



To: Para-Equestrian Athletes

From: Laureen Johnson, Director of Para-Equestrian and Vaulting

Date: December 19, 2018

Re: 2020 Paralympic Qualification

Country Qualification

Only the top three (3) finishing Teams from the 2018 FEI World Equestrian Games (WEG) secured four (4) qualification slots for the 2020 Paralympic Games (the Games). As the United States did not finish in the top three Teams, qualification for the U.S. to obtain four qualification slots for the Games now moves to the FEI Team Ranking list that runs January 1, 2019 – January 31, 2020. The highest ranked seven (7) Teams will qualify and then the highest placed Team from the Americas, not already qualified, will earn a slot. We are confident that if our leading athletes maintain form and compete at the CPEDIs, we will achieve Qualification for Tokyo. Qualification slots are earned for the National Paralympic Committee (NPC) of each country, not athletes.

Athlete Qualification

To be eligible for selection by a NPC, athletes must:

- Be internationally classified with a 'Confirmed' sport class status or a 'Review' sport class status with a review date after 31 December 2020.

To be eligible for selection by an NPC, athlete/horse combinations must:

- Have achieved at least one (1) sixty-two (62) percent score at a FEI Para Equestrian 3* or above event in an Individual or Team competition between 1 January 2018 and 19 June 2020.

In addition to the FEI criteria above, it is anticipated that the USEF will require athletes to meet the following USEF criteria in order to be considered for selection to the 2020 Paralympic Para-Dressage U.S. Team.

- Athletes must complete a minimum of two (2) CPEDI3* qualifying competitions between January 1, 2019 and June 19, 2020.

Qualifying competitions include all U.S. and Foreign CPEDI3* qualifying events. A list of all qualifying events can be found at <https://www.fei.org/events#&year=2019&disc=para-equestrian-dressage>.

The following is a current list of the 2019 U.S. CPEDI₃* (please note this list is subject to change by the FEI).

- 1/17-20 CPEDI₃*, CPEDI₂*, CPEDI₁* Wellington, FL
- 3/7-10 CPEDI₃*, CPEDI₂*, CPEDI₁* Wellington, FL - Global Dressage Festival 9
- 6/13-16 CPEDI₃*, CPEDI₂*, CPEDI₁* Sacramento-Rancho Murieta, CA - Golden State Dressage Classic & CDI₂*
- 9/12-15 CPEDI₃*, CPEDI₂*, CPEDI₁* Tryon, NC - Tryon Fall Dressage / *National Champion to be Named.*

Athletes will be required to submit quarterly On-Line Video Tests (Individual and Team) and at least 2 Freestyle Tests to be judged during the qualifying period. An additional 3* Event may replace the On-Line Video Tests requirement for the quarter in which it takes place.

It is further anticipated that scores obtained within the last 6 months of the qualifying period, will be scrutinized more heavily, along with utilizing the following criteria:

- 1) Scores from CPEDI₃*s (Podium potential by Grade);
- 2) Consistency of Scores over 73%;
- 3) Trend in Scores;
- 4) Previous International Experience;
- 5) Incomplete Qualifying Competitions due to W/D or Eliminations – Regular Team Veterinary inspection reporting;
- 6) Potential to contribute to a Medal; and
- 7) Behavior of Athlete or Behavior of athlete and people associated with the athlete (including, without limitation, owners, coaches and grooms) that may have an impact on creating a positive team environment.

After the conclusion of the Qualifying Competition period, it is anticipated that athlete/horse combinations will be named to the Short List by the Selectors, in consultation with the Chef d'Equipe, based upon the below anticipated evaluations and the criteria listed above:

- 1) Mandatory outings may include USEF Recognized Events; and
- 2) Final Observation Event within the United States.

Waivers may be considered for the mandatory outings.

It is anticipated that the final selection of the four (4) athletes will be recommended for selection to the USOC. It is anticipated that this recommendation will be made before July, 10th 2020.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at 859-225-7693 if you have any questions regarding the 2020 Paralympic qualification requirements.