

UNITED STATES EQUESTRIAN FEDERATION
ATHLETE SELECTION PROCEDURES
2027 FEI VAULTING WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS FOR JUNIORS AND YOUNG VAULTERS
(July 26 - August 10, 2027, Verolanuova, Italy)

1. SELECTION SYSTEM

1.1. Minimum eligibility requirements to be considered for selection to Championships:

1.2.

1.2.1. **Nationality/Passport requirements:**

The Athletes must be U.S. citizens, or in compliance with FEI Vaulting Rules, Article 702.4.1, Vaulting Rules, 10th Edition, effective 1 January 2026, as well as FEI General Regulations, Article 119, no later than the application deadline for the 2027 FEI Vaulting World Championships (the “Championships” or the “Event”). Athletes must hold a valid passport that will not expire for six months after the conclusion of the Championships.

1.2.2. **Minimum International Federation (IF) standards for participation:**

1.2.2.1. All Athletes wishing to compete at the Event must earn an FEI Certificate of Capability by June 1, 2027. The FEI Certificate of Capability Criteria can be [found here](#).

1.2.2.2. The Horse must meet the minimum age requirement per the FEI Vaulting Rules [10th Edition, effective 1st January 2026], Article 717.1.

1.2.2.3. The Athletes must be registered and in good standing with the FEI at the time of selection, and until the conclusion of the Event.

1.2.2.4. The Horse must be registered and in good standing with the FEI at the time of selection, and until the conclusion of the Event.

1.2.2.5. The Horse must meet all FEI criteria of eligibility for the Event [found here](#).

1.2.2.6. The Athletes and Horse must comply with FEI Rules for the Event.

1.2.2.7. Horse owners must be in good standing with the FEI at the time of Nominated Entries, and until the conclusion of the Event.

1.2.2.8. The lunger(s) must be registered and in good standing with the FEI at the time of Nominated Entries, and until the conclusion of the Event. The lunger(s) must comply with FEI Rules for the Event.

1.2.3. **Other requirements:**

1.2.3.1. The Athletes must be a Junior or Senior Active Member of the United States Equestrian Federation (“USEF”) in good standing by January 15, 2027, and until the conclusion of the Event.

1.2.3.2. If the horse is registered with the FEI under USA, the horse must be recorded with USEF pursuant to USEF GR1102, and in good standing under USEF rules at the time of FEI Nominated Entries and until the conclusion of the Event. Internationally borrowed horses must be in good standing with their country’s National Federation at the time of FEI Nominated Entries and until the conclusion of the Event. See Section 2.1.1.3 for deadlines regarding submission of the Horse Plan.

1.2.3.3. Owners of horses registered with the FEI under USA must be USEF Junior or Senior Active Members, and in good standing pursuant to USEF Rules at the time of FEI Nominated Entries and until the conclusion of the Event.

