

UNITED STATES EQUESTRIAN FEDERATION, INC.
ATHLETE SELECTION PROCEDURES
2021 FEI Endurance Championship for Young Riders & Juniors
Ermelo, Netherlands; September 6-11, 2021

Approved by the US Equestrian Board of Directors on 2nd December 2020

Disclaimer: These Selection Procedures are based on USEF and/or FEI rules and regulations as presently known and understood. Any change in the Selection Procedures caused by a change in USEF 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 selection procedures are always subject to unforeseen, intervening circumstances, and realistically may not have accounted for every possible contingency.

I. Selection System

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

1. Nationality / Passport Requirements: The athlete must be a U.S. citizen and in compliance with FEI Article 119 (www.feg.org) at the time of application, selection, and until the conclusion of the 2021 FEI Endurance Pan American Championship for Seniors & Young Riders (“Event”).

2. Minimum International Federation (IF) Standards for Participation:

a. Athlete/horse combinations wishing to compete on the 2021 U.S. Endurance Young Rider Team for this Event must meet the [FEI Qualifying Requirements](#) by June 14, 2021 (*subject to change*).

b. Minimum Age Requirements:

- Junior/Young Rider: must have been born between January 1, 2000 and December 31, 2007 (FEI General Rules, Appendix A).
- Junior/Young Riders may take part in FEI Senior Championships if they meet the age eligibility requirement and the minimum weight requirement; however, may not participate in a senior and junior/young rider FEI Championship within the same calendar year.

c. Minimum Weight Requirements which includes all riding equipment except for the bridle (FEI Rules for Endurance, Article 805):

- Young Riders must meet the minimum weight requirement of 60kg;

d. Horses must be eight (8) years old or older in 2021 (FEI Rules for Endurance, Article 827).

e. The athlete and horse must be registered and in good standing with the FEI at the time of application, selection, and until the conclusion of the Event.

f. The athlete and horse must comply with FEI Rules for the Event including but not limited to the [FEI Qualifying Requirements](#).

3. Other Requirements:

a. The athlete must be a USEF member in good standing at the time of application, selection, and until the conclusion of the Event.

b. The horse must have a valid FEI Passport by no later than June 14, 2021.

c. The owner must be an active member in good standing with USEF or his/her National Federation at the time of selection and through the conclusion of the Event and have proof, in English, of membership in good standing of his/her National Federation.

d. Application of Intent – Athletes wishing to be considered for the Event must complete an online application (Attachment A) with the appropriate fee at www.usef.org. Applications submitted on or before March 31, 2021 at 11:59pm, ET will be charged an application fee of \$50. Applications submitted online between April 1, 2021 and April 29, 2021 at 11:59pm, ET will be charged an application fee of \$150. No application will be accepted after April 29, 2021 at 11:59pm, ET. A confirmation email will be sent to the athlete once the application has been received. Additional horses may be added to an existing Application of Intent until April 29, 2021 at 11:59pm, ET. Athletes are only permitted to compete on horses named on his/her application of intent.

e. Horse Participation Agreement: Owners of horses named to the FEI Nominated Entry must sign the USEF Horse Participation Agreement (Attachment B). A horse owner(s)' failure to sign the USEF Horse Participation Agreement may result in the removal of the horse and/or athlete from the FEI Nominated Entry.

f. The athlete shall certify by signing the Application of Intent that he has received, read, and assumes responsibility for meeting all requirements of the Selection Procedures for the Event. The athlete and horse(s) owner must certify by signing the Application of Intent, that they 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's Code](#); and the [USEF Safe Sport Policy](#) (Attachment E) and that they understand these documents, and that they agree to be bound by them.

g. All accredited personnel will be required to adhere to the USEF Safe Sport Policy (Attachment E) and the USEF Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies.

2. Below are the event names, dates, and locations of all Selection Trials to be used as part of the selection process:

Qualifying competitions are considered any CEI1*/CEIYJ1*, CEI2*/CEIYJ2* and CEI3*/CEIYJ3* both within and outside of the USA between June 1, 2020 and June 14, 2021 (*subject to change*).

Athletes and horses will be required to earn qualifying scores at CEIs. The FEI Calendar can be found [here](#). Please note that the 2021 FEI Calendar will be published once approved by the FEI, no later than

December 31, 2020. Please check regularly for updates to the FEI Calendar as changes or updates may be posted at any time.

