



United States Equestrian Federation, Inc.
U.S. Athlete Selection Procedures
2022 Youth Jumping Competition
Aachen, Germany

1st Edition – 5 May, 2021

Modifications in red text, effective March 22, 2022

Purpose of Procedures: The United States will be represented by one athlete at the 2022 FEI Youth Jumping Competition (“Event”). This individual will be a member of a five-person Team representing North America in the continent-based Championship. Each athlete will be assigned a borrowed horse by random draw. This horse will be assigned to the athlete for the duration of competition at the Event, including the Team Competition and the Individual Competition. These procedures describe the process and policies by which the United States representative to the North American Team at the 2022 FEI Youth Jumping Competition will be selected.

1. SELECTION SYSTEM

1.1. Minimum eligibility requirements for an athlete to be considered for nomination as the United States representative to the North American Team at the 2022 FEI Youth Jumping Competition ~~23~~ June, 2022 to 3 July, 2022:

1.1.1. Citizenship: The athlete must be a national of the United States at the time of application, selection, and through the conclusion of the Event. The athlete must hold a valid United States passport that will not expire for at least six months following the conclusion of the Event.

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

1.1.2.1. The athlete must have been born between 1 January 2004 and 31 December 2007 (2022 FEI ages 15 to 18) in accordance with the Federation Equestre Internationale (“FEI”) Regulations for the FEI Youth Jumping Competition [Qualification System– FEI Youth Jumping Competition 2022].

1.1.2.2. The athlete must earn a FEI Certificate of Capability in accordance with the FEI Qualification System in the FEI Regulations for the FEI Youth Jumping Competition [Qualification System– FEI Youth Jumping Competition 2022]. See Section 1.2.1. for additional detail on the requirements to earn a FEI Certificate of Capability.

1.1.2.3. To be eligible for participation, the athlete must comply with all current FEI Regulations.

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

1.1.2.5. The athlete must comply with FEI Rules at the Event.

1.1.3. Other Requirements:

1.1.3.1. The athlete must be a member of the United States Equestrian Federation (“USEF”) in good standing at the time of application, selection, and until the conclusion of the Event.

1.1.3.2. Application: The athlete must complete and submit an online Application (see Attachment A for the online Application instructions) with the appropriate application fee at www.usequestrian.org.

- Phase I Application Deadline: Applications submitted no later than **4 April 2022** will be charged a fee of \$70.

- Phase II Application Deadline: Applications submitted between **4 April 2022 and 9~~16~~ May 2022** will be charged an application fee of \$300. No applications will be accepted after **9~~16~~ May 2022**.

1.1.3.3. The athlete and parent/guardian (if athlete is under 18 years of age at the time of application) must certify by signing the Application (see Attachment A for the online Application instructions) that they have received, read, and understand the following documents, and agree to be bound by them:

- Selection Procedures for the U.S. Athlete Selection Procedures for the 2022 FEI Youth Jumping Competition;
- USEF Code of Conduct (Attachment B);
- USEF Release, Assumption of Risk, Waiver, and Indemnification (Attachment C); and
- USEF Safe Sport Policy (Attachment D).

1.1.3.4. The athlete must be present for the entire duration of the Event (**23** ~~28~~ June, 2022 to 3 July, 2022).

1.1.3.5. The athlete must participate in the cultural and education program of the Event as required.

1.2. **Comprehensive Description of the Selection Process (include maximum Team size):**

1.2.1 **1 April 2021 to 15 ~~31~~ May 2022 - Period to Obtain an FEI Certificate of Capability:** Athletes must obtain a FEI Certificate of Capability between 1 April 2021 and **15 ~~31~~ May 2022** in accordance with the FEI Regulations for Equestrian Events at the Youth Jumping Competition [Qualification System- FEI Youth Jumping Competition 2022]. To earn an FEI Certificate of Capability, United States athletes must complete the first round of any of the following competitions, between 1 April 2021 and **15 ~~31~~ May 2022**, with a score of no more than eight penalties:

- 2021 FEI North American Junior Championship
- CSI1* Grand Prix Competition
- CSI2* Grand Prix Competition
- CSIJ, CSIY, CSIU25 Grand Prix Competition

1.2.2. **4 April 2022 - USEF Early Application Deadline**

1.2.3. **9 ~~16~~ May 2022 - USEF Late Application Deadline:** Athletes wishing to be considered must complete the USEF online Application by no later than the Late Application Deadline. The FEI Certificate of Capability may be obtained prior to applying.

