

**UNITED STATES EQUESTRIAN FEDERATION, INC.**

**SELECTION PROCEDURES**

2023 FEI Para-Driving World Championship for Singles

August 23-27, 2023

Exloo, Netherlands

**1. SELECTION SYSTEM**

1.1. Minimum eligibility requirements for an athlete to be considered for nomination and selection:

1.1.1. Citizenship: Applicant athlete must be a U.S. citizen and in compliance with FEI General Regulations (23rd Edition, Article 119) at the time of application, selection, and until the conclusion of the 2023 FEI Para-Driving World Championship for Single Horses ("the Event").

Athlete must hold a valid U.S. passport that will not expire for six months after the conclusion of the Event.

1.1.2. Minimum Fédération Equestre Internationale ("FEI") standards for participation:

1.1.2.1. All athletes 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>.

1.1.2.2. 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). Athletes must also have a groom who is at least eighteen (18) years of age (Article 912.6.4).

1.1.2.3. Horses 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).

1.1.2.4. The athlete and horse 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.

1.1.2.5. The athlete must meet the requirements of the FEI Para-Equestrian (PE) Carriage Driving Grades I or II as determined by a licensed FEI Classifier by the Event. Athletes must be listed on the FEI Classification Master List.

1.1.2.6. The athlete and horse must comply with FEI Rules for the Event.

1.1.3. Minimum United States Equestrian Federation ("USEF") criteria and Other Requirements:

1.1.3.1 The athlete must be an active Competing Member of USEF in good standing at the time of application, selection, and until the conclusion of the Event.

1.1.3.2. The horse must be recorded with USEF, pursuant to USEF GR1102, and in good standing with USEF from the time of application through the conclusion of the Event, with an exception for horses that have not competed in the U.S. during 2023 and that have owners who are not U.S. Citizens.

1.1.3.3. Any athlete age 18 or older will be required to undergo a background screen in accordance with the current USOPC Background Check Policy and USEF Background Check Policy.

1.1.3.4. Any athlete age 18 or older as of the Closing Ceremony will be required to remain current with the U.S. Center for SafeSport's education and training requirements in accordance with the USEF Safe Sport Policy and the USOPC Athlete Safety Policy.

1.1.3.5. Application - Athletes wishing to be considered for the Event must complete an online application via the "My USEF" portal with the appropriate application fee. Applications submitted on or before 11:59PM ET on June 1, 2023 will be charged seventy dollars (\$70.00) per Application. Applications submitted after June 1, 2023 will be charged three hundred dollars (\$300.00) per Application. **NO APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER June 15, 2023 at 11:59PM EST.**

1.1.3.4. Owners of applicant horses must sign the USEF Horse Participation Agreement (Attachment C) by 14 days prior to the FEI Nominated Entry deadline.

1.1.3.6. By signing the Application, the athlete, or legal guardian if the athlete is a minor, certifies that they have received, read, and understand the Selection Procedures for the Team; the USEF Code of Conduct (Attachment D); the USEF Release, Assumption of Risk, Waiver and Indemnification (Attachment E); the U.S. Center for SafeSport Code and the USEF Safe Sport Policy including the Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies (Attachment F); the Non-Discrimination Policy (see Section 13 below); and the USEF Whistleblower & Anti-Retaliation Policy (Attachment G) and that they understand these documents, and that they agree to be bound by them.

## 1.2. Selection Trials:

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

The selection period began on September 1, 2021 and will end 14 days prior to the FEI Nominated Entry date for the Event. The Nominated Entry is anticipated to be July 26, 2023.

Athletes wishing to be considered for the Event must have **completed at least one (1) Combined Driving Event at the Intermediate level or above**, at any FEI or USEF Events. Results attained at USEF licensed events (including domestic FEI competitions) will be given primary consideration for selection. Results attained at national level Combined Driving Events **outside of the United States** will also be considered selection trials, so long as the host country's National Federation recognizes the event(s).

In order for competition results to be considered for selection, the athlete must submit verifiable results from any FEI or USEF Events at the Intermediate level or above to the USEF Director of Driving (abthomas@usef.org). All competition results must be submitted by 14 days prior to the FEI Nominated entry date for the Event (July 26, 2023) in order to be considered for selection.