3. **Provided below is a comprehensive, step-by-step description of the method that explains how athletes will go through the selection process to become team nominees:**

1. **Selection for FEI Nominated Entry List:** Athlete/horse combinations will be ranked according to official FEI results.

Ranking Lists Calculation:

- a. Ranking is established by taking into account all the results of an athlete/horse combination from CEI1*/CEIYJ1*, CEI2*/CEIYJ2*, and CEI3*/CEIYJ3* competitions held within and outside of the U.S. between June 1, 2020 and June 14, 2021 (*subject to change*). USEF will automatically track points earned.
- b. Qualifying points may be earned prior to the submission of the Application of Intent.
- c. Qualifying points are earned when an athlete/horse combination receives a final score/position/placing from a CEI1*/CEIYJ1*, CEI2*/CEIYJ2*, and CEI3*/CEIYJ3* (i.e., first, second, third, fourth, etc.).
- d. Athlete/horse combinations will not receive a '0' on the ranking list or be placed on the ranking if eliminated due to a:
 - Withdrawal (WD)
 - Retirement (RET)
 - Disqualification (DSQ)
 - Finished Not Ranked (FNR)
 - Failed to Qualify (FTQ)
- e. Athletes wishing to have more than one horse considered for the Championship may have the horse competed by another athlete ("Proxy Rider") at a CEI1*/CEIYJ1*, CEI2*/CEIYJ2*, and CEI3*/CEIYJ3*. Athletes must declare any Proxy Riders through the Application of Intent or in writing to Steven Morrissey (smorrissey@usef.org) by April 29, 2021 at 11:59pm, ET. Proxy Riders who have not applied for selection for the Championship are not eligible for selection. Athletes who apply for selection for the Championship and compete as a Proxy Rider are not eligible for selection with any horse that is not listed on their application of intent. Proxy Riders must also meet the age requirements of a Junior or Young Rider as determined by the FEI.
- f. Athletes competing as Proxy Riders will be noted on the ranking list once the Application of Intent is submitted to USEF.
- g. Points earned by Proxy Riders will count for themselves as well as for the Athlete that has declared them as a Proxy Rider.
- h. Scale of points for the calculation of rankings:
$$\text{Completion Points} + \text{Placement Points} + \text{Time Bonus Points} = \text{Ranking Score}$$

1. Completion Points: Points will be awarded to the athlete/horse combinations who complete the competition entered and are based on the total distance competed as stated in the final results (i.e., 1 point = 1km).

For example,

- 160km competition = 160 points
- 120km competition = 120 points
- 103km competition = 103 points
- 100km competition = 100 points

2. Placements Points: Points will be awarded to athlete/horse combinations who complete the competition within the Top Ten of all finishers.

- The combination who is first place of all finishers: 100 points
- The combination who is second place of all finishers: 90 points
- The combination who is third place of all finishers: 80 points
- The combination who is fourth place of all finishers: 70 points
- The combination who is fifth place of all finishers: 60 points
- The combination who is sixth place of all finishers: 50 points
- The combination who is seventh place of all finishers: 40 points
- The combination who is eighth place of all finishers: 30 points
- The combination who is ninth place of all finishers: 20 points
- The combination who is tenth place of all finishers: 10 points
- Combinations finishing after tenth place will receive no Placement Points.

3. Time Bonus Points are earned by athlete/horse combinations who complete the competition.

- The first placed combination shall receive 100 points
- Combinations within 15 minutes of the Winning Time = 100 points
- Over 15 minutes and within 30 minutes = 90 points
- Over 30 minutes and within 45 minutes = 80 points
- Over 45 minutes and within 60 minutes = 70 points
- Over 60 minutes and within 75minutes = 60 points
- Over 75 minutes and within 90 minutes = 50 points

- Over 90 minutes and within 105 minutes = 40 points
- Over 105 minutes and within 120 minutes = 30 points
- Over 120 minutes and within 180 minutes = 20 points
- In excess of 180 minutes = Zero (0) points

The ranking lists will be published monthly on the USEF website here:

<https://www.usef.org/compete/disciplines/endurance/young-rider-world-endurance-championship>.

Athletes ranked with more than two (2) horses must declare in writing to Steven Morrissey (smorrissey@usef.org) the two (2) horses that they wish to remain in consideration by June 14, 2021 (*subject to change*).

