



# UNITED STATES EQUESTRIAN FEDERATION, INC.

## SELECTION PROCEDURES

### 2019 FEI WORLD DRIVING CHAMPIONSHIPS FOR PONIES

SEPTEMBER 25-29, 2019

ASZÁR KISBER, HUNGARY

#### I. SELECTION SYSTEM

##### A) Minimum eligibility requirements for an athlete to be considered for nomination to the Team:

1. **Citizenship:** The athlete must be a U.S. citizen and in compliance with FEI General Regulations (23<sup>rd</sup> Edition, Article 119) at the time of application, selection, and until the conclusion of the 2019 FEI World Driving Championships for Ponies (“the Event”).
2. **Minimum Fédération Equestre Internationale (“FEI”) standards for participation:**
  - a. All athlete/pony combinations must meet the **FEI Criteria** for the Event within the qualifying period, therefore earning an FEI Certificate of Capability from the National Federation before the closing date of FEI Nominated Entries for the Event (FEI Driving Rules, Article 914.5). FEI Criteria can be found at <http://www.fei.org/fei/events/championships/driving>.
  - b. The athlete must be at least fourteen (14) years of age, with age being determined by a birthdate within the same calendar year as the Event (FEI Driving Rules, Article 912).
  - c. Ponies must be at least six (6) years of age from the beginning of the same calendar year as the Event (FEI Driving Rules, Article 929).
  - d. The athlete and ponies must both be registered and in good standing with the FEI at the time of the application, selection, and until the conclusion of the Event.
  - e. The athlete and ponies must comply with FEI Rules for the Event.
3. **Minimum United States Equestrian Federation (“USEF”) criteria and Other Requirements:**
  - a. The athlete must be a USEF member in good standing at the time of the application, selection, and until the conclusion of the Event.
  - b. Athlete’s ponies must be recorded with USEF (GR 1102) and in good standing under USEF Rules at the time of application, selection, and until the conclusion of the Event.
  - c. **Application:** Athlete/Pony combinations wishing to be considered for the Event must submit an online Application via the “My USEF” portal with the appropriate fee. Applications submitted on or before **March 1, 2019** will be charged **\$70 per application**. Late applications will be accepted with a **\$300 late application fee**, up until **June 1, 2019**. **No applications will be accepted after June 1, 2019**.
  - d. **Horse Loan Agreement:** Owners of ponies named to the FEI Nominated Entry must agree to and sign the USEF Horse Loan Agreement form. Failure to complete the Horse Loan Agreement may result in the removal of the athlete/ponies from the FEI Nominated Entry.
  - e. The athlete shall certify by electronically signing the application that they have received, read, and assumes responsibility for meeting all requirements of the Selection Procedures for this Event. The athlete and pony owner(s) must certify that they have reviewed and agree to be bound by the following documents:
    - i. **Selection Procedures for the Team (attachment A)**
    - ii. **USEF Athlete Agreement (attachment B)**
    - iii. **USEF Horse Loan Agreement (attachment C)**
    - iv. **USEF Code of Conduct (attachment D)**
    - v. **USEF Release Waiver & Assumption of Risk form (attachment E)**
    - vi. **USEF Safe Sport (attachment F)**



## **B) Selection Trials:**

**Selection period begins October 1, 2018 and ends July 15, 2019.**

Athlete/Pony combinations wishing to be considered for the FEI Nominated Entry must qualify per the **FEI criteria** for the Event. The FEI criteria for the Championships can be found at:

<http://www.fei.org/fei/events/championships/driving>. Athlete/pony combinations will also be required to **complete at least two (2)** of the Selection Trials listed below, *with at least one (1) of those being within the same calendar year of the Event*. The USEF Selection Committee (“Selectors”) will give primary consideration to CAI competitions with comparable courses, number and quality of entries, and Ground Juries to the Event.

