

**UNITED STATES EQUESTRIAN FEDERATION
ATHLETE SELECTION PROCEDURES
2024 WORLD ENDURANCE CHAMPIONSHIP
MONPAZIER, FRANCE
7th SEPTEMBER 2024**

Amendments approved by the USEF Board of Directors on the 16th of October, 2023.

Amendments (shown in red) include:

- **Extension of the Application of intent and Selection Event deadlines.**
- **Increase the minimum and maximum number of Selection Events that must be designated.**
- **Removal of the requirement that one Selection Event must be at least 300 radial miles from the Athlete's residence and replaced it with the requirement that the two Selection Events with the best results must be at least 200 radial miles from one another.**
- **Extension of the deadline for which athletes have to review the ranking list as well as an update for which staff member to contact if an error is found.**
- **Adjustment of how a tie is broken on the ranking list.**
- **Clarification language for Overall Starter definition.**

1. SELECTION SYSTEM

1.1. Minimum eligibility requirements for an athlete to be considered for selection to the Team:

1.1.1. Nationality/Passport requirements:

- Athlete must be a national of the United States at the deadline for the Application of Intent through to the end of the 2024 World Endurance Championship (Championship).
- Athlete must hold a valid U.S. passport that will not expire for six months after the conclusion of the Championship.

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

- Must meet the FEI Qualifying requirements by the deadline for the application of intent. The FEI Qualifying requirements, once posted, can be found here: <https://inside.fei.org/fei/disc/endurance/main-events>.
- Athletes and Horses must meet minimum age requirements as required by the FEI.
- All Athletes must meet the minimum weight requirements of 165lbs/75kg for Senior divisions, with weight including all riding equipment, except the bridle.

1.1.3. Other requirements:

- Athlete must be an Active Competing Member of the United States Equestrian Federation ("USEF") in good standing from the deadline for the application of intent through the conclusion of the Championship.
- Horses must be recorded with USEF pursuant to USEF General Rule 1102 and in good standing with USEF from the deadline for the application of intent through the conclusion of the Championship.

- Horses must have a valid FEI passport by the deadline for the Application of Intent.
- Owners of applicant Horses must execute the USEF Horse Participation Agreement (Attachment F) by the deadline of the application of intent. Owners certify by signing the Horse Participation Agreement, that they have received, read, and understand the Selection Procedures for the Team; the USEF Code of Conduct (Attachment B); the USEF Release, Assumption of Risk, Waiver & Indemnification (Attachment C); the U.S. Center for SafeSport Code and the USEF Safe Sport Policy including the Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies (Attachment D); the Non-Discrimination Policy (see Section 15 below); and the USEF Whistleblower & Anti-Retaliation Policy (Attachment E) and that they understand these documents and that they agree to be bound by them.
- Athlete must successfully complete the USEF Application of Intent by stated deadline.
- Any Athlete age 18 or older will be required to undergo a background check in accordance with the current [USEF Background Check Policy](#).
- Any Athlete age 18 or older as of the end of the Championship will be required to remain current with the U.S. Center for SafeSport's education and training requirements in accordance with the [USEF Athlete Safety Policy](#).
- All Athletes, Owners', Staff, Crew, or other support personnel to be accredited at the Championship will be required to adhere to the USEF Safe Sport Policy, including the Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies, Training and Education requirements, and [USEF Background Check Policy](#). Individuals under 18 years of age are not required to undergo a background check.

1.2. Application of Intent (Application):

Athletes wishing to be considered for the Championship must complete the online Application of Intent at www.usef.org and pay the appropriate fee. Applications of Intent must be submitted online on or before 11:59 PM ET, ~~June 24~~ ~~June 4~~, 2024 along with the non-refundable fee in the amount of fifty dollars (\$50.00) per application. No changes will be accepted after the Application of Intent deadline.

Athletes must list any and all horses they wish to be considered for the Team on their Application of Intent with a limit of four (4) horses per Athlete on the Application of Intent by the stated deadline.

Athletes certify by signing the Application of Intent that they have received, read, and assume responsibility for meeting all requirements under the Selection Procedures and the FEI Rules and Regulations; the USEF Code of Conduct (Attachment B); the USEF Release, Assumption of Risk, Waiver & Indemnification (Attachment C); the U.S. Center for SafeSport Code and the USEF SafeSport Policy including the Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies (Attachment D); the Non-Discrimination Policy (see Section 15 below); and the USEF Whistleblower & Anti-Retaliation Policy (Attachment E) and that they understand these documents and that they agree to be bound by them.