Mandatory Training Session (*subject to funding*): Following the end of the qualifying period, athlete/horse combinations ranked in the Top 12 may be required to participate in the Mandatory Training Session. By no later than May 5, 2021, relevant details of the Mandatory Training Session will be circulated to all applicants (who have not withdrawn). At present, it is envisioned that the Mandatory Training Session will be held no later than July 12, 2021.

An athlete/horse combination that is not able to participate in the Mandatory Training Session because of veterinary, medical, or family emergencies or for logistical reasons may submit a written request to the Selectors to not attend the Mandatory Training Session. The Selectors will approve or disapprove the request based on the circumstances, facts, and, in the case of illness or injury to horse or athlete, documentation by a member of the Team Veterinarian or physician(s) approved by the USEF International Disciplines Council or its designees. In the event the Selectors disapprove the athlete's request, the athlete/horse combination must participate in the Mandatory Training Session or they will no longer be considered for selection. The reason(s) for not attending the Mandatory Training Session will be explained to the other athletes attending the Mandatory Training Session upon request.

FEI Nominated Entry List:

Following the Mandatory Training Session and by no later than TBD, the Selectors Group, in consultation with the Chef d'Equipe and Team Veterinarian, the Selectors Group will recommend to the USEF Endurance Sport Committee, the five (5) athlete/horse combinations and up to the maximum number of substitutes/replacements to be included on the FEI Nominated Entry List, subject to the approval of the USEF Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group of the USEF Board of Directors.

The Selectors Group, in evaluating athlete/horse combinations to be named to the FEI Nominated Entry, will base their evaluations on the following:

1. Meet the FEI and USEF Qualification Criteria;
2. Final Placing on the Ranking List;
3. And the overall soundness of the athlete/horse combination evaluated by the Team Veterinarian during the Mandatory Training Session.

For clarification purposes, if the Mandatory Training Session cannot be held due to a lack of funding or there is a cancellation in USEF's sole discretion, the Selectors Group will recommend to the USEF Endurance Sport Committee, the five (5) athlete/horse combinations and up to the maximum number of substitutes/replacements to be included on the FEI Nominated Entry List that have met the FEI and USEF Qualification Criteria and who have not withdrawn from the selection process, subject to the approval of the

USEF Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group of the USEF Board of Directors. A final date will be posted once the FEI Nominated Entry deadline is published.

Five (5) athlete/horse combinations will be included in the official invitation to attend the Event for the Event based upon their position on the final ranking list. The number of athletes and horses allowed to travel to the Event is subject to the approval of the FEI and Organizing Committee as stated in the Definite Schedule for the Event. (FEI Rules for Endurance, Articles 844.5.2). If an athlete declines an invitation or requests removal from the FEI Nominated Entry List, the next highest ranked athlete/horse combination will be used to serve as members of the Team or as a substitute/replacement. Athletes with a second horse can only use the second horse based upon its position on the ranking list. Athlete/horse combinations serving as members of the Team or as a substitute/replacement and attend the Event may only compete based upon their position on the final ranking list. Please see Section II for Last Date for Replacements.

Nominated Entry athlete/horse combinations may be substituted with replacement athlete/horse combinations for any of the Reasons for Removal as listed in Section VII. Any substitutions for veterinary reasons must be documented by the Team Veterinarian.

II. Last Date for Replacements: The Last Date for Replacements is the last date at which an athlete or horse can be substituted into the Team selected to travel to the Event based upon their position on the final ranking list. The date will be based on when the U.S. horses fly to the Event, where they fly from and the availability of space on horse flights departing at a later date and the practicality of traveling a horse at a later date. The date will be circulated as early as is practical and once travel plans are known. To clarify, athletes are responsible for organizing and funding their horse's transport to/from the Event.

See Section VIII for the method in which substitution/replacement athletes and horses should be selected, should a vacancy occur.

III. FEI Definite Entry: The FEI Definite Entry will be done in accordance with the FEI Rules for Endurance, Article 844.3.1 and FEI General Regulations, Article 116.2.2(ii).

After Acceptance of the FEI Definite Entries and up to one (1) hour before the First Horse Inspection: Replacements will be made according to the FEI Rules for Endurance, Article 846 and in accordance with the criteria outlined in Section VIII.B.3.

Declaration of Starters: The Declaration of Starters will be done in accordance with FEI Rules for Endurance, Article 845.

To clarify, only those athletes and horses named to the FEI Nominated Entry List for the U.S. are allowed to compete at the Event.