- 1.2.3.4. Application – Athletes or Squads wishing to be considered for the Event must complete and submit an online Application (Attachment A) with the appropriate application fee at www.usef.org. Applications submitted online on or before **January 15, 2027** will be charged one hundred and fifty dollars (\$150.00) per Application. **NO APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER JANUARY 15, 2027.** Each athlete must certify, by signing the Application (Attachment A) or the Squad Declaration for Squad athletes (Attachment J), that they have received, read, understand, and agree to be bound by these Selection Procedures for the Event, [the USEF Code of Conduct](#), [the USEF Release, Assumption of Risk, Waiver and Indemnification](#), the [U.S. Center for SafeSport Code](#), [the USEF Safe Sport Policy](#), including the [Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies](#), [the USEF Non-Discrimination Policy](#), and the [USEF Whistleblower & Anti-Retaliation Policy](#).
- 1.2.3.5. Horse Participation Consent Agreement: Individual owners of horses registered under USA named to the FEI Nominated Entry must sign the USEF Horse Participation Consent Agreement (Attachment B) prior to the FEI Nominated Entry deadline. If an owner is under 18 years of age, then a parent or legal guardian must sign, too. The failure of a Horse owner with a Horse registered under USA, or parent/legal guardian if applicable, to timely sign the USEF Horse Participation Consent Agreement may result in the removal of the Horse and/or Athlete from the FEI Nominated Entry. The Owner(s) must certify, by signing the Horse Participation Consent Agreement, that they have received, read, understand, and agree to be bound by these Selection Procedures for the Event, [the USEF Code of Conduct](#), [the USEF Release, Assumption of Risk, Waiver and Indemnification](#), the [U.S. Center for SafeSport Code](#), [the USEF Safe Sport Policy](#), including the [Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies](#), [the USEF Non-Discrimination Policy](#), and the [USEF Whistleblower & Anti-Retaliation Policy](#).
- 1.2.3.6. Lungers registered with the FEI under USA will be required to sign the Horse Owner and Lunger Agreement (Attachment F). By signing the Agreement, the Lunger certifies that they have received, read, understand, and agree to be bound by these Selection Procedures, [the USEF Code of Conduct](#), [the USEF Release, Assumption of Risk, Waiver and Indemnification](#), the [U.S. Center for SafeSport Code](#), [the USEF Safe Sport Policy](#), including the [Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies](#), [the USEF Non-Discrimination Policy](#), and the [USEF Whistleblower & Anti-Retaliation Policy](#).
- 1.2.3.7. Lungers registered with the FEI under USA are required to be USEF Senior Active Members, and in good standing under USEF rules at the time of FEI Nominated Entries through the conclusion of the Event.
- 1.2.3.8. Any athlete age 18 or older as of the last day of the Championships will be required to undergo a background screen in accordance with the current [USEF Background Check Policy](#).
- 1.2.3.9. Any athlete age 18 or older as of the last day of the Championships 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](#).

2. Selection Events:

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

Individuals, Pas de Deux, or Squad wishing to be considered for selection for the Event must achieve a minimum number of Scores during the Qualifying Period, January 1, 2026 - March 28, 2027 (“Qualifying Period”), as outlined below, unless a waiver is granted in accordance with the Section below.

<i>Category</i>	<i>Number of Events</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Rounds</i>
Junior Individual Male	3 or more	FEI World Cup Final, FEI World Championship, CVI2*/CVIY2*/CVIJ2*/CVICh2* Individual, USEF 2* Silver/USEF 2* Young Vaulters Individual or more advanced FEI/USEF division	Must include first round compulsory and first round freestyle. Other rounds will not be considered. Exception: FEI World Cup Final
Junior Individual Female			
Young Individual Male			
Young Individual Female			
Junior Pas de deux			
Junior Squad	2 or more	FEI World Championship, CVI2*/CVIJ2* Squad, USEF 2* Squad or more advanced FEI/USEF division	Must include first round compulsory and first round freestyle. Other rounds will not be considered.

Squad scores must be achieved by a minimum of the same four (4) vaulters. Any change in more than two (2) members of a Squad represents an entirely independent Squad.

Selectors may grant a waiver for required qualification scores, up to two (2) for Individuals and Pas de Deux and up to one (1) for Squads, if they determine in their discretion that it is in the best interest of fielding the Team. The Selectors may grant a waiver based on these factors. These are in no particular order:

- Previous international experience;
- Previous experience and submission(s) to virtual judging or virtual competitions completed in 2026 or 2027;
- The circumstances, facts, and in the case of illness or injury to a Horse or Athlete, documentation by the Team Veterinarian or USEF-approved physician(s); and/or
- Unforeseen circumstances which create a logistical emergency.

Requests for waivers must be made by March 28, 2027, by email to Steven Morrissey at smorrissey@usef.org. The request must include specific details about why a waiver should be considered.

Individuals, Pas de Deux or Squads will be notified in writing of any waiver decisions as soon as practicable. Should a waiver request be denied and the score requirement not be met, the Individual, Pas de Deux or Squad will no longer be considered for the Short List.

2.1.1. Step-by-step description of the selection process for this Event:

Required qualification scores must be submitted to USEF no later than March 28, 2027, through the Initial Record of Experience form. A narrative detailing prior Record of Experience and preparation must also be submitted. The scores and Initial Records of Experience will be reviewed by a panel of five Selectors. Scores achieved following April 1, 2026, must have been achieved at a competition with no fewer than three (3) judges.