1.3. Selection Events:

USEF will select Athlete/Horse combinations for the Team based on a Selection Ranking List formula described in detail in Attachment A, subject to a fitness and soundness evaluation described in Section 2. Athlete/Horse combinations must designate in writing to the Director of Endurance at

least fourteen (14) days prior to the start of ~~each the~~ competition at least ~~two (2)~~ and no more than ~~three four (34)~~ Selection Events, as defined below. The deadline is at least fourteen (14) days prior to each of the separate Selection Events.

Selection Events are defined as any single day Endurance Event held at 160km in the Senior division that is FEI sanctioned and/or USEF licensed between the dates of June 1, 2023, and ~~June 24 June 4,~~ 2024. A competition is not considered a Selection Event until USEF confirms that the designation has been received before the deadline and it meets the requirements for a Selection Event for the Athlete/Horse combination. JR/YR Division results will not count as Selection Events for purposes of qualifying for Team competing in the Senior Division of a Championship. No proxy riders permitted.

The Athlete/Horse Combination's best two (2) results from their Designated Selection Events, will be used to calculate the points utilized for the Ranking List. Of the **best two (2)** Selection Events **used for the Ranking List,** ~~designated by the Athlete,~~ the Athlete/Horse Combination must successfully complete at least one designated Selection Event at least ~~200 300~~ radial miles from the **other designated selection event Athlete's residence.** **Therefore, the Athlete/Horse combination must successfully complete at least two (2) designated selection events, which are 200 radial miles from one another.** ~~The Athlete's residence will be recorded per their USEF membership information on June 1, 2023. Changes to an Athlete's residence during the Selection Period must be received and approved via email by the USEF Director of Endurance prior to making the change. The Athlete/Horse Combination's two (2) top results from Designated Selection Events, will be used to determine the points utilized for the Ranking List.~~

~~NOTE: Failure to successfully complete one designated Selection Event of at least three hundred miles in a direct straight line distance from the Athlete's residence will result in the Athlete/Horse Combination neither being ranked nor considered for selection.~~

NOTE: If an Athlete designates a Selection Event and crosses the start line but does not complete the competition, the Selection Event will still count as one of the maximum ~~three four~~ permitted Selection Events. If an Athlete designates a Selection Event but does not cross the start line at the competition, the Selection Event will not count as one of the maximum **four** permitted Selection Events. See Section 19.

NOTE: It is the sole responsibility of the athlete to ensure that all Selection Event scores and other necessary or required information for the Championship are submitted to USEF on time and are accurate. Athletes must contact USEF at nzerbeesmorrissey@usef.org by no later than ~~July 1 June 20,~~ 2024 at 11:59PM ET to correct any inaccurate scores or errors in the Ranking List.

1.4. Step-by-step description of the selection process for the Championship:

- 1.4.1. Approval of Team and Ranked Alternates: Following the deadline for the Application of Intent but prior to the closing date of the FEI Nominated Entries for the Championship, the USEF Endurance Sport Committee will meet and make a recommendation of three (3) to five (5) Athlete/Horse combinations and rank the remaining Athlete/Horse combinations that meet the criteria of these selection procedures. This recommendation will be solely based off the selection ranking list and the criteria outlined in these selection procedures. This recommendation will then be presented to the USEF Board of Directors, USEF Ad Hoc of the Board of Directors, the USEF Executive Committee for final approval of the Team of three (3) to five (5) Athlete/Horse combinations and list of ranked alternate Athlete/Horse combinations. This selection will be solely based off the

selection ranking list and the criteria outlined in these selection procedures. This selection is subject to the Horses passing the soundness and fitness evaluation as noted in Section 1.5.

- 1.4.2. FEI Nominated Entries: By no later than the closing date for the FEI Nominated Entries for the Championship, the Team and Ranked Alternates, as approved by the USEF Board of Directors, USEF Ad Hoc of the Board of Directors, or USEF Executive Committee, will be submitted up to the maximum number of Athlete/Horse combinations permitted to be named on the Nominated Entry in accordance with the FEI Rules.
- 1.4.3. FEI Definite Entries: After submission of the FEI Nominated Entries but by no later than the closing date for the FEI Definite Entries for the Championship, the Team and Ranked Alternates, as approved by the USEF Board of Directors, USEF Ad Hoc of the Board of Directors, or USEF Executive Committee, will be submitted up to the maximum number of Athlete/Horse combinations permitted to be named on the Definite Entry in accordance with the FEI Rules. The Athlete/Horse combinations named on the Definite Entry must also be listed on the Nominated Entry.
- 1.4.4. Declaration of Starters – After the First (Pre-Ride) Inspection of the horses and by no later than the assigned time for the declaration of starters, the Chef d’Equipe and Team Veterinarian will evaluate the Horses that have passed the First (Pre-Ride) Inspection and will declare the Team that will start at the Championship.
- 1.4.5. Should there not be at least three (3) Athlete/Horse combinations that meet the criteria set forth in these selection procedures in order to field a Team at the Championship, USEF may select one (1) or two (2) Athlete/Horse combinations to send to the Championship as individuals. Those individual Athlete/Horse combinations will be selected in accordance with the criteria established in these selection procedures.
- 1.4.6. Process that will be used to identify and handle any potential conflicts of interest involving a member of the selection process:

