Procedures (Attachment F)Horse Owners must also sign the USEF Horse Participation Agreement.
7. **PUBLICITY/DISTRIBUTION OF PROCEDURES:** The USOPC approved Selection Procedures (complete and unaltered) will be posted/published by the USEF in the following public location(s):
 - 7.1. 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 the USOPC.
 - 7.2. Other: These procedures will also be available by mail or email upon request.
8. **DATE OF NOMINATION:** Nomination of Athletes, including replacements, will be announced to all Athletes and submitted to the USOPC on or before: TBD.

9. MANDATORY TRAINING AND/OR COMPETITION: Short list athletes and horses may be required to meet in one location for the final Veterinary Evaluation (see definition on page 14). Date and time of final Veterinary Evaluation will be communicated to Short List Athletes no later than August 31, 2023. The Team and reserve(s) athletes/horses may be required to meet in one location for a mandatory final training camp. These dates will be communicated no later than thirty (30) days prior to the start of the camp.

10. ANTI-DOPING REQUIREMENTS:

- A. Human Anti-Doping: Athletes must adhere to all IOC, IPC, Panam Sports, APC, WADA, FEI, USADA and USOPC anti-doping protocols, policies, and procedures, as applicable. This includes participation in Out-of-Competition Testing as required by the IOC, IPC, Panam Sports, APC, WADA, FEI, USADA and USOPC 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 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 Athlete 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 committees/groups were responsible for creating these Selection Procedures: USEF Dressage Sport Committee and the USEF Board of Directors or Executive Committee. See Attachment G for list of USEF Committees, their roles, and list of members.

12. USEF BYLAWS AND GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES: The USEF Bylaws can be found [here](#). Contact information for the USOPC Athlete Ombuds can be found below in Section 16.

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 IOC, IPC, Panam Sports, APC, as applicable, and/or FEI rules and regulations as presently known and understood. Any change in the selection procedures caused by a change in IOC, IPC, Panam Sports, APC, as applicable, and/or 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 may require revisions, pursuant to their resubmission to the USOPC.

16. ATHLETE OMBUDS OFFICE

The Athlete Ombuds Office provides cost-free, independent, and confidential advice regarding Athlete rights, grievance procedures and any other related guidance pertaining to selection procedures and can assist in mediating disputes between athletes and USEF.

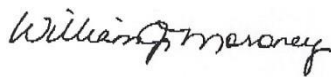

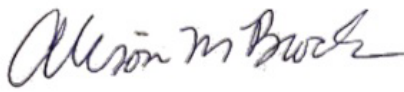
To contact the Athlete Ombuds Office:

PHONE: (719) 866-5000

EMAIL: ombudsman@usathlete.org

WEBSITE: www.usathlete.org

17. 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		18 November 2022
Sport Program Director	Will Connell		18 November 2022
USOPC Athletes' Advisory Council Representative*	Allison Brock		18 November 2022

* If the USOPC AAC Representative has delegated authority to the Alternate AAC Representative to sign the Selection Procedures, attach a letter from the AAC Representative indicating the reason they have delegated authority.

* Signature by the Athlete Representative constitutes that she has read and understands the Selection Procedures. If the Athlete Representative reads and does not agree with the Athlete Selection Procedures being submitted by USEF, she may submit those reasons in writing to her USOPC Sport Performance Team.

* If, for some reason, a sport does not have an elected USOPC AAC Representative, the USEF must designate an athlete from that sport to review and sign the Selection Procedures.

Any questions regarding these Selection Procedures should be addressed to Hallye Griffin, USEF Managing Director of Dressage, United States Equestrian Federation, 4001 Wing Commander Way, Lexington, KY 40511, Phone (859) 225-6949, Email: hgriffin@usef.org.

DEFINITIONS

USEF DRESSAGE SELECTORS - Five (5) individuals (the “Selectors”) will be appointed by the USEF CEO upon recommendation of the USEF Dressage Sport Committee. The Selectors are subject to the USEF Code of Conduct (Attachment C) and the Code of Ethics and Conflict of Interest policies of the USEF (Attachment I). The Selectors are Senior Active Members in good standing of USEF, who are also members of the Dressage community and who are knowledgeable and experienced in Dressage at the international level.

A minimum of two (2) Replacement Selectors 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.

LAST DATE FOR REPLACEMENTS

The Last Date for Replacements is the last date at which an athlete or horse, selected to travel to the Event can be subject to substitution with an athlete or horse not previously selected to travel. For the avoidance of doubt, only four horses can travel to the Event. The Last Date for Replacements will be based on when the U.S. horses fly to the Event, where they fly from, the availability of space on the official horse flights departing at a later date and the practicality of a horse traveling at a later date. The date will be decided by the USEF Director of Sport in consultation with the designated horse shipping company, the Managing Director of Dressage, Chef d’Equipe, and Team Veterinarian. The date will be published to all athletes selected to the Nominated Entry List as soon as it can be decided upon. To clarify, horses will only be allowed to travel to the Event on the Official Horse flights as organized by the designated horse shipping company.

PROVEN ABILITY

Big Tour Applicants: Athlete/horse combination has earned 74% or higher in CDI Grand Prix or CDI Grand Prix Special in 2022 or 2023.

Small Tour Applicants: Athlete/horse combination has earned 77% or higher in CDI Prix St. Georges or CDI Intermediate I in 2022 or 2023.

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

CDI - Concourse de Dressage International

EVENT – The 2023 Pan American Games

TEAM – The 2023 Pan American Games US Dressage Team