Provided below are the event names, dates, and location of all trials to be used as part of the selection process:

- **Garden State CDE** Allentown, NJ October 12-14, 2018
- **CAI 2\* Katydid CDE** Windsor, SC November 1-4, 2018
- **Grand Oaks CDE** Weirsdale, FL January 3-6, 2019
- **Palm Tree CDE** Dade City, FL January 24-27, 2019
- **CAI 2\* Live Oak International** Ocala, FL March 6-10, 2019
- **CAI 2\* Southern Pines CDE** Raeford, NC April 11-14, 2019
- **CAI 2\* Bromont CDE** Bromont, Canada June 27-30, 2019
- **All CAI 2\* & above that take place prior to July 15, 2019.**

Please be reminded that if an athlete plans to compete in any European CAI competitions, he/she must adhere to the USEF Criteria to compete in Foreign Competitions. Information and applications can be found on [www.usef.org](http://www.usef.org).

The list of Selections Trials is subject to amendments due to entry deadlines, cancellations, or additions to the schedule of available competitions. All athletes will be notified via USEF’s website [www.usef.org](http://www.usef.org) and/or at the email address given on their applications of additions, deletions, or changes to the list of Selection Trials prior to the relevant competition. For changes to European CAI competitions please see [www.fei.org](http://www.fei.org).

## **C) Pony Declarations:**

Athletes may submit multiple ponies on their application, with the option to submit new ponies(s) during the selection period, as long as all ponies are eligible under the USEF criteria, FEI criteria, and meet the requirements in the selection procedures. The Selectors will recommend selection of the athlete(s) in accordance with the listed criteria and will inform the selected athletes which ponies they are selected with and which can also be used as automatic substitutions. If following selection, a selected athlete wishes to substitute in a pony not previously approved by the Selectors, they must seek the permission of the Selectors, or if the Selectors cannot be contacted and the decision is time critical, permission may be granted by the appointed Chef d’Equipe in consultation with the appointed Team Coach and/or the Driving Performance Manager.

## **D) Process by which Athlete/Pony combinations are selected for Team nominations:**

### **1. Team and/or Individual nominations:**

By July 15, 2019, the Selectors will recommend the Team selection of up to two (2) athlete/pony combinations per class (singles, pairs, four-in-hands), or up to the maximum number of athletes (including Individuals) permitted by FEI Rules, based on the factors outlined in sections I.D.2 & I.D.3 below. The USEF Driving Sport Committee (“DSC”) will review the Selectors’ recommendation prior to sending on to the Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc appointed by the Board of Directors (“BOD or Ad Hoc”) for approval.

2. **FEI Nominated Entries:** By no later than September 2, 2019, a list of athlete/pony combinations up to the maximum number able to be nominated under FEI rules with one reserve named, will be recommended by the Selectors to the DSC. Final approval of the DSC selection comes from the BOD or Ad Hoc.

Selectors will base their evaluations of the athlete/pony combinations for FEI Nominated Entries on the following factors:

- a. The athlete's competitive results within the selection period defined above.
- b. The performance and results at the Selection Trials listed above, in no particular order: scores in the Dressage, penalties obtained in Marathon, accuracy and speed in the Cones.
- c. Previous international experience (over a six-year period), regarding the athletes'/ponies' ability to perform consistently under pressure.
- d. Prospect that the combination will contribute to a winning Team score for their expertise in a particular phase, if applicable. For example, if a combination consistently attains superior scores in a particular competition phase, they may be selected to help achieve a winning Team score, *regardless of any individual ranking*.
- e. If not selecting for a Team, athlete/pony combinations will be selected based on their final results, regardless of expertise in a particular phase.
- f. Behavior of athlete and people associated with the athlete (including, but not limited to, owners, coaches and grooms) that may have an impact on creating a positive team environment.
- g. The performance report from USEF Driving Performance Manager.
- h. Willingness of athlete to be transparent with USEF Driving Performance Manager, Veterinarian(s), Chef d'Equipe & Staff.

**Selectors will give primary consideration to CAI competitions with comparable courses, number and quality of entries, and Ground Juries to the Event.**

3. **FEI Definite Entries:** (*Date TBD, typically 2 weeks before the Event*) Before the closing date for FEI Definite Entries, the Selectors will confer with the USEF Driving Performance Manager and an FEI Veterinarian on the current fitness, soundness, and ability of athlete/pony combinations to determine if they are able to meet the standards for the Event (i.e. dressage scores, distance, size and complexity of obstacles, and required speed to avoid time penalties). The Selectors will recommend final selection to the DSC, which in turn must be approved by the BOD or Ad Hoc.