IV. Provided below are the names of all committee/groups who oversee the selection process, including the name(s) and roles(s) of their members: The USEF Endurance Sport Committee will oversee the selection process, which shall be reviewed by the International Disciplines Council or an Ad Hoc Group of the International Disciplines Council, with final approval by the USEF Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group of the USEF Board of Directors (see Attachment F for the list of USEF Committees, their roles, and list of members).

V. Other Consideration:

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

In-Competition. All horses entered to compete in any FEI or USEF competition are subject to drug testing at any time from when the competition begins until the competition ends or beginning when the horse arrives for the competition until the competition ends, whichever beginning occurs first.

Blood and/or urine samples may be collected and tested for substances prohibited or forbidden under the subject competition rules. National competitions may invoke GR409 whereby samples will be tested for FEI prohibited substances, including metabolites and markers.

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-competition, the results, including the level detected for controlled medications, will be reported to the USEF Chief Executive Officer and General Counsel, who will notify the Director of Sport Programs or the Discipline Director for dissemination of information as appropriate. In such instance, the positive finding may result in the elimination of the horse and/or athlete from the Selection Process. Before elimination occurs, the owner and athlete will be afforded a hearing by a panel (“Selection Hearing Panel”) comprised of at least one member of the applicable discipline Sport Committee along with at least two members of the Hearing Committee, one of which must be an Eligible Athlete. The Chairman of the USEF Veterinary Committee, or his designee, may serve Ex Officio and a member of the Veterinary Advisory Group selected for the event may serve Ex Officio.

Out-of-Competition. Blood and/or urine samples may be collected out-of-competition at any time throughout the selection period, which is defined as commencing on November 1, 2020 (the date the applications open) 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.

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. In such instances, the positive finding may result in the elimination of the horse and/or athlete from the Selection Process unless the Veterinary Advisory Group 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.

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

USEF GR409.2 Equine Drugs and Medications, Prohibited Substance Provisions

No horse and/or pony competing in a Breed or Discipline designated as (or part of) a No Prohibited Substance Group is to be shown in any class at a competition licensed by the Federation if it has

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

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

VI. Selection

A. Rationale for utilizing selection: Selection is used to field the best team possible.

B. Selection criteria and explain how it will be used: See Section I.2 and Section I.3.

C. Selection Committee:

1. Names of the Committees(s) or Individuals that will be responsible for selection per FEI and USOPC requirements:

- USEF Endurance Selectors Group
- USEF Endurance Team Veterinarian
- USEF Endurance Sport Committee
- USEF Board of Directors or Ad Hoc Selection Group

2. **Complete list of the members of the committee(s), their titles and their National Governing Body (NGB) role that qualifies them to serve in this capacity:** See Attachment F for the list of USEF Committees, their roles, and list of members.

Selectors Group: Three (3) individuals (the "Selectors") will be appointed by the USEF International Disciplines Council and approved by the USEF Board of Directors upon recommendation of the USEF Endurance Sport Committee. The Selectors are subject to the USEF Code of Conduct (Attachment C) and the USEF Code of Ethics and Conflict of Interest Policies of the USEF (Attachment H). The Selectors are Senior Active Members in good standing of USEF, who are also members of the Endurance Community and are knowledgeable and experienced in Endurance at the international level, and include one Endurance Eligible Athlete Representative as defined by the USOC (See Definitions on page 12) but who is not an applicant for the Team ("Eligible Athlete Representative Selector").

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. There will be a minimum of 20% Eligible Athlete representation on the panel of the Selectors.

Ad Hoc Selection Group: The Ad Hoc Selection Group is approved by the USEF Board of Directors.

3. Specify the process that will be used to identify and handle any potential conflicts of interest involving a member of the Committee: Any member of the Selection Committee who has a possible conflict of interest must disclose it. If such conflict exists, the Selection Committee member must recuse him/herself from Committee discussions and voting. Further, the Committee member should not otherwise influence other members of the Committee in the nomination process. However, a Committee member who recused him/herself, but who has relevant and necessary information with respect to athlete performance, for example a national team coach or high performance director, may, if requested by the Selection Committee, provide such information to the Committee so long as information is provided in a fair and unbiased manner and the Committee member who declared the conflict of interest does not vote toward the final decision.