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

Athlete must meet the qualifications for Intermediate level competition or above as outlined in the USEF Combined Driving rules DC908 – Minimum Eligibility Requirements.

### 1.3. Selection Process for the Event

1.3.1. The USEF Para Driving Team (“Team”) will include at least one (1) Athlete from Grade I. The USEF Para Driving Team will include no more than two (2) athletes from any one Grade. If USEF is unable to field a Team, it may enter one (1) Para driving athlete as an individual entry (per FEI Article 919). Per FEI Driving Article 925, a reserve horse can also be entered per Team in the case of a necessary horse substitution.

**1.3.2. FEI Nominated Entries (7/26/23):** By no later than the FEI Nominated Entry date for the Event, the USEF Driving Selectors (“Selectors”) will recommend a list of athletes and horses up to the maximum of six (6) Single Para Driving athletes with a maximum of two (2) horses per entry, per FEI Rules (Article 925), including ranked reserves, to the Driving Sport Committee (“DSC”), to be approved by the USEF Board of Directors, Executive Committee, or an Ad Hoc appointed by the Board of Directors (“BOD or Ad Hoc”).

1.3.2.1. The Selectors will base their evaluations of the athletes and horses for the FEI Nominated Entries on the following factors:

- 1.3.3.1 The FEI Team requirement to include at least one (1) athlete from Grade I, and no more than two (2) athletes from the same Grade;
- 1.3.3.2. The athlete’s submitted competition results within the selection period defined above, with results from FEI or USEF licensed events given preference.
- 1.3.3.3. The athlete’s previous competition experience (over a four-year period), regarding the athlete’s perceived ability to produce superior results at the international level.
- 1.3.3.4. Perceived prospect that the athlete will contribute to a winning Team score due to their expertise in a particular competition phase(s) or overall individual results.

**1.3.3. FEI Definite Entries (8/9/2023):** By no later than the closing date for the FEI Definite Entries, the Selectors will confer with the USEF Chef d’Equipe on Selection. The Selectors will confirm their final selection recommendation for the Team to the DSC who will make their final selection recommendation for the Team, which will then be approved by the BOD or Ad Hoc. USEF may enter a maximum of three (3) Single Para Driving athletes with a maximum of one (1) horse per Para Driving athlete on the FEI Definite entry list.

1.3.3.1. The Selectors will base their evaluations of the athlete for the FEI Definite Entries on the selection criteria enumerated in Section 1.3.2.1.

## 2. DISCRETIONARY SELECTION

2.1. 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.

2.2. Discretionary criteria and explain how it will be used: See section 1.3.2.1 and 1.3.3.1.

2.2.1. Additional Discretionary Criteria:

2.2.1.1 Soundness: At the athlete’s expense, an FEI treating veterinarian must examine any horses that are candidates for the FEI Definite Entry or Substitutes for soundness.

2.2.1.2. The examining veterinarian and the athlete's veterinarian must be in communication regarding the soundness and preparation once named to the FEI Nominated Entries.

2.2.1.3. Horses found to be unsound by the FEI Veterinarian may be eliminated from the Selection Process.

2.2.1.4. In making their decision, the Selectors will consult with the Team Veterinarian and, if applicable, an FEI Veterinarian on the current fitness, soundness, and ability of athlete/horse combinations to determine if they are perceived to be able to meet the standards for the Event (i.e. dressage scores, distance, size and complexity of the obstacles, and required speed to avoid time penalties).

2.2.2. 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 horses 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 horses in question. If necessary, at their own expense, athletes shall complete any treatment prescribed by the Team Veterinarian, after consulting with the horses' treating veterinarian, if requested. Failure to comply with any reasonable request of the Team Veterinarian may result in the removal of the horses 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.

2.2.3. Veterinary Treatment: Once horses 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 horses being treated by any person other than the Team Veterinarian. Failure to adhere to this policy and/or the directive of the Team Veterinarian may result in the removal of horses 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.