Selectors will base their evaluations of the athlete/pony combinations for FEI Definite Entries on the following factors:

- a. Evaluations by an FEI Veterinarian regarding ponies' current fitness, soundness & ability to compete.
- b. The athlete's competitive results within the selection period.
- c. The performance and results at the 2018-2019 Selection Trials listed above, in no particular order: scores in the Dressage, penalties obtained in Marathon, accuracy and speed in the Cones.
- d. Previous international experience (over a six-year period), regarding the athletes'/ponies' ability to perform consistently under pressure.
- e. Prospect that the combination will contribute to a winning Team score for their expertise in a particular phase, if applicable. For example, if a combination consistently attains superior scores in a particular competition phase, they may be selected to help achieve a winning Team score, *regardless of any individual ranking*.
- f. If not selecting for a Team, athlete/pony combinations will be selected based on their final results, regardless of expertise in a particular phase.
- g. Behavior of athlete and people associated with the athlete (including, but not limited to, owners, coaches and grooms) that may have an impact on creating a positive team environment.
- h. Consultations with the Driving Performance Manager and Team Veterinarian.

**The Selectors will give primary consideration to CAI International competitions with comparable courses, number and quality of entries, and Ground Juries to the Event.**

**Based on the Selectors' evaluations and recommendations, and upon recommendation of the DSC, the BOD or Ad Hoc will approve the Team selection of up to two (2) athlete/pony combinations per class (singles, pairs, four-in-hands), or up to the maximum number of athletes (including Individuals) permitted by FEI Rules.**

- 4. Substitutions & Declaration of Starters:** After the acceptance of the FEI Definite Entries and until one hour before the first Horse Inspection, in the event of an accident or illness of athlete or pony, the athlete &/or pony may be substituted by another from the FEI Nominated Entry list (subject to approval of the OC & the Ground Jury, Article 946.1). After the acceptance of the FEI Definite Entries and until one hour after the first horse inspection, the Chef d'Equipe in consultation with the Team Veterinarian will declare in writing the Team of three (3) athlete/pony combinations that will compete in accordance with the FEI General Regulations (Article 121 & FEI Driving Rules Article 947).

**5. Summary of responsibilities in Selection process:**

Team &/or Individuals Selection ↓	FEI Nominated Entries ↓	FEI Definite Entries ↓	Declaration of Starters ↓
USEF Selection Committee	USEF Selection Committee	USEF Selection Committee	Chef d'Equipe & USEF Team Veterinarian
USEF Driving Sport Committee	USEF Driving Sport Committee	USEF Driving Sport Committee	
USEF Board of Directors or Ad Hoc from BOD	USEF Board of Directors or Ad Hoc from BOD	USEF Board of Directors or Ad Hoc from BOD	

**E) Health Considerations:**

- 1. Equine Drug Testing:** All applicant ponies are subject to drug testing both in competition and out of competition. (*USEF GR 409*)

In Competition: All ponies 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 ponies arrive 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 GR 409 whereby samples will be tested for FEI prohibited substances, including metabolites and markers.

Positive Finding. At any time during the 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 Driving for dissemination of information as appropriate. In such instance, the positive finding may result in the elimination of the pony 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 at least one member of the DSC along with at least two members of the Hearing Committee, one of which must be an Eligible Athlete. The Chairman of the USEF Veterinarian Committee, or his designee, 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 following notification to the athlete at least 24 hours prior to collection of samples. Samples collected from ponies out-of-competition will be tested for the presence of substances prohibited by the FEI, including metabolites and markers. Failure to make the pony available for collection of samples may result in the elimination of the ponies 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 or 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 Driving for dissemination of information as appropriate. In such instance, the positive finding may result in the elimination of the ponies and/or athlete from the Selection Process unless the Team Veterinarian appointed for 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 GR 409 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](http://www.fei.org).*

**Please also review the section on Veterinarian Treatment**, a violation of which may result in elimination under this provision. Before elimination occurs in either instance, the owner and athlete will be afforded a hearing by the Selection Hearing Panel.