VII. Removal of Athletes

A. An athlete may be removed from the FEI Nominated Entry List or Definite Entry List for any of the following reasons, as determined by USEF and in accordance with the procedures:

- Voluntary withdrawal. Athlete or Owner must submit a written letter via email (smorrissey@usef.org) to the USEF CEO and Endurance Department.
- Injury or illness as certified by a USEF approved physician (or medical staff). If an athlete refuses verification of their illness or injury by a USEF approved physician (or medical staff), their injury will be assumed to be disabling and they may be removed in order to meet FEI General Regulations, Article 117.2.
- Injury or illness as certified 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.
- Violation of the USEF Code of Conduct and Grievance Procedures (Attachment C).
- Violation of the USEF Safe Sport Policy or U.S. Center for SafeSport Code (Attachment E).
- Failure of an owner(s) to sign the USEF Horse Participation Agreement (Attachment B).
- Detection of a prohibited substance in the horse.
- Failure to adhere to all World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA), FEI, USEF and U.S. Anti-Doping Agency (USADA) anti-doping protocol, policies and procedures including participation in out-of-competition testing as required by WADA, FEI, USEF, and USADA Rules.

- Exceptional circumstances having a direct bearing upon obtaining the best prepared team for the Event, in consultation with the Chef d'Equipe.
- Failure to comply with a request of the Team Veterinarian and/or member of the Veterinary Panel.
- Failure to adhere to the agreed upon plans and/or directives of the Chef d'Equipe.

In these procedures, the removal of an athlete is closely related to the process by which he would be substituted. Therefore, the reasons for which an athlete may be removed are thoroughly addressed in Section VIII, Substitution/Replacement of Athlete and/or Horse.

An athlete removed from the Team pursuant to this provision has the right to a hearing under the USEF's Bylaws, Article 703 and USEF General Rules, Chapter 6, GR 605 or USOPC Bylaw, Section 9.

B. After the acceptance of nomination by the FEI:

The USEF has jurisdiction over the Squad, Team or Individuals once the Nominated Entry List is submitted to the FEI. An athlete may be removed from the Team and/or as an Individual at any time for the following reasons, as determined by the USEF in accordance with these procedures:

- Voluntary withdrawal. An athlete or owner must submit a written letter via email (smorrissey@usef.org) to the USEF CEO.
- Violation of WADA, FEI, USEF, USADA anti-doping protocol, policies and procedures.
- Injury or illness as certified by a USEF approved physician (or medical staff) in order to meet FEI General Regulations, Article 117.2.
- Injury or illness 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.
- Violation of the USEF Code of Conduct and Grievance Procedures (Attachment C).
- Violation of the USEF Safe Sport Policy or U.S. Center for SafeSport Code (Attachment E).
- Exceptional circumstances having a direct bearing upon obtaining the best prepared team for the Event, in consultation with the Chef d'Equipe.
- Failure to comply with a request of the Team Veterinarian and/or member of the Veterinary Panel.
- Failure to adhere to the agreed upon plans and/or directives of the Chef d'Equipe.

- C. An athlete may be removed from the FEI Nominated Entry List, FEI Definite Entry List, Squad, or Team at any time for violation of WADA, FEI, USEF, USADA anti-doping protocol, policies, and procedures (See VII above).

VIII. Substitution/Replacement of Athletes and Horses

- A. Following is the process by which the substitution/replacement pool of athletes and horses will be identified:** The ranked list of athletes on the FEI Nominated Entry Lists for the U.S. will comprise the pool of substitute/replacement athletes and horses.
- B. Substitution/Replacement athlete(s) will be selected, should a vacancy occur according to the following method:**
- 1. Prior to the acceptance of the Nominated Entry List by the FEI:** Once the Team for the Event has been announced and prior to the submission of the FEI Nominated Entry List, Team members and substitutes may be substituted with substitute athlete/horse combinations for any of the reason outlined in Section VII (Removal of Athletes) based upon their position on the final ranking list. Team members may only be substituted with substituted athlete/horse combinations for veterinary or medical reasons, or for breach of the USEF Code of Conduct or Safe Sport Policy, but in consultation with the Team Veterinarian and the Chef d'Equipe/Technical Advisor, and at the recommendation of the Selectors Group and USEF Endurance Sport Committee with approval by the USEF Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group of the USEF Board of Directors. Any substitution for veterinary reasons other than voluntary withdrawal must have approval for the Team Veterinarian. Any substitution for medical reasons other than voluntary withdrawal must be documented by physician(s) approved by the USEF.
 - 2. After acceptance of the FEI Nominated Entry List and until the Last Date for Replacements:** After the Team and substitutes for the Event have been announced and prior to the last day for replacement, Team members may only be replaced with athlete/horse combinations for veterinary or medical reasons or for breach of the USEF Code of Conduct or Safe Sport Policy, or for failure to sign the USEF Horse Participation Agreement.