Following March 28, 2027, the Selectors, in consultation with the USEF Vaulting Director of Performance and Chef d’Equipe, will objectively name all athletes to the “Short List” that have met the criteria with the following minimum scores at all required qualifying competitions per Section 2.1:

<i>Event</i>	<i>Number of Competitions</i>	<i>Minimum Score</i>	<i>Rounds</i>
Junior Individual Male	3 or more	7.0 or better	Must include first round compulsory and first round freestyle. Other rounds will not be considered.
Junior Individual Female	3 or more	7.0 or better	
Young Individual Male	3 or more	7.0 or better	Must include compulsory, technical test, and freestyle components.
Young Individual Female	3 or more	7.0 or better	
Junior Pas de deux	3 or more	7.0 or better	Must include two rounds of freestyle.
Junior Squad	2 or more	6.5 or better	Must include first round compulsory and first round freestyle. Other rounds will not be considered.

Following the objectively named athletes, the Selectors, in consultation with the USEF Vaulting Director of Performance and Chef d'Equipe, will review the scores and Initial Record of Experience and recommend additional athletes who have met the criteria, without the minimum scores noted above, to fill any open spots on the "Short List" up to the numbers below, including the objectively named athletes:

<i>Event</i>	<i>Number</i>
Junior Individual Male	Up to 8
Junior Individual Female	Up to 12
Young Individual Male	Up to 8
Young Individual Female	Up to 8
Junior Pas de deux	Up to 6
Junior Squad	Up to 6

There will be no ranking order on the Short List. The Selectors will recommend the Short List to the USEF Board of Directors, Executive Committee, or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the USEF Board of Directors. In making their recommendation, for the athletes that have not met the minimum scores, the Selectors will consider the following factors, in no particular order:

- Scores earned during the Qualifying Period. Additional consideration to consistency of scores, trend in scores, and recent scores achieved.
- Previous international experience. Additional consideration to recent major competitions in Europe.
- Behavior of Athletes, lunge, and people associated with the Athletes (including, but not limited to, owners, coaches, and grooms) that may have an impact on creating a positive team environment.
- FEI Certificate of Capability or evidence of prior scores/experience which indicate if FEI requirement of certificate of capability will be earned.
- Initial Record of Experience.

Those on the Short List will be required to declare a maximum of (5) five selection events held between March 29, 2027 – June 1, 2027 ("Selection Period"). The declared events must be submitted to USEF by March 28, 2027. The declared selection events will be confirmed by the Discipline Director. During the Selection Period, Individuals, Pas de Deux and Squads must complete at least (3) three of the declared selection events.

At least (1) one of the completed declared selection events must be a CVI. At least (1) one of the completed declared selection events must be a Regional Observation Event.

The list of Regional Observation Events will be published on the USEF Website by October 1, 2026.

Substitutions may be made to the declared selection events. Substitution requests must be submitted in writing to the USEF. The request to remove a previously declared selection event must be made prior to the start of the declared selection event being removed. The selection event replacing the removed declared selection event must not have started by the time the request has been submitted. The substitution will be confirmed by the Discipline Director.

Selection Events are defined below:

<i>Category</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Rounds</i>
Junior Individual Male	CVIJ2* Individual or USEF 2* Silver Individual	Must include first round compulsory and first round freestyle. Other rounds will not be considered.
Junior Individual Female		
Young Individual Male	CVIY2* Individual or USEF 2* Young Vaulters Individual	Must include compulsory, technical test, and freestyle components.
Young Individual Female		
Junior Pas de deux	CVIJ2* Pas de Deux or USEF 2* Pas de Deux	Must include two rounds of freestyle.
Junior Squad	CVIJ2* Squad or USEF 2* Squad	Must include first round compulsory and first round freestyle. Other rounds will not be considered.

Squad scores must be achieved by a minimum of the same four (4) vaulters. Any change in more than two (2) members of a Squad represents an entirely independent Squad.

Squad scores must be achieved using the same horse in all rounds of the same competition.

In addition, the Selectors may add a required Training Camp as an Observation Event during the Selection Period. If this is required, details will be circulated to Athletes no later than February 1, 2027, and Athletes will be required to participate.