- 2. Soundness:** At the athlete's expense, an FEI treating veterinarian must examine any ponies that are candidates for the FEI Nominated Entry, the FEI Definite Entry or Substitutes for soundness **prior to September 2, 2019**. The Chef d'Equipe and Selectors will require a written exam report prior to their naming the FEI Nominated Entry & FEI Definite Entries.

The examining veterinarian and the athlete's veterinarian must be in communication regarding the soundness and preparation of the Nominated ponies.

Ponies found to be unsound by the FEI Veterinarian may be eliminated from the Selection Process, but only with the recommendation of the Chef d'Equipe, the DSC, and with the approval of the BOD or Ad Hoc.

- 3. Team Veterinarian Request:** Upon request from the Team Veterinarian and **at their own expense**, Athletes shall make up to 24 months' worth of veterinary records available for ponies under consideration for selection. **At their own expense**, athletes shall be responsible for supplying any follow-up diagnostic information requested by the Team Veterinarian for the ponies in question. If necessary, **at their own expense**, athletes shall complete any treatment prescribed by the Team Veterinarian, after consulting with the ponies' treating veterinarian, if requested. Failure to comply with any reasonable request of the Team Veterinarian may result in the removal of the ponies and/or athlete from the selection process by the Chef d'Equipe and Selectors, upon the recommendation of the Team Veterinarian, the DSC, and with the approval of the BOD or Ad Hoc.
- 4. Veterinary Treatment:** Once ponies are named to the FEI Nominated Entries or FEI Definite Entries, all selected athletes will be required to obtain written permission from the Team Veterinarian prior to their selected ponies being treated by any person other than the Team Veterinarian. This permission must be obtained by using the official USEF Driving Veterinary Treatment Request Form. Failure to adhere to this policy and/or the directive of the Team Veterinarian as outlined on the USEF Driving Veterinary Treatment Request Form may result in the

removal of ponies and/or athlete from the selection process by the Chef d'Equipe and the Selectors, by recommendation of the Team Veterinarian, the DSC, and with the approval of the BOD or Ad Hoc.

5. **Medical Request:** In the event of illness or injury, athletes may be required to submit to a medical examination by physician(s) approved by the USEF IDC at any time during the selection process for the purposes of determining 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 by the Chef d'Equipe and Selectors, upon recommendation of the USEF approved physician(s), the DSC, and with the approval of the BOD or Ad Hoc. Following the examination, should the USEF approved physician(s) find the athlete unfit to compete, the athlete will be removed from the selection process at the recommendation of the DSC and with the approval of the BOD or Ad hoc.

## II. DISCRETIONARY SELECTION

- A. Rationale for Utilizing Discretionary Selection (if any): Discretionary selection is used to field the best team possible for the Event; Applicants willingly submit themselves to this subjective process.
- B. Discretionary criteria and explain how it will be used: See section I.D.
- C. Discretionary Selection Committees:
1. **Names of the person(s) and committee(s) that will be responsible for discretionary selection.**
    - a. USEF Selection Committee
    - b. USEF Driving Performance Manager
    - c. USEF Driving Team Veterinarian
    - d. USEF Driving Sport Committee
    - e. USEF Board of Directors or Ad Hoc Selection Group
  2. **Complete list of the members of the committee(s), their titles & their NGB role that qualifies them to serve in this capacity:** See [www.usef.org](http://www.usef.org) for a list of USEF Committee members & their roles.

Five (5) individuals (the "Selectors") will be appointed by the IDC upon the recommendation of the DSC. The Selectors are subject to the USEF Code of Conduct, USEF Code of Ethics and Conflict of Interest policies, and USEF Safe Sport Policy. The Selectors and members of the Driving community who are knowledgeable and experienced in Driving at the International level, and are senior active members in good standing at USEF, including a minimum of one Driving Eligible Athlete Representative as defined by the USOC (See Definitions on page 10) but who is not an applicant for the Team (the "Eligible Athlete Representative Selector"). In making their decision, the Selectors will consult with the USEF Driving Performance Manager, and if applicable, the Chef d'Equipe, the appointed Team Coach, or the Team Veterinarian.

A minimum of one (1) Replacement Selector will also be named. A Replacement Selector will take the place of a Selector who has a conflict of interest or a substantial appearance of a conflict of interest. There will be a minimum of 20% Eligible Athlete Representation on the panel of the Selectors.

