

MEMORANDUM

To: Potential Applicants for the 2021 USEF Endurance National Championships and North American Endurance Championships

Date: April 28, 2020

From: Kristen E. Brett, Director of Endurance

Copy: Will Connell

Re: Anticipated Qualifying Methods

This preliminary information is provided to assist you with your competition planning and subject to change. Please remember that this information is based upon the recommendations of the USEF Endurance Sport Committee and is subject to approval by the USEF Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the USEF Board of Directors and therefore subject to change.

The USEF Endurance National Championships highlight the top athletes and horses in four (4) divisions:

- 2021 USEF Young Rider Endurance National Championship – CEIYJ1*
- 2021 USEF Young Rider Endurance National Championship – CEIYJ2*
- 2021 USEF Senior Endurance National Championship – CEI1*
- 2021 USEF Senior Endurance National Championship – CEI2*

Additionally, the USEF will host the 2021 North American Endurance Championships (NAEC), which is a team competition, similar to the FEI Nations Cup format. The NAEC will be open to teams from [USEF Zones](#), Canada, and Mexico as well as potentially other National Federations from [FEI Group IV](#).

Qualifying Period: It is anticipated that the proposed qualifying period for the 2021 USEF Endurance National Championships and North American Endurance Championships will begin on June 1, 2020. It is anticipated that the deadline for the qualifying period will be posted once the dates of the Championships are approved by the USEF Board of Directors.

Please note that the qualifying period dates are tentative and subject to change, pending decisions regarding the COVID-19 pandemic as well as confirmation of the venue and date of the event.

National Championships: Athletes and horses must be eligible to compete at their respective level under the [FEI Endurance Rules effective July 1, 2020](#) no later than the closing date for the FEI Definite Entry (per the FEI Definite Schedule) of the event.

North American Endurance Championships: It is anticipated for a ranking list to be established by taking into account all the results of an athlete from a senior or young rider CEI1*, CEI2*, and CEI3* competitions as well as CEIO and FEI Championships held within and out of the U.S. during the



qualifying period. A list of these of competitions can be found on the FEI website [here](#). Please check the status of the CEIs regularly as a number have already cancelled.

USEF Zone Teams Composition for the NAEC: It is anticipated that each Zone may enter up to three (3) Senior and three (3) Young Rider teams of three (3) to five (5) athlete/horse combinations. Invitations to compete on a Team will be based upon the athlete's ranking on the USEF Zone Ranking Lists no later than the closing date for the FEI Definite Entry (per the FEI Definite Schedule).

Application of Intent: An application of intent is required to be submitted in order to be eligible for an invitation to the 2021 USEF Endurance National Championships and North American Endurance Championships. The Application of Intent will be available on the USEF website no later than February 1, 2021. Qualifying points for the NAEC may be earned prior to the submission of the Application of Intent.

USEF Safe Sport Policy: It is the responsibility of the owners and athletes of horses to ensure that they know and understand the [USEF Rules](#), [FEI Rules](#), [FEI CEI Qualifying Requirements](#), USEF Code of Conduct, and [USEF Safe Sport Policy](#). USEF members 18-years-old and older, with a Competing Membership, are required to follow the USEF Safe Sport Policy, which includes the [USEF Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies](#).

USEF Background Check Policy Requirements: As of January 1, 2020, athletes 18 years of age or older and selected by the USEF to compete on a 2021 USEF Zone Team, are required to comply with the updated USEF Background Check Policy. Athletes are strongly encouraged to review the [Background Check Policy Requirements](#) for more information.

Equine Anti-Doping: Please be reminded that all horses registered with the FEI or USEF shall be subject to in-competition testing. FEI's philosophy is that horses must be "clean" at the time of competition. If seeking advice from a veterinarian ensure he/she is a registered FEI veterinarian and is fully conversant with the [FEI Veterinary Rules](#) and the [Prohibited Substance List](#).

Human Anti-Doping: Please be reminded that when you are competing under FEI rules, you (the human athlete) are subject to random, in-competition and out of competition drug testing. It is your responsibility to know if you are taking any medications on the FEI Prohibited Substance List. It is strongly recommended that you regularly visit the [United States Anti-Doping Agency's \(USADA\) website](#), which contains a range of information on testing, regulations, and athlete rights. You should also regularly check the USADA web page that covers all changes to the [anti-doping rules](#).

Questions: If you have any questions regarding the above, please do not hesitate to contact the USEF Endurance Department at kbrett@usef.org.