In the case of extraordinary circumstances such as medical or veterinary issues, the Selectors, by unanimous agreement, may grant a waiver to excuse an Individual, Pas de Deux, or Squad from any of the declared selection events, including the required Training Camp, if it is determined to be in the best interest of the Team. Any request for a waiver must be submitted by June 1, 2027, to Steven Morrissey at smorrissey@usef.org. The Selectors may grant a waiver based on the following factors. These are in no particular order:

- Demonstration of “Proven Ability” to succeed at the Championships in the event;
- Previous international experience;
- Previous experience and submission(s) to virtual judging or virtual competitions completed in 2026 or 2027;
- The circumstances, facts, and in the case of illness or injury to a horse or athlete, documentation by the Team Veterinarian or USEF-approved physician(s);
- Unforeseen circumstances which create a logistical emergency; and/or
- FEI Certificate of Capability or evidence of prior scores/experience which indicates if FEI requirement of certificate of capability will be earned.

A waiver may be granted for the required Regional Observation Event for Individuals or Pas de Deux that are based in Europe. Both athletes of a Pas de Deux must be based in Europe for a waiver to be granted. Athlete(s) must be based in Europe for longer than three (3) months to be considered for the waiver. Any request for a European based waiver must be submitted by March 28, 2027.

2.1.1.1. **Final Submission of Record of Experience – June 1, 2027**

By no later than June 1, 2027, those listed on the Short List must submit their Final Record of Experience, which must include at least the following scores, unless a waiver has been granted permitting fewer scores:

- the three (3) scores listed on their Initial Record of Experience; and
- additional scores achieved at selection events during the Qualifying Period; and
- all scores achieved at declared selection events during the Selection Period.

Scores must have been achieved at a competition with no less than three (3) judges.

2.1.1.2. **Submission of Horse Plan**

No later than June 1, 2027, those on the Short List must submit their complete Horse Plans for the Event. The horse plan must include:

- a record of the primary and reserve horses' experience and scores;
- confirmed pre-Event training plans;
- signed horse lease documents, if requested; and
- all information required for a Nominated Entry for horse and lunger.

Selectors will consider the following in their review of the Horse Plan:

- Previous experience of the Athletes on the Horse to be used at the Event. Additional consideration will be given to recent training and competitions on the horse to be used at the Event; and
- Previous Horse scores from FEI events.

All horses must have met the FEI's criteria for eligibility for the Championships by June 1, 2027.

2.1.1.3. **TBD FEI Nominated Entry**

After June 1, 2027, but no later the closing date for the FEI Nominated Entry, TBD, 2027, pursuant to the procedures set forth herein, the Selectors, in consultation with the USEF Vaulting Director of Performance and Chef d'Equipe, will recommend to the USEF Board of Directors, Executive Committee, or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the USEF Board of Directors, a list of those named to compete and a ranked list of alternates up to the maximum number able to be nominated on the FEI Nominated Entry in accordance with the FEI rules. In making their recommendation, the Selectors will consider the following factors in no particular order:

- Scores earned during the Qualifying Period. Consideration given to consistency of scores and trends in scores.
- Scores of the declared selection events during the Selection Period. Consideration given to consistency of scores and trends in scores.
- Recent international experience;
- Recent experience on the Horse to be used at the Event, as

submitted on the required Horse Plan. Consideration given to recent major competitions in Europe;

- Previous horse scores from FEI events;
- Performance at Training Camps (if applicable) and scores achieved at Observation Events; and
- Behavior of Athlete, lunger, 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.

2.1.1.4. **Declaration of Horse(s) and Lunger(s):** By June 1, 2027, all who are named on the Short List must supply USEF with:

- Name of the Horse(s) on which they intend to compete. The Horse must meet the FEI's criteria of eligibility for the Event to be named
- FEI passport number of the Horse(s)
- Name of the Horse's owner(s)
- Proof of Horse's certificate of capability or scores if required by the FEI
- Name of lunger. All lungers listed on the entry must comply with the requirements as stated in Section 1.

2.1.1.5. **TBD FEI Definite Entry:**

After the FEI Nominated Entry, TBD, 2027 but no later than seven (7) days prior to the closing date for the Definite Entries, TBD, 2027 for the Event, USEF may nominate up to the maximum number allowed by the FEI for the Event from the ranked Nominated Entries on the FEI Definite Entry based on the criteria outlined in Section 2.1.1.4 above. The Definite Entries will include any ranked alternates substituted due to removals, see Section 4 below.