1.2.4. **15 ~~31~~ May 2022 - FEI Certificate of Capability Deadline:** No later than the FEI Certificate of Capability Deadline, the USEF will submit an FEI Certificate of Capability for each of the applicants, provided they have met the criteria in

Section 1.1., to the FEI. Athletes who have not earned a Certificate of Capability will not be eligible for participation.

1.2.5. 15 May, ~~TBD~~ 2022 – Athlete Selection and FEI Nominated Entry Deadline:

1.2.5.1. Athlete Selection: By no later than the FEI Nominated Entry Deadline, the Chef d’Equipe, in consultation with the Advisors, will use discretion to evaluate the applicants who have fulfilled all requirements in Section 1.1. in order to recommend one (1) athlete as United States Representative to the North American Team and up to five Replacement Athletes. Athletes named as Replacement Athletes will be ranked at the time of Selection.

The Chef d’Equipe and Advisors, in evaluating athletes for selection purposes, will take into account the following criteria, listed in order of importance:

- **Competition Results:** The athlete’s historical results in jumper competitions held between 2018 and 2022 at USEF or FEI sectioned events with emphasis on results in competitions held at 1.30 meters or higher, the competitiveness of the class, the variety of different horses with which the athlete has achieved the results and the ability of the athlete to maximize the potential of a borrowed horse. In addition, the athlete’s ability to meet the standards of the Event and ability to compete without incurring jumping and/or time penalties at the highest level of course difficulty, as well as the athlete’s record of having done so on a consistent basis, will be taking into account.
- **Athlete Health and Fitness:** The athlete’s health and fitness level, including the athlete’s ability to perform under pressure to his/her highest ability.
- **Team Representation:** The athlete’s ability to contribute to a positive Team atmosphere and to serve as an ambassador for the United States and equestrian sport at the Event.

1.2.5.2. FEI Nominated Entry Deadline: By no later than the FEI Nominated Entry Deadline, the USEF Chef d’Equipe, in consultation with the Advisors (see Section 2.3.2 below) will recommend the selected United States Representative to the North American Team and the selected Replacement Athletes to the FEI, subject to the recommendation of the USEF Jumping Sport Committee or its designees and the approval of the USEF Board of Directors, or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the USEF Board of Directors. The FEI Nominated Entries will be accompanied by completed FEI Certificates of Capability for all Nominated athletes.

1.2.6. 1 June, ~~TBD~~ 2022 – FEI Final Entry Deadline: No later than the FEI Final Entry Deadline, USEF will submit the selected United States Representative to the North American Team to the FEI, subject to the recommendation of the USEF Jumping Sport Committee or its designees and the approval of the USEF Board of

Directors, or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the USEF Board of Directors.

- 1.2.7. **To Be Determined - Last Date for Replacements:** The final deadline for athlete replacement will be four days prior to the first Horse Inspection at the Event, due to travel time. See Section 3 and Section 4 for Removal and Replacement criteria, respectively.

2. DISCRETIONARY SELECTION

- 2.1. **Rationale for utilizing discretionary selection:** The Event will consist of competition on borrowed horses and therefore an assessment of an athlete's ability to maximize the performance of a horse he/she has not previously ridden is required.

- 2.2. **Discretionary criteria:** See Section 1.2.5 for the criteria used in discretionary selection.

2.3. Committees/Groups responsible for making discretionary selections:

- 2.3.1. **Chef d'Equipe:** The Chef d'Equipe, in consultation with the Advisors, will be appointed to make discretionary selection recommendations for review by the USEF Jumping Sport Committee or its designees and approval by USEF Board of Directors, or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the USEF Board of Directors.

- 2.3.2. **Advisors:** Three (3) individuals (the "Advisors") will be appointed to consult with the Chef d'Equipe in the discretionary selection recommendations that will be reviewed by the USEF Jumping Sport Committee or its designees and approved by USEF Board of Directors, or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the USEF Board of Directors. The Advisors will be appointed by the CEO upon the recommendation of the USEF Jumping Sport Committee. The Advisors must be senior, active members in good standing with the USEF, who are experienced and knowledgeable members of the Jumping community and must include a minimum of one Show Jumping Eligible Athlete Representative as defined by the USOPC. (see Attachment E for a list of Advisors).

- 2.3.3. **Committees:** The recommendations of the Chef d'Equipe, in consultation with the Advisors, will be reviewed by the USEF Jumping Sport Committee or its designees and are subject to approval by the USEF Board of Directors, or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the USEF Board of Directors (see Attachment E for a list of these Committees, their roles, and their Members).