The Last Date for Replacements is the last date at which an athlete/horse combination can be substituted into the Team selected to travel to the Event based upon their position on the final ranking list. The date will be based on when the U.S. horses fly to the Event, where they fly from and the availability of space on horse flights departing at a later date and the practicality of traveling a horse at a later date. The date will be circulated to all athletes selected to the FEI Nominated Entry List as soon as the Definite Schedule for the Event is published. To clarify, athletes are responsible for organizing and funding their horse's transport to/from the Event.

Any replacement for medical reasons must be documented by a physician(s) approved by USEF or physically present at the Event venue approved by the FEI. Any replacement for veterinary reason must be documented by the Team Veterinarian.

- 3. After Last Date for Replacements and until one (1) hour before the First Horse Inspection:** After the Last Date for Replacements and up until one (1) hour before the First Horse Inspection, the athlete and/or horses may be removed for reasons set forth in Section VIII. During this time period, Team members may only be replaced with a reserve present at the Event. However, the reason for a substitution must only be because either, the athlete is unfit to compete due to injury or illness or there is a strong veterinary case for substitution or the performance of the Team member has dropped off to such an extent that for the success for the Team, a substitution is vital. The latter substitution will almost certainly occur as a

result of a veterinary problem which it may or may not be possible to define given the time/resources available at the time. Replacements may only be made by the recommendation of the Chef d'Equipe/Technical Advisor, with approval of the USEF Director of Sport, Endurance Team Leader, and/or Team Veterinarian present at the Event. Any replacement for medical reasons must be documented by a physician(s) physically present at the Event venue approved by the FEI. Any replacement for veterinary reasons must be documented by the Team Veterinarian.

4. **After the Declaration of Starters:** Will be done in accordance with FEI Endurance Rules, Article 846. At this point, the Chef d'Equipe/Technical Advisor will declare the names of the athletes and of the horses allocated to the athletes definitely starting the Event.

5. **After the Declaration of Starters and up to two (2) hours before the scheduled start time of the Competition:** During this time period, USEF has the ability to request permission from the Ground Jury to replace athletes and/or horses on the Team for reasons set forth in Section VIII. During this time period, Team members may only be replaced with a reserve present at the Event. However, the reason for substitution must only be because either, the athlete is unfit to compete due to injury or illness or there is a strong veterinary case of substitution or the performance of the Team has dropped off to such an extent that for the success of the Team, a substitution is vital. The latter substitution will almost certainly occur as a result of a veterinary problem which it may or may be possible to define given the time/resources available at the time. Replacements may only be made by the recommendation of the Chef d'Equipe/Technical Advisor, with approval of the USEF Sport Director, Endurance Team Leader, Selector(s), and/or Team Veterinarian present at the Event and in accordance with FEI Rules for Endurance, Article 846 or for reasons set forth in Section VII. Any replacement for veterinary reasons must be documented by the Team Veterinarian. Any replacement for medical reasons must be document by a physician(s) physically present at the Event approved by the FEI.

C. Group or committee that will be responsible for making athlete substitution/replacement determinations:

1. **Group or committee who determines a substitution/replacement to the Team:**
 - a. **Prior to acceptance of the FEI Nominated Entry List:** See Section VIII.B.1.
 - b. **After the acceptance of the FEI Nominated Entry List and until Last Date of Replacements:** See Section VIII.B.2
 - c. **After Last Date for Replacements and until one (1) hour before the First Horse Inspection:** See Section VIII.B.3.
 - d. **After the Declaration of Starters and up to two (2) hours before the scheduled start of the Event:** See Section VIII.B.4.

IX. Supporting Documents: USEF will retain all approved Selection Procedures and supporting documents, including evaluation forms and data from the selection process for six months past the date of the Closing Ceremonies for the Event.

X. Required Documents: The following documents are required to be properly executed by applicants and horse owners as a condition of nominate for the Event and are included as attachments:

- Application of Intent (Attachment A)

- Horse Participation Agreement (Attachment B)
- USEF Code of Conduct (Attachment C)
- USEF Release, Assumption of Risk, Waiver, and Indemnification (Attachment D)
- USEF Safe Sport Policy (Attachment E)

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

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

XI. Additional Documents: Applicants are required to read the USEF Athlete Agreement (Attachment H) and are requested to sign the document.