2.1.1.6. **Declaration of Starters:**

The declaration of starters will be done in accordance with the FEI Vaulting Rules, Article 706 [10th Edition, effective 1st January 2026].

3. DISCRETIONARY SELECTION

3.1 Rationale for utilizing discretionary selection: The option of discretionary selection is used to field the best Team possible in the Event.

3.2 Define the discretionary criteria to be used (if any): For discretionary selection used please see the following sections:

- 2.1.1.1. – Selection for the Short List
- 2.1.1.4– FEI Nominated Entry
- 2.1.1.6. – FEI Definite Entry
- 2.1.1.7. – Declaration of Starters

3.3 Other Discretionary Criteria:

- a. Horses that are candidates for selection for the Event may be examined at any time following the application deadline and through the conclusion of the Event for soundness by the Team Veterinarian. Horses found to be unsound by the Team Veterinarian may result in the removal of the Athlete and/or Horse from the selection process, at the recommendation of the Team Veterinarian, and the approval of the USEF Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the Board of Directors.
- b. **Team Veterinarian Request** – Horse owners and/or lungers, at their own expense, shall make available, upon the request of the Team Veterinarian, 24 months' worth of complete veterinary records of horses being considered for selection. In addition, Horse owners and/or lungers, at their own expense, shall be responsible for supplying any follow-up diagnostic information requested by the Team Veterinarian for horses being considered for selection. Horse Owners and/or lungers, at their own expense, shall complete any treatment prescribed by the Team Veterinarian, after consultation with the Horse's treating veterinarian if such a consultation is requested by the Athlete, for Horses being considered for selection. Failure to comply with any reasonable request of the Team Veterinarian may result in the removal of the Horse and/or Athlete from the selection process upon the recommendation of the Team Veterinarian, and approval by the majority of the Selectors, the USEF Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection group approved by the Board of Directors.
- c. **Veterinary Treatment** – From the time of the nominated entry through the conclusion of the Event, Athletes on the Nominated Entry will be required to consult with the Team Veterinarian prior to Horses being treated by any person other than the Team Veterinarian. This permission must be obtained by using an official USEF Vaulting Veterinary Treatment Request Form (Attachment I). If Individuals, Pas de Deux or Squads are using foreign-owned borrowed horses, it is highly recommended that a Certificate of Health stating the Horse is fit to compete under Equine Anti-Doping and Medication Rules (EADMR) be submitted to the Team Veterinarian as soon as practical. Failure to adhere to this policy and/or the directives of the Team Veterinarian as outlined on the USEF Vaulting Veterinary Treatment Request Form may result in the removal of the Athlete and/or Horse from the selection process upon the recommendation of the Team Veterinarian and approval by the USEF Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the Board of Directors.
- d. **Medical Request** - In the event of illness or injury, Athletes may be required to submit to a medical examination by a USEF-approved physician(s) any time during the selection process for the purpose 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 upon the recommendation of the USEF-approved physician(s) and with the approval of the USEF Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the Board of Directors. Following the examination, should the USEF-approved physician(s) find the Athlete to be unfit to compete, the Athlete will be removed from the selection process with the approval of the USEF Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the Board of Directors.

3.4 Process that will be used to identify and handle any potential conflicts of interest involving a member of the committee(s) listed above:

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 Audit Committee prior to convening any selection meetings.

Any member of the selection committee who has an actual, possible, or perceived conflict of interest must disclose it to the USEF Audit Committee prior to the start of the selection process and/or recuse themselves from the review process and/or voting. If a conflict exists, the USEF Audit Committee will review the conflict and determine the individual's level of involvement (e.g., whether that committee member must recuse themselves from participating in discussions and/or voting). For example, if it is determined that a committee member must recuse themselves from voting, the USEF Audit Committee may still determine that a committee member who has relevant and necessary information with respect to athlete performance, for example a national team coach or high performance director, may, if requested by the selection committee, provide such information to the committee so long as such information is provided in a fair and unbiased manner and so long as the committee member with the conflict of interest does not vote toward the final decision. The committee member must not otherwise influence other members of the committee in the selection process.