## III. REMOVAL OF ATHLETES

- A. Reasons & Procedures to remove an athlete from FEI Nominated Entries:
1. Voluntary withdrawal: An athlete must submit a written letter to the USEF Chief Executive Officer (cc: Director of Driving).
  2. 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.
  3. Violation of the USEF's Code of Conduct.
  4. Failure of the pony owner to sign the Horse Loan Agreement.
  5. Injury or illness of the ponies as determined by the Team Veterinarian. If an athlete and/or pony owners refuse to have the pony examined by the Team Veterinarian, the injury or illness will be assumed to be disabling and the ponies may be removed.

6. Exceptional circumstances having a direct bearing upon obtaining the best qualified team for the Event, but only with the recommendation of the Chef d'Equipe and Selectors.
7. Detection of a prohibited substance in the ponies.
8. Failure to adhere to all WADA, FEI, USEF, and/or USADA anti-doping protocols, policies and procedures including participation in the out-of-competition testing as required by the WADA, FEI, and/or USADA Rules.
9. Failure to comply with a request of the Team Veterinarian or failure to adhere to the USEF Driving Veterinary Treatment Request Form protocols.
10. Failure to adhere to the agreed upon plans and/or directive of the Chef d'Equipe.
11. Failure to comply with the USEF Safe Sport Policy.

In these procedures, the removal of an athlete is closely related to the process by which they will be replaced. Therefore, the reasons for which an athlete may be removed are thoroughly addressed in Section IV.

An athlete removed from the FEI Nominated Entries pursuant to this provision has the right to a hearing per the USEF's Bylaws & Rules (Article 703 & GR 605).

**B. Reasons & Procedures to remove an athlete from FEI Definite Entries or Team:**

1. Voluntary withdrawal: An athlete must submit a written letter to the USEF Chief Executive Officer (cc: Director of Driving).
2. Violation of WADA, FEI, USEF, and/or USADA anti-doping protocol, policies and procedures.
3. Injury or illness as certified by a USEF approved physician (or medical staff).
4. Injury or illness of the ponies as determined by the Team Veterinarian.
5. Violation of the USEF Code of Conduct.
6. Failure to comply with the USEF Safe Sport Policy.
7. Failure to adhere to the agreed upon plans and/or directive of the Chef d'Equipe and/or USEF Driving Performance Manager.

**IV. SUBSTITUTION / REPLACEMENT OF ATHLETES & PONIES**

**A. Identifying the pool of athletes and ponies with which to substitute or replace:**

The FEI Nominated Entries will comprise the pool of substitutes/replacements for athlete and/or pony combinations.

**B. Substitution/Replacement athletes and ponies will be selected, should a vacancy occur, according to the following method:**

**1. Prior to acceptance of FEI Nominated Entry:**

Once the FEI Nominated Entry for the event has been announced and prior to the submission of the FEI Nominated Entry (September 2, 2019), FEI Nominated Entry athlete/pony combinations may be substituted in accordance with the process cited in Section I above. Any substitution other than voluntary withdrawal must be upon the recommendation of the Selectors, in consultation with the Chef d'Equipe and Driving Performance Manager, and the DSC, and subject to approval by the BOD or Ad Hoc. Any substitution for Veterinary reasons other than voluntary withdrawal must have the approval of the Team Veterinarian. Any substitutions for medical reasons other than voluntary withdrawal must be documented by a physician(s) who is approved by the USEF.

**2. Prior to the closing date for FEI Definite Entry:**

Once the Team and Individual(s), if any, have been announced and prior to the closing date of the FEI Definite Entry (*Date TBD, typically 2 weeks before the Event*), Team members may be replaced with an athlete/pony combination on the FEI Nominated Entry for reasons set forth in Section III.B. Replacements may only be made by recommendation of the Chef d'Equipe and Driving Performance Manager, with approval of the Selectors, and in accordance with the FEI Regulations for Driving Events and/or for reasons set forth in Section III.B. and subject to approval by the USEF Team Leader. To fill openings, if they occur, the Chef d'Equipe and Driving Performance Manager, in consultation with the Selectors and Team

Veterinarian will evaluate the athletes and ponies named to the Team and the FEI Nominated Entry and may recommend that a replacement be made. The Chef d'Equipe, Driving Performance Manager, and Selectors when evaluating athletes and ponies will base their evaluations on the factors outlined in Section I.E.1-3. Any substitution for veterinary reasons other than voluntary withdrawal must have the approval of the Team Veterinarian. Any substitution for medical reasons other than voluntary withdrawal must be documented by a physician(s) approved by the USEF.