XII. Publicity/Distribution of Procedures: The USEF approved Selection Procedures (complete and unaltered) will be posted/published by USEF in the following locations and will include the USEF approval date when known:

- USEF Website (www.usef.org): These procedures will be posted as soon as possible, but not more than five (5) business days following notice of approval by the USEF.
- Other: The Selection Procedures and Application Packet will be available on the USEF's website (www.usef.org) or via email upon request.

XIII. Date of Nomination: The FEI Nominated Entry List will be submitted to the FEI no later than midnight Swiss time on TBD. The FEI Definite Entry List will be submitted to the FEI no later than midnight Swiss time on TBD.

XIV. Anti-Doping Requirements: The athlete agrees to submit to drug testing by the FEI, WADA, and/or USADA or their designees at any time and understands that the use of methods or substances prohibited by the applicable anti-doping rules subject him/her to penalties including, but not limited to, disqualification and suspension. If it is determined that an athlete may have committed a doping violation, he agrees to submit to the results management authority and processes of the applicable organization, including arbitration under the USADA Protocol, or the results management authority of the FEI or WADA, if applicable.

XV. Development of Selection Procedures: The following committees/groups were responsible for creating these Selection Procedures: USEF Endurance Sport Committee and the USEF Board of Directors. See Attachment G for the list of USEF Committees, their roles, and list of members.

XVI. USEF Bylaws and Grievance Procedures:

Athletes wishing to file a grievance a denial or threatened denial to participate in competition, please see the [Athlete's Guide to Filing a Grievance Regarding Opportunity to Participate](#) and Grievance Form. For procedural guidance for filing a grievance, please contact Emily Pratt at epratt@usef.org.

Please contact the USOPC Athlete Ombudsman Office at (719) 866-5000, or ombudsman@usathlete.org, or visit www.athleteombudsman.org for guidance as to the USOPC grievance process.

XVII. International Disclaimer: These procedures are based on USEF and/or FEI rules and regulations as presently known and understood. Any change in the Selection Procedures caused by a change in the



USEF 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 selection procedures 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 the Selection Trials listed in this document, these selection procedures will be revised, pursuant to the resubmission to the USEF.

XVIII. Disclaimer: Please see Attachment D – USEF Release, Assumption of Risk, Waiver, and Indemnification.

XIX. Funding Disclaimer: Selection to the Team does not guarantee that funds will be available to send a Team.

XX. NGB Signatures: I certify that I have read, understand, and incorporated IF standards/criteria into our Selection Procedures and that the information provided herein regarding Athlete Selection Procedures represents the method approved by the United States Equestrian Federation.

Position	Print Name	Signature	Date
USEF President	Murray S. Kessler		12/02/2020
USEF Director, Endurance	Steven Morrissey		12/02/2020

Any questions regarding these Selection Procedures should be addressed to the USEF Endurance Department: Phone (859) 225-7686 or Email: smorrissey@usef.org.

Approved by the Endurance Sport Committee on: 5th November 2020

Approved by the International Disciplines Council on: 10th November 2020

Approved by the USEF Board of Directors on: 2nd December 2020

DEFINITIONS

ENDURANCE ATHLETE REPRESENTATIVE: An athlete will be considered an Endurance Eligible Athlete Representative for the Selectors Group according to USEF Bylaw, Part IV, Bylaw 401.

FOREIGN LEASED HORSE: A horse which resides outside of the U.S. and in which there is a lease agreement between the owner (lessor) of the horse and the athlete or parent/guardian (lessee). The lease agreement must be submitted to USEF and the FEI and authenticated by the stamp and signature of USEF.

PROXY RIDER: An athlete who competes a horse for another athlete.

REPLACEMENT / SUBSTITUTE: Replacing or substituting an athlete/horse combination after the USEF has named the Squad or Individuals.

U.S. BASED HORSE: A horse whose nationality is that of USA or of a foreign National Federation and resides in the U.S. Documents such as a horse's Equine Infectious Anemia Report may be required to prove residency in the U.S.

CEI: International Endurance Competition

CEN: National Endurance Competition

EVENT: The 2021 FEI Endurance Championship for Young Riders & Juniors

TEAM: The 2021 U.S. Endurance Junior/Young Rider Team