Additionally, any person (including any potentially impacted athlete or coach of a potentially impacted athlete) with a good faith belief that a committee member has a conflict of interest may report the alleged conflict of interest to USEF's Audit Committee. Reports may be made anonymously. No committee member shall retaliate in any way against a person who, in good faith, reports an alleged conflict of interest.

4. REMOVAL OF ATHLETES

At any time during the selection process through the conclusion of the Event, USEF has jurisdiction over Athletes. An Athlete and/or Horse may be removed for any of the following reasons, as determined by USEF:

- Voluntary withdrawal. Athlete and/or Horse must communicate notice of voluntary withdrawal in writing to the USEF CEO.
- Injury or illness as certified by a USEF-approved physician(s) or USEF-health care provider. If an Athlete refuses verification of their illness or injury by a USEF-approved physician(s)/health care provider, their injury will be assumed to be disabling and they may be removed.
- Failure to participate in Mandatory Training, Observation Event, and/or Training Camp.
- Violation of the [USEF Code of Conduct](#).
- Violation of the U.S. Center for SafeSport Code or USEF Safe Sport Policy.
- Failure of the Horse owner with a horse registered under USA, or parent/guardian if applicable, to timely sign the Horse Participation Consent Agreement (Attachment B).
- Injury or illness of the Horse listed on the Nominated or Definite Entry as determined by the Team Veterinarian and/or Veterinary Panel. If an Individual, Pas de Deux, Squad 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.
- Detection of any substance in the Horse prohibited by the FEI or USEF.
- Failure to adhere to the World Anti-Doping Agency ("WADA"), FEI, USEF, and/or U.S.

Anti-Doping Agency (“USADA”) anti-doping rules, regulations, 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.
- Exceptional circumstances having a direct bearing upon obtaining the best qualified athletes for the Event, upon the recommendation of the Chef d’Equipe and the Director of Vaulting Performance, and a majority vote of the Selectors, subject to the approval of the USEF Board of Directors, Executive Committee, or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the USEF Board of Directors.
- Failure to comply with a request of the Team Veterinarian or with the USEF Vaulting Veterinary Treatment Request Form protocols.
- Any other reason expressly written herein.

An Athlete and/or Horse removed or threatened to be removed from the selection process has the right to a hearing pursuant to USEF Bylaws, Part VII.

5. SUBSTITUTION OF ATHLETES & HORSES

5.1. Describe the selection and approval process for determining replacement Athlete(s) & Horse(s) should a vacancy occur:

5.1.1. Prior to acceptance of the FEI Nominated Entry: Once USEF’s FEI Nominated Entry, TBD, 2027, for the Event has been announced but prior to their submission of the FEI Nominated Entry, substitutions may be made in the order of their ranked listing as outlined in Section 2.1.1.4 by the recommendation of the Chef d’Equipe and the Director of Vaulting Performance, and a majority vote of the Selectors, subject to the approval of the USEF Board of Directors, Executive Committee, or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the USEF Board of Directors. Any substitutions for medical or veterinary reasons must also be documented by a USEF-approved physician(s) or veterinarian(s) respectively.

5.1.2. After the submission of the FEI Nominated Entry and prior to acceptance of the FEI Definite Entry: After the FEI Nominated Entry is submitted and prior to the closing date for the Definite Entry, TBD, 2026, substitutions may be made in the order of their listing on the FEI Nominated Entry as outlined in Section 2.1.1.4 by the recommendation of the Chef d’Equipe and the Director of Vaulting Performance, and a majority vote of the Selectors, subject to the approval of the USEF Board of Directors, Executive Committee, or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the USEF Board of Directors. Any substitutions for medical or veterinary reasons must also be documented by a USEF-approved physician(s) or veterinarian(s) respectively.

5.1.3. After the acceptance of Definite Entry and until one hour before the first horse inspection: After the Definite Entry has been accepted, substitutions may be made with an alternate(s) in accordance with the FEI Regulations Rules for Vaulting, Article 707 [10th Edition, effective 1st January 2026], for veterinary or medical reasons, or for breach of the USEF Code of Conduct, or for failure to abide by the USEF Safe Sport Policy or U.S. Center for SafeSport Code, by the recommendation of the Chef d’Equipe and the Director of Vaulting Performance, and a majority vote of the Selectors.