**3. After acceptance of FEI Definite Entry and up to two (2) hours prior to the Horse Inspection:**

After acceptance of the FEI Definite Entry and until two (2) hours before the First Horse Inspection unless an earlier date is specified in the Approved FEI Schedule or is required due to communicated logistical restrictions, USEF has the ability to replace athletes and/or ponies on the FEI Definite Entry for reasons set forth in Section III.B. During this time period, Team members may only be replaced with an athlete/pony combination from the FEI Nominated Entry. 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 of the Team a substitution is necessary. The latter situation 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 recommendation of the Chef d'Equipe and Driving Performance Manager, with approval of the USEF Team Leader, and in accordance with the FEI Driving Regulations or for seasons set forth in Section III.B. Any replacement for veterinary reasons must be upon the recommendation of the Chef d'Equipe and Driving Performance Manager, and must also have the approval of the Team Veterinarian. Any replacement for medical reasons must be documented by a physician(s) physically present at the Event venue who is approved by the USEF.

**C. Groups or Committees responsible for determining substitutions/replacements:**

1. **Group or Committee who determines the substitution/replacement pool:** USEF Driving Selection Committee, USEF Team Veterinarian, USEF Driving Sport Committee, USEF Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the Board of Directors.
2. **Group or Committee who determines a substitution/replacement to the team:**
  - a. **Prior to acceptance of the FEI Nominated Entry:** USEF Driving Selection Committee, USEF Team Veterinarian, USEF Driving Sport Committee, USEF Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the Board of Directors.
  - b. **Prior to acceptance of the FEI Definite Entry:** By the USEF Team Leader, USEF Driving Selection Committee, Chef d'Equipe, and Team Veterinarian
  - c. **After acceptance of the FEI Definite Entry and up to two (2) hours prior to the Horse Inspection (or earlier date if determined):** By the USEF Team Leader, Chef d'Equipe, Driving Performance Manager, and Team Veterinarian.

Substitutions/Replacement <b>before</b> Nominated Entry ↓	Substitution/Replacement <b>before</b> Definite Entry ↓	Substitution/Replacement before Declaration of Starters ↓
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ USEF Selection Committee</li> <li>➤ Driving Sport Committee</li> <li>➤ Team Veterinarian</li> <li>➤ USEF Board of Directors (or Ad Hoc Selection Group)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ USEF Team Leader</li> <li>➤ USEF Driving Performance Manager</li> <li>➤ USEF Selection Committee</li> <li>➤ Chef d'Equipe</li> <li>➤ Team Veterinarian</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ USEF Team Leader</li> <li>➤ USEF Driving Performance Manager</li> <li>➤ Chef d'Equipe</li> <li>➤ Team Veterinarian</li> </ul>
*Any Substitutions for Medical reasons: Documentation required from USEF approved physician(s).		

## **V. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS**

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

## **VI. REQUIRED DOCUMENTS**

The following documents are required to be properly executed by athletes and pony owners as a condition of nomination for the Event, included as attachments:

- a. Application**
- b. Horse Loan Agreement**
- c. USEF Code of Conduct**
- d. USEF Release, Assumption of Risk, Waiver & Indemnification**

Athletes and pony owners will be required to certify that they have received and read a copy of the USEF Code of Conduct and Safe Sport Policy that they understand those documents 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 the Selectors, the Team Veterinarian, Physicians, members of the DSC, IDC, and the BOD or Ad Hoc will be required to abide by the USEF Code of Ethics and Conflict of Interest Policies.

## **VII. ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS**

Athletes will be required to read and sign the USEF Athlete Agreement to be considered for Selection.