- 2.3.4. **Conflict of Interest:** Any individual involved in the selection process, including the Chef d'Equipe, Advisors, and members of the Committees referenced in Section 2.3.3., that has a possible conflict of interest must disclose it. If such conflict exists, the Committee member must recuse him/herself from Committee discussions and voting. Further, the Committee member must 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 Committee, provide such information to the Committee so long as such 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.

3. REMOVAL OF ATHLETES

3.1. Prior to the acceptance of athlete nomination by the FEI, the USEF has jurisdiction over potential nominees. An athlete who is to be nominated to the Team by the USEF may be removed as a nominee for any of the following reasons, as determined by the USEF:

3.1.1. Voluntary withdrawal: The athlete must submit a written letter to the USEF Chief Executive Officer.

3.1.2. Injury or illness as certified by a USEF approved physician (or medical staff): In the event of illness or injury, applicants may be required to submit to a medical examination by physician(s) approved by the USEF 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 upon the recommendation of the USEF approved physicians(s) and USEF Jumping Sport Committee or its designees and with the approval of the USEF Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the USEF 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 upon the recommendation of the USEF Jumping Sport Committee or its designees and with the approval of the USEF Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the USEF Board of Directors.

3.1.3. Violation of the USEF Code of Conduct (Attachment B).

3.1.4. Failure to adhere to all WADA, FEI, USEF, and/or USADA anti-doping protocols, policies and procedures including participation in out of competition testing as required by the WADA, FEI, USEF, and/or USADA Rules.

3.1.5. Failure to comply with the USEF Safe Sport Policy (Attachment D) or U.S. Center for SafeSport Code.

3.1.6. Exceptional circumstances having a direct bearing upon obtaining the best qualified athlete for the Event, but only with the recommendation of the Chef d'Equipe, in consultation with the Advisors, and approval by the USEF Board of Directors, or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the USEF Board of Directors.

3.1.7. An athlete who may be removed pursuant to this provision has the right to a hearing per the USEF Bylaws (Article 703), the USEF General Rules (Chapter 6, GR 605) and the USOC Bylaws (Section 9).

3.2. An athlete may be removed as a nominee to the Team or from the Team for an adjudicated violation of WADA, IF, USADA, USEF anti-doping protocol, policies and procedures, as applicable.

4. REPLACEMENT OF ATHLETES

4.1. Describe the selection and approval process for determining replacement

athlete(s) should a vacancy occur: At the time of selection of the United States Representative to the North American Team, up to five athletes, having fulfilled all requirements in Section 1.1., will be selected as Replacement Athletes in ranked order according to Section 1.2.5.1.

4.1.1. Prior to acceptance of the FEI Nominated Entries: USEF has the ability to substitute athletes selected as the United States Representative to the North American Team or as Replacement Athletes for the reasons set forth in Section 3.1. To fill openings for Replacement Athletes, if they occur, the Chef d'Equipe and Advisors will evaluate the remaining applicants according to the criteria in Section 1.2.5.1., provided that the applicants have fulfilled all criteria in Section 1.1., to recommend a replacement, to be ranked below all previously selected Replacement Athletes. Any recommendation of replacement is subject to the recommendation of the USEF Jumping Sport Committee or its designees and approval of the USEF Board of Directors, or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the USEF Board of Directors. Any substitution for medical reasons must be documented by a physician(s) who is approved by USEF.

4.1.2. After acceptance of the FEI Nominated Entries and prior to the FEI Final Entry Deadline: USEF has the ability to replace the selected United States Representative to the North American Team for the reasons set forth in Section 3.1. To fill openings, if they occur, USEF will replace the selected United States Representative to the North American Team with the highest ranked Replacement Athlete, selected as per Section 1.2.5.1., provided that he/she has been accepted by the FEI in the FEI Nominated Entries. Any recommendation of replacement is subject to the recommendation of the USEF Jumping Sport Committee or its designees and approval by the USEF Board of Directors, or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the USEF Board of Directors. Any substitution for medical reasons must be documented by a physician(s) who is approved by USEF.

4.1.3. After the FEI Final Entry Deadline and until the Last Date for Replacements: USEF has the ability to recommend to the FEI the replacement of the one selected United States Representative to the North American Team, as submitted on the FEI Nominated Entry, for the reasons set forth in Section 3.2. However, the reason for the replacement must be only because the athlete is unable to participate due to injury or other exceptional circumstances. Should a recommendation of a replacement be required, the USEF will recommend the highest ranked Replacement Athlete, selected as per Section 1.2.5.1., provided that he/she has been accepted by the FEI in the FEI Nominated Entries. Any recommendation of replacement is subject to the concurrence of the USEF Jumping Sport Committee or its designees and approval by the USEF Board of Directors, or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the USEF Board of Directors. Any substitution for medical reasons must be documented by a physician(s) who is approved by USEF.