2.2.4. 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 CEO 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 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.

2.3. 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.

- USEF Driving Selectors
- USEF Driving Team Veterinarian
- USEF Driving Sport Committee
- USEF Board of Directors, Executive Committee, or Ad Hoc Selection Group

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

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

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

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

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

### **3. REMOVAL OF ATHLETES**

3.1. From the time of Application until the completion of the Event, the USEF has jurisdiction over potential nominees.

An Athlete or Horse that is nominated to the Team by USEF may be removed for any of the following reasons, as determined by USEF:

- 3.1.1. Voluntary withdrawal. Athlete must submit a written letter to the USEF CEO.
- 3.1.2. Injury or illness as certified by a physician (or medical staff) approved by USEF CEO. If an Athlete refuses verification of their illness or injury by a physician (or medical staff) approved by USEF, their injury will be assumed to be disabling and they may be removed.
- 3.1.3. Violation of the USEF Code of Conduct.
- 3.1.4. Violation of the U.S. Center for SafeSport Code or USEF Safe Sport Policy.

- 3.1.5. Failure of the horse owner to timely sign the Horse Participation Agreement (Attachment C).
- 3.1.6. Injury or illness of the Horse as determined by the Team Veterinarian and/or Veterinary Panel. If an Athlete and/or Horse owner refuses to have the Horse examined by the Team Veterinarian and/or Veterinary Panel, the injury or illness will be assumed to be disabling and the horse may be removed.
- 3.1.7. Failure to adhere to the agreed upon plans, programs, guidance, and/or directives of the Chef d'Equipe and the Team Veterinarian.
- 3.1.8. Detection of a Prohibited Substance in the Horse (see below).
- 3.1.9. Failure to adhere to all World Anti-Doping Agency ("WADA"), FEI, USEF, and/or U.S. Anti-Doping Agency ("USADA") anti-doping protocols, policies or procedures regarding Athletes and Horses, including participation in required Out-of-Competition testing.
- 3.1.10. Non-compliance with the eligibility requirements listed in Section 1.1. of these selection procedures.

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

#### **4. SUBSTITUTION / REPLACEMENT OF ATHLETES & HORSES**

4.1. Identifying the pool of athletes and horses with which to substitute or replace: The FEI Nominated Entries will comprise the pool of substitutes/replacements for athlete and/or horse combinations.

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

4.2.1. **Prior to acceptance of FEI Nominated Entry:** Prior to the submission of the FEI Nominated Entry, athlete/horse combinations may be substituted in accordance with the process in Section 1.3 above. Any substitution other than voluntary withdrawal must be upon the recommendation of the Selectors, and the DSC, and subject to the approval of the Board of Directors, Executive Committee, or Ad Hoc approved by the Board of Directors. 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 CEO.

4.2.2. **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, Team members may be replaced with an athlete/horse combination on the FEI Nominated Entry for reasons set forth in Section 3. Replacements may only be made based on the ranked list approved by the USEF Board of Directors, USEF Executive Committee or USEF Ad Hoc, and in accordance with the FEI Regulations for Driving Events and/or for reasons set forth in Section 3. and subject to approval by the USEF Team Leader. To fill openings, if they occur, the Selectors and Team Veterinarian will evaluate the athletes and horses named to the Team and the FEI Nominated Entry and may recommend that a replacement be made. The Selectors when evaluating athletes and horses will base their evaluations on the factors outlined in Section 1.3.2.1. 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 CEO.

#### **4.2.3. 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 horses on the FEI Definite Entry for reasons set forth in Section 3. During this time period, Team members may only be replaced with an athlete/horse 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, with approval of the USEF Team Leader, and in accordance with the FEI Driving Regulations or for reasons set forth in Section 3.

**4.2.4. 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 horse, the athlete &/or horse may be substituted by another from the FEI Nominated Entry list (subject to approval of the OC & the Ground Jury, Article 946). 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/horse combinations that will compete in accordance with the FEI General Regulations (Article 121 & FEI Driving Rules Article 947).