## **VIII. PUBLICITY/DISTRIBUTION OF PROCEDURES**

The USEF approved Selection Procedures (complete & unaltered) will be posted/published by the USEF in the following location and will include the USEF approval date, when known:

- **USEF website:** [www.usef.org/compete/disciplines/combined-driving](http://www.usef.org/compete/disciplines/combined-driving)  
*Procedures will be posted no sooner than 5 business days after USEF Approval*
- **Other:** Upon request, the Selection Procedures and Application packet can be available by mail

## **IX. DATE OF NOMINATION**

The FEI Nominated Entries will be submitted to the FEI no later than the Nominated Entry date (September 2, 2019) declared on the approved FEI Schedule for the Event.

## **X. OPTIONAL TRAINING AND/OR COMPETITION**

It is possible that the final preparation for the Event will consist of European Training and/or Competitions. The relevant location, dates and additional details will be communicated to the athletes no later than 30 days before the first day of training and/or competition.

## **XI. 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 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 to the results management authority of the FEI or WADA, if applicable.

## **XII. DEVELOPMENT OF SELECTION PROCEDURES**

The following Committee was responsible for creating these Selection Procedures:  
USEF Driving Sport Committee (with approval of the USEF International Disciplines Council).

## **XIII. USEF BYLAWS AND GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES**

The USEF Bylaws can be found on USEF's website: [www.usef.org/about-us](http://www.usef.org/about-us)  
References to the grievance process can be found in Park VII, Bylaw 701 – 706.

**XIV. 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 the FEI Rules and Regulations will be distributed to the affected athletes immediately. The selection criteria are based on the latest circumstances, and realistically may not have accounted for every possible contingency.

If any force of nature, or force majeure, should cause the alteration or cancelation of any of the selection events listed in this document, these selection procedures will be revised, pursuant to their resubmission to the USEF.

**XV. ATHLETE OMBUDSMAN**

Athletes who have questions regarding their opportunity to compete that are not answered by USEF may contact the USOC Athlete Ombudsman: Kacie Wallace (719) 866-5000 / (888) ATHLETE or 888-284-5383 [Kacie.Wallace@USOC.org](mailto:Kacie.Wallace@USOC.org) / [www.athleteombudsman.org](http://www.athleteombudsman.org)

**XVI. FUNDING DISCLAIMER**

Selection to the Team does not guarantee that funds will be available to send a Team.

**XVII. DISCLAIMER**

Reference the following documents: USEF Release, Assumption of Risk, Waiver and Indemnification.

**XVIII. SIGNATURES OF THE NATIONAL GOVERNING BODY: USEF**

I certify that I have read, understand and incorporated our FEI 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			
USEF Director of Driving	Danielle Aamodt	<i>Danielle Aamodt</i>	12/06/2018

Any questions regarding these Selection Procedures should be addressed to the USEF Director of Driving, Danielle Aamodt: United States Equestrian Federation, 4047 Iron Works Parkway, Lexington, KY 40511, [Daamodt@usef.org](mailto:Daamodt@usef.org) or 859-225-2077.

Approved by the USEF Driving Sport Committee on: December 5, 2018

**DEFINITIONS:**

**USEF Driving Sport Committee (“DSC”)**—a quorum of the current USEF Driving Sport Committee members, which is published on [www.usef.org](http://www.usef.org)

**USEF Selection Committee (“Selectors”)**—Selectors nominated by the DSC for the current Championship year, which is published on [www.usef.org](http://www.usef.org)

**USEF International Disciplines Council (“IDC”)**—a quorum of the current USEF International Disciplines Council, which is published on [www.usef.org](http://www.usef.org)

**Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the Board of Directors (“BOD or Ad Hoc”)**—at least 3 members of the USEF Board of Directors, which is published on [www.usef.org](http://www.usef.org)

**Driving Athlete Representative**—An Athlete will be considered a Driving Athlete according to the USEF Bylaws, Part IV, Bylaw 401.



**International Experience**—A competitive record over the past 2-6 years that indicates the Athlete/pony combination(s) have successfully met the challenges of FEI international events & perform under pressure.

**Substitute Athlete**—Replacing an athlete/pony combination after the FEI Definite Entries have been submitted.

**USEF Team Leader**—USEF Director of Driving, or other appointed USEF Staff member.