- 5. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:** The USEF will retain the approved Selection Procedures and all supporting documents, including scouting or evaluation forms, etc., and data from the selection process for at least six months past the date of the Event.
- 6. REQUIRED DOCUMENTS:** The following documents are required to be signed by an athlete as a condition of nomination to the Event and are included as attachments:
- Application (see Attachment A for online Application instructions)
 - USEF Code of Conduct (Attachment B)
 - USEF Release, Assumption of Risk, Waiver and Indemnification (Attachment C)

In addition, athletes will be required to read the USEF Athlete Agreement (Attachment F) and are requested to sign this document.

- 7. PUBLICITY/DISTRIBUTION OF PROCEDURES:** The approved Selection Procedures (complete and unaltered) will be posted by the USEF in the following locations:
- 7.1. USEF Website:** www.usequestrian.org. These procedures will be posted as soon as possible, but not more than five business days following notice of approval by the USEF Board of Directors, or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the USEF Board of Directors.
- 7.2. Other:** Not applicable.
- 8. DATE OF NOMINATION**
- 8.1. FEI:** The FEI Nominated Entries will be submitted to the FEI on or before: midnight CET, **15 May, 2022**~~TBD~~.

- 9. MANDATORY TRAINING AND/OR COMPETITION:** Not applicable.

- 10. ANTI-DOPING REQUIREMENTS:** Athletes must adhere to all, WADA, IF, USADA, FEI, USEF, anti-doping protocols, policies and procedures, as applicable. This includes participation in Out-of-Competition Testing as required by the WADA, IF, USADA Rules, as applicable.

11. DEVELOPMENT OF SELECTION PROCEDURES

- 11.1.** The following Committees/Groups (see Attachment E for member names and titles) were responsible for creating these Selection Procedures: USEF Jumping Sport Committee and the USEF International Disciplines Council.
- 11.2.** All persons participating in any decision made pursuant to the Selection Procedures including but not limited to the Chef d'Equipe, Advisors, the members of the USEF Jumping Sport Committee or its designees, the USEF International Disciplines Council, and the USEF Board of Directors, or Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the USEF Board of Directors, will be required to abide by the USEF Code of Ethics (Attachment G), Conflict of Interest Policy (Attachment H) and USEF Safe Sport Policy (Attachment D) and that they understand them and agree to be bound by them.

- 12. USEF BYLAWS AND GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES:** The USEF Bylaws and Grievance Procedures can be found on the USEF's website – www.usef.org/about-us. 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. 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 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 the USEF. However, the selections are always subject to unforeseen, intervening circumstances, and realistically may not have accounted for every possible contingency.
- 14. ATHLETE OMBUDSMAN:** The Athlete Ombudsman 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 their NGB:
- Telephone at (719)866-5000
 - Toll free telephone at (888) ATHLETE (1-888-284-5383)
 - E-mail at ombudsman@usathlete.org
 - www.athleteombudsman.org
- 15. NGB SIGNATURES:** I certify that I have read and understand the standards/criteria set by our IF 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 the USEF.

Position	Name	Signature	Date
USEF President	Tom O'Mara		
USEF Managing Director, Jumping	Lizzy Chesson		

Approved by the USEF Jumping Sport Committee:

Approved by the USEF Board of Directors:

Questions regarding these Selection Procedures should be addressed to:

Erin Keating Director, Jumping Development Programs

Mail: 4001 Wing Commander Way, Lexington, KY 40511

Phone: (859) 225-2036

[Email: ekeating@usef.org](mailto:ekeating@usef.org)

Referenced Attachments:

- Application Instructions (Attachment A)
- USEF Code of Conduct (Attachment B) (www.usequestrian.org)
- USEF Release, Assumption of Risk, Waiver and Indemnification (Attachment C) (www.usequestrian.org)
- USEF Safe Sport Policy (Attachment D) (www.usequestrian.org)
- List of Chefs d'Equipe, Advisors, and Committee Members (Attachment E)
- USEF Athlete Agreement (Attachment F) (www.usequestrian.org)
- USEF Code of Ethics (Attachment G) (www.usequestrian.org)
- Conflict of Interest Policy (Attachment H) (www.usequestrian.org)