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 USEF-approved physician(s).

5.1.4. **After Horse Inspection and before the Declaration of Starters:** After the Horse Inspection, substitutions may be made in accordance with the FEI Regulations Rules for Vaulting, Article 707 [10th Edition, effective 1st January 2026], and these Selection Procedures. Replacements may be made for veterinary reasons, for medical reasons, or for breach of the USEF Code of Conduct, or for failure to abide by the USEF Safe Sport Policy, upon the recommendation of the Chef d'Equipe and Director of Vaulting Performance, and approval of the USEF Managing Director of Non-Olympic Disciplines. Any alternate for veterinary reasons must have the approval of and be documented by the Team Veterinarian. Any alternate for medical reasons must be documented by a USEF-approved physician(s).

6. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

USEF will retain the approved Selection Procedures and all supporting documents and data from the selection process for six months past the date of the conclusion of the Event.

7. REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

The following documents are required to be signed by an Athlete and Horse owner, or the parent/guardian if applicable, as a condition of nomination to the Event (include as attachments or provide links):

- Application (Attachment A)
- Horse Participation Consent Agreement (U.S. owned horses) (Attachment B)
- [USEF Code of Conduct](#)
- [USEF Release, Assumption of Risk, Waiver and Indemnification](#)

8. PUBLICITY/DISTRIBUTION OF PROCEDURES

The USEF approved Selection Procedures (complete and unaltered) will be posted/published by the USEF on the USEF Web site: www.usef.org These Selection Procedures will also be available by mail or email upon request.

9. DATE OF NOMINATION

The FEI Nominated Entries will be submitted to the FEI no later than **Date TBD**.

10. ANTI-DOPING REQUIREMENTS

10.1 Human Anti-Doping: Athletes must adhere to all WADA, FEI, and USADA anti-doping protocols, policies, and procedures, as applicable. This includes participation in Out-of-Competition Testing as required by the WADA, FEI, and USADA rules, as applicable.

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

10.2.1 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. 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.
- b. 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.
- c. The Chairman of the USEF Veterinary Committee, or his designee, may serve Ex Officio and a member of the Veterinary Panel selected for the Event may serve Ex Officio.

10.2.2 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.

10.2.3 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.

10.2.4 USEF GR 409.2 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 Equine Anti-Doping and Controlled Medication Regulations, which can be found at www.fei.org.

11. DEVELOPMENT OF SELECTION PROCEDURES

The following committee/group was responsible for creating these Selection Procedures: USEF Vaulting Sport Committee and the USEF Board of Directors. See Attachment H for list of USEF committee, their roles, and list of members.

12. USEF BYLAWS AND GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

USEF Bylaws and Grievance Procedures can be found in USEF Bylaws Part VII and in the Supplemental Procedures for Complaints and Grievances. See www.usef.org.

13. 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.

14. FUNDING DISCLAIMER

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

15. 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 FEI rules or 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.

16. USEF SIGNATURES

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

Any questions regarding these Selection Procedures should be addressed to, USEF, Steven Morrissey, United States Equestrian Federation, 4001 Wing Commander Way, Lexington, KY 40511, smorrissey@usef.org.

Position	Print Name	Signature	Date
Chief Executive Officer	William J. Moroney		4/27/2026
Managing Director of Non-Olympic Disciplines	Steven Morrissey		4/27/2026

DEFINITIONS

USEF VAULTING SELECTORS - Five individuals (the "Selectors") will be appointed by USEF upon the recommendation of the USEF Vaulting Sport Committee. The Selectors are subject to the USEF Code of Conduct (Attachment C) and Code of Ethics and Conflict of Interest and Gifts & Entertainment Policy of the USEF (Attachment G). The Selectors are USEF Senior Active Members in good standing, who are also current members of the Vaulting community and who are knowledgeable and experienced in Vaulting at the international level. In making their decisions, the Selectors will consult with the Chef d'Equipe, the Director of Vaulting Performance, and the Team Veterinarian. A minimum of one 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.

ALTERNATE - an Individual, Pas de Deux or Squad named as an alternate by the selectors.

REPLACEMENT – Replacing an