4.2.4.1. In the event that any athlete's FEI Para Equestrian Carriage Driving Grade status (I or II) as listed in the FEI Classification Master List changes, selection may be reconsidered in order to fulfill the FEI team requirements for the Event.

4.2.5. Any replacement for veterinary reasons must have the approval of the Team Veterinarian.

4.2.6. Any replacement for medical reasons must be documented by a physician(s) physically present at the Event venue who is approved by the USEF CEO.

### **5. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS**

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

### **6. REQUIRED DOCUMENTS**

The following documents are required to be signed by an Athlete and Horse owner as a condition of nomination to the 2023 Para Driving World Championships.

- Application (Attachment A)
- USEF Horse Participation Agreement (Attachment C)
- USEF Code of Conduct (Attachment D)
- USEF Release, Assumption of Risk, Waiver, and Indemnification Agreement (Attachment E)

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

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

### 7.1. USEF Web site: [www.usef.org](http://www.usef.org)

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

7.1.2. These procedures will also be available by mail or email upon request.

## **8. DATE OF NOMINATION**

Nomination of Athletes, including replacements, will be announced to all Athletes and submitted to the FEI on or before: The FEI Nominated Entries will be submitted to the FEI no later than the Nominated Entry date declared on the approved FEI Schedule for the Event (7/26/2023).

## **9. ANTI-DOPING REQUIREMENTS**

A. **Human Anti-Doping:** Athletes must adhere to all IOC, IPC, Panam Sports, APC, WADA, FEI, USADA and USOPC anti-doping protocols, policies, and procedures, as applicable. This includes participation in Out-of-Competition Testing as required by the IOC, IPC, Panam Sports, APC, WADA, FEI, USADA and USOPC rules, as applicable.

B. **Equine Anti-Doping:** All Horses are subject to drug testing both in competition and out of competition.

1. **In-Competition.** All Horses entered to compete in any FEI or USEF Event are subject to drug testing at any time from when the Event begins until the Event ends or beginning when the Horse arrives for the Event until the Event ends, whichever beginning occurs first. Blood and/or urine samples may be collected and tested for substances prohibited or forbidden under the subject Event rules. National Events may invoke GR409 whereby samples will be tested for FEI prohibited substances, including metabolites and markers.

a. **Positive Finding.** At any time during the observation and selection period that the presence of a prohibited or forbidden substance, or a metabolite or marker, is detected in the sample collected in-Event, the results, including the level detected for controlled medications, will be reported to the USEF Chief Executive Officer and General Counsel.

b. They will notify the Director of Sport Programs or the Discipline Director for dissemination of information as appropriate. In such instances, the positive finding may result in the elimination of the Horse and/or Athlete from the Selection Process.

c. Before elimination occurs, the Owner and Athlete will be afforded a hearing by a panel ("Selection Hearing Panel") comprised of at least one disinterested member of the applicable discipline Sport Committee along with at least two disinterested members of the Hearing Committee, one of which must be an Athlete Representative.

d. The Chairman of the USEF Veterinary Committee, or his designee, may serve Ex Officio and a member of the Veterinary Panel selected for the Championship may serve Ex Officio.

2. **Out-of-Competition.** Blood and/or urine samples may be collected out-of-competition at any time throughout the selection period, which is defined as commencing on the start date of the USEF Qualifying Period following notification to the Athlete at least 24 hours prior to collection of samples. Samples collected from Horses out-of-competition will be tested for the presence of substances prohibited by the FEI, including metabolites and markers. Failure to make the Horse available for collection of samples may result in the elimination of the Horse and/or Athlete from the Selection Process. Before elimination occurs, the Owner and Athlete will be afforded a hearing by the Selection Hearing Panel.
  - a. **Positive Finding.** At any time during the selection period that the presence of a prohibited or forbidden substance, or a metabolite marker, in the sample, the results, including the level detected for controlled medications, will be reported to the USEF Chief Executive Officer and General Counsel, who will notify the Director of Sport Programs or the Discipline Director for dissemination of information as appropriate.
  - b. In such instances, the positive finding may result in the elimination of the Horse and/or Athlete from the Selection Process unless the Veterinary Panel appointed for the Selection of the Event certifies that the substance detected has been approved or is legitimate and appropriate under the circumstances. Before elimination occurs, the Owner and Athlete will be afforded a hearing by the Selection Hearing Panel.
3. These provisions do not abrogate the enforcement of applicable Equine anti-doping rules at Federation licensed Events, including Events where GR409 is invoked whereby samples will be tested for FEI prohibited substances, including metabolites and markers.
4. USEF GR409.2 Equine Drugs and Medications, Prohibited Substance Provisions: No Horse and/or pony competing in a Breed or Discipline designated as (or part of) a No Prohibited Substance Group is to be shown in any class at an Event licensed by the Federation if it has been administered in any manner or otherwise contained in its tissues, body fluids or excreta a prohibited substance as defined in the FEI Horse Anti-Doping and Controlled Medication Regulations, which can be found at [www.fei.org](http://www.fei.org).

## **10. DEVELOPMENT OF SELECTION PROCEDURES**

The following committee/group (include names and titles) was responsible for creating these Selection Procedures:

- USEF Driving Sport Committee.
- USEF Board of Directors or Executive Committee

See Attachment G for list of USEF Committees, their roles, and list of members.

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

The USEF Bylaws and Grievance Procedures can be found here. Contact information for the USOPC Athlete Ombuds can be found below.

## **12. NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY**

USEF does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion (creed), sex, gender identify, gender expression, age, national origin (ancestry), disability, marital status, sexual orientation, or military status, in any of its activities or operations. Everyone involved in the development of selection procedures and selection process must abide by the Non-Discrimination Policy.

**13. FUNDING DISCLAIMER**

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

**14. INTERNATIONAL DISCLAIMER**

These procedures are based on IOC, IPC, Panam Sports, APC, as applicable, and/or FEI rules and regulations as presently known and understood. Any change in the selection procedures caused by a change in IOC, IPC, Panam Sports, APC, as applicable, and/or FEI rules and regulations will be distributed to the affected Athletes immediately. The selection criteria are based on the latest information available to USEF. However, the selections are always subject to unforeseen, intervening circumstances, and realistically may not have accounted for every possible contingency.

If any force of nature, or force majeure, should cause the alteration or cancellation of any of the selection events listed in this document, these selection procedures may require revisions, pursuant to their resubmission to the USEF Board of Directors or Executive Committee.

**15. ATHLETE OMBUDS OFFICE**

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

To contact the Athlete Ombuds Office:

PHONE: (719) 866-5000

EMAIL: [ombudsman@usathlete.org](mailto:ombudsman@usathlete.org)

WEBSITE: [www.usathlete.org](http://www.usathlete.org)

**16. USEF SIGNATURES**

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

| Position                 | Print Name         | Signature  | Date      |
|--------------------------|--------------------|--|-----------|
| USEF CEO                 | William J. Moroney |  | 4/17/2023 |
| USEF Director of Driving | Anna Brooks Thomas |  | 4/17/23   |

Any questions regarding these Selection Procedures should be addressed to the USEF Director of Driving, Anna Brooks Thomas: United States Equestrian Federation, 4001 Wing Commander Way, Lexington, KY 40511, [abthomas@usef.org](mailto:abthomas@usef.org) or 859-225-2033.

Approved by the USEF Driving Sport Committee on: 3/28/23

Approved by the USEF Board of Directors or Executive Committee: 4/17/23

## 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 Driving Selector (“Selectors”)**—Selectors nominated by the DSC for the current Championship year, which is published on [www.usef.org](http://www.usef.org). Three (3) individuals (the “Selectors”) will be appointed by the CEO upon the recommendation of the DSC. The Selectors are subject to the USEF Code of Conduct, USEF Code of Ethics and Conflict of Interest and Gifts & Entertainment Policy, 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 United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee (“USOPC”) (See Definitions on page 10) but who is not an applicant for the Team (the “Eligible Athlete Representative Selector”).

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 33.3% Eligible Athlete Representation on the panel of the Selectors.

**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/horse combination(s) have successfully met the challenges of FEI international events & perform under pressure.

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

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