All individuals involved in selection must comply with the USEF conflict of interest policy, to include completing and submitting a disclosure form for review by the USEF Legal Department and USEF Audit Committee prior to convening for selection.

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.

- 1.5. Discretionary Selection: Discretionary selection is used to field the best team possible for the Championship.

Soundness and Fitness Evaluation: Horses that are candidates for selection may be examined at any time during the selection process through the conclusion of the Championship by the Team Veterinarian or a Veterinarian appointed by USEF. Horses found to be unsound and/or unfit by the Team Veterinarian or a Veterinarian appointed by USEF may be eliminated from the Selection Process at the recommendation of the USEF Veterinarian and USEF Endurance Sport Committee, with the approval of the USEF Board of Directors, an Ad Hoc of the USEF Board of Directors, or the USEF Executive Committee. All Horses named to the Nominated Entries may undergo a baseline exam with the Team Veterinarian and/or a Veterinarian appointed by USEF at any time between selection and departure for the Championship. The Team Veterinarian or a Veterinarian appointed by USEF and the athlete's veterinarian must be in communication regarding the soundness and preparation of the Horses on the Nominated Entries.

2. REMOVAL OF ATHLETES/HORSES

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:

- Voluntary withdrawal. Athlete must submit a written letter to the USEF CEO or USEF Director of Endurance.
- Injury or illness as certified by a physician (or medical staff) approved by USEF. 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.
- Failure to participate in Mandatory Training and/or Competition as defined in Section 11 of these procedures.
- Violation of the USEF Code of Conduct (Attachment B).
- Violation of the U.S. Center for SafeSport Code or USEF Safe Sport Policy (Attachment D).
- Failure of the horse owner to timely sign the Horse Participation Agreement (Attachment F).
- Injury or illness of the Horse as determined by the Team Veterinarian. If an Athlete and/or Horse owner refuses to have the Horse examined by the Team Veterinarian, the injury or illness will be assumed to be disabling and the horse may be removed.
- Failure to adhere to the agreed upon plans, programs, guidance, and/or directives of the Chef d'Equipe, Team Veterinarian and/or Team Leader.
- Detection of a Prohibited Substance in the Horse (see below).

- 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.
- Non-compliance with the eligibility requirements listed in 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, and the USOPC Bylaws, Section 14.

3. REPLACEMENT OF ATHLETES & HORSES

Selection and approval process for determining replacement Athlete(s) & Horse(s) should a vacancy occur:

- 3.1. Prior to submission of the Nominated Entries:
Replacement of Athlete/Horse combinations will be based on the list of ranked alternates as approved by the USEF Board of Directors, USEF Executive Committee, or USEF Ad Hoc of the Board of Directors.
- 3.2. After submission of the Nominated Entries but prior to submission of the Definite Entries:
Replacement of Athlete/Horse combinations will be based on the list of ranked alternates as approved by the USEF Board of Directors, USEF Executive Committee, or USEF Ad Hoc of the Board of Directors. Replacement Athlete/Horse combinations must only come from those submitted on the Nominated Entries.
- 3.3. After acceptance of the FEI Definite Entries and before the Declaration of Starters:
Replacement of Athlete/Horse combinations will be based on the list of ranked alternates as approved by the USEF Board of Directors, USEF Executive Committee, or USEF Ad Hoc of the Board of Directors. Replacement Athlete/Horse combinations must only come from those submitted on the Nominated Entries and that are still willing and able to travel to the Championship.
- 3.4. After submission of the Declaration of Starters and up to one hour before the start of the Championship:
If an accident or illness of an Athlete or Horse makes it impossible for either one to take part in the Championship, replacements may be made in accordance with the FEI rules. Replacement of Athlete/Horse combinations will be based on the list of ranked alternates as approved by the USEF Board of Directors, USEF Executive Committee, or USEF Ad Hoc of the Board of Directors. Replacement Athlete/Horse combinations must only come from those submitted on the Nominated Entries and that are still willing and able to travel to the Championship.

4. AUTHORITY

From the deadline of the application of intent to the end of the Championship, the USEF has jurisdiction over all applicants.

5. TEAM VETERINARIAN REQUEST

Athletes or Owners, at their own expense, must make available, upon the request of the Team Veterinarian or a Veterinarian appointed by USEF, 12 months’ worth of veterinary records of Horses under consideration for selection. In addition, applicants, at their own expense, shall be responsible for supplying any follow-up diagnostic information requested by the Team Veterinarian or a Veterinarian

appointed by USEF, for Horses under consideration for selection. Athletes or Owners, at their own expense, shall complete any treatment prescribed by the Team Veterinarian or a Veterinarian appointed by USEF, after consultation with the Horse's treating veterinarian if such a consultation is requested by the Athlete, for Horses under consideration for selection. Failure to comply with any reasonable request of the Team Veterinarian or a Veterinarian appointed by USEF, may result in the removal of the Athlete/Horse Combination from the selection process upon recommendation of the USEF Endurance Sport Committee, and with the approval of the USEF Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc approved by the Board of Directors, or the USEF Executive Committee.

6. VETERINARY TREATMENT

Once a Horse(s) is named to the FEI Nominated Entries or FEI Final Entries, all selected Athletes will be required to obtain written permission from the Team Veterinarian or a Veterinarian appointed by USEF, prior to their selected Horses being treated by any person other than the Team Veterinarian or Veterinarian approved by USEF. In addition, all veterinary treatments must be recorded and made available to the Team Veterinarian or Veterinarian approved by USEF, if requested. Failure to adhere to this policy and/or the directives of the Team Veterinarian or Veterinarian approved by USEF, may result in the removal of Horse and/or Athlete from the selection process upon the recommendation of the Team Veterinarian or Veterinarian approved by USEF and the USEF Endurance Sport Committee, with the approval of the USEF Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc approved by the Board of Directors, or the USEF Executive Committee.

7. 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 end date of the Championship.

8. REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

The following documents are required to be signed by an Athlete and/or Horse owner as a condition of nomination to the Championship:

- USEF Selection Ranking List Formula (Attachment A)
- USEF Code of Conduct (Attachment B)
- USEF Release, Assumption of Risk, Waiver, and Indemnification (Attachment C)
- USEF U.S. Center for SafeSport Code & USEF SafeSport Policy (Attachment D)
- USEF Whistleblower & Anti-Retaliation Policy (Attachment E)
- USEF Horse Participation Agreement (Attachment F)
- USEF Code of Ethics & Conflict of Interest & Gifts & Entertainment Policy (Attachment H)

9. ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS

Athletes will be required to read the USEF Athlete Agreement (Attachment G) and are requested to sign this document.

10. 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):

USEF Web site: www.usef.org

These procedures will be posted as soon as possible, but not more than five business days following notice of approval by the USEF. These procedures will also be available by mail or email upon request.

11. MANDATORY TRAINING AND/OR COMPETITION

If a mandatory training and/or competition is to be held, all athlete applicants will be notified with the details at least 30 days prior to the mandatory training and/or competition dates.

12. ANTI-DOPING REQUIREMENTS

- A. Human Anti-Doping: Athletes must adhere to all IOC, IPC, Pan Am 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, Pan Am 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 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.

13. DEVELOPMENT OF SELECTION PROCEDURES

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

USEF Endurance Sport Committee: <https://www.usef.org/about-us/councils-committees/708>

USEF Board of Directors or USEF Executive Committee: <https://www.usef.org/about-us/councils-committees>

14. 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.

15. 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.

16. FUNDING DISCLAIMER

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

17. INTERNATIONAL DISCLAIMER

These procedures are based on IOC, IPC, Pan Am 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, Pan Am 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.

18. ATTACHMENTS

- Attachment A – USEF Selection Ranking List Formula
- Attachment B – USEF Code of Conduct
- Attachment C – USEF Release, Assumption of Risk, Waiver, and Indemnification
- Attachment D – USEF U.S. Center for SafeSport Code & USEF SafeSport Policy
- Attachment E – USEF Whistleblower & Anti-Retaliation Policy
- Attachment F – USEF Horse Participation Agreement
- Attachment G – USEF Athlete Agreement
- Attachment H – USEF Code of Ethics & Conflict of Interest & Gifts & Entertainment Policy

19. DEFINITIONS

- Team – three (3) to five (5) Athlete/Horse combinations
- Ranked Alternates – ranked list of Athlete/Horse combinations remaining following the selection of three (3) to five (5) Athlete/Horse combinations as the Team
- Complete – to finish all phases of the competition and pass the final veterinary inspection at the competition without failure to qualify (includes elimination) disqualification, retirement, rider option following the combination crossing the start line (does not include withdrawal at or prior to the first pre-ride inspection). Finished Not Ranked (FNR) is considered a completion.
- Start – Considered to be any Athlete/Horse combination's Completion, Elimination, Disqualification, or Retirement (including rider option)

20. 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

WEBSITE: www.usathlete.org

21. 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	<i>William J. Moroney</i>	10/16/2023
USEF Managing Director of Non-Olympic Disciplines	Steven Morrissey	<i>Steven P. Morrissey</i>	16 th October 2023

Approved on: October 16, 2023

Attachment A

Athlete/Horse Combinations will be ranked based on the following formula. The Championship Selection Ranking will be updated as results are available and published on the USEF website: www.usef.org/endurance.

2024 SELECTION RANKING FORMULA:

Format: D + E + P + T = Event Ranking Score Formula:

1. Distance = "D"
2. Event Type = "E"
3. Placement = "P"
4. Time = "T"

DISTANCE POINTS ("D"): Based upon successful completion at FEI or USEF Licensed Competition distances:

1. 160km = 160 Points

Note: Results at events with 4 or fewer overall Starters will receive 50% of Distance ("D") points only.*

COMPETITION RATING ("E"): These bonus multipliers may be combined:

1. USEF Endurance National Championship or Test Event: +0.50*D
2. CEI: +0.25*D
3. Best Condition in CEI or USEF Licensed Event(s): +0.25*D
4. USEF National Licensed Ride (NOT a CEI Event): +0.25*D
5. USEF Zone Championship: +0.25*D

Note: FNR results receiving successful completion, Distance ("D") points ONLY. No Event Rating multiplier will apply.

PLACEMENT ("P"): Points will be awarded to the Athlete/Horse Combinations who complete** as stated below, relative to the total number of overall starters* at that distance, whether at FEI or USEF Licensed Competitions: Placement Points will be determined based upon the Athlete/Horse Combination's overall 'Order of Finish' in the relevant Distance at the Competition, at the same distance and on the same day.

1. Award of Placement Points:

- a. Applicable to Top 5 overall Finishers regardless of type of entry (Young Rider, Senior Rider, USEF or FEI) at the relevant Distance. Ranking Score will be based upon the largest field;
- b. Minimum of 5 overall Starters* or no Placement Points will be awarded;
- c. Top 5 must successfully complete/finish** within 60 minutes of Winner
- d. Placement Point Calculation Formula:

(1) (Number of overall starters divided by overall placing) x 10 = "P"

(2) Examples:

(a) (12 starters/2nd Place Overall) x 10 = 60

(b) (5 Starters/1st Place Overall) x 10 = 50

TIME ("T"): Time will be calculated to the nearest whole minute, i.e.: if 2 finish times are recorded as 8:49:09, and 8:49:49, they will be both be accounted for as 8:49.

1. 160 km Event: 60 Points for Finishing at Winning time, then loss of 1 point/minute for later finishers, who must finish within 60 minutes of Winning time. "0" points for finishing beyond 60 minutes.

TIES:

1. ~~Ties will be broken based upon the best single Competition Ranking Score at least 300 radial miles from the Athlete's legal residence for each Athlete/Horse Combination. If no successful Competition Ranking Score at least 300 radial miles from the Athlete's legal residence is available, the Athlete/Horse Combination will not be~~

~~ranked.~~ **Ties will be broken based on the best final time from the best designated selection event being used for the ranking list for each Athlete/Horse combination.**

2. If a tie persists, any tie will be broken based upon the best single FEI competition Ranking Score for each Athlete/Horse Combination within the FEI qualification period.

3. If a tie persists, any tie will be decided by discretionary selection between the tied Athlete/Horse Combinations by the Endurance Chef d'Equipe for the Championship.

CHANGES: If, in the course of the selection process, USEF discovers or determines an ambiguity or gap exists in this document, its CEO may alter or amend this document to address such issues.

*Overall Starters for the purposes of this Ranking List will be defined as number of combinations to cross the start line in **any division of** the same distance ~~division~~ at the same competition.

**Complete for the purposes of this Ranking List will be defined as finishing all phases of the competition and passing the final veterinary inspection at the competition without receiving a failure to qualify (includes elimination), disqualification, retirement, rider option following the combination crossing the start line (does not include withdrawal at or prior to the first pre-ride inspection). Finished Not Ranked (FNR) is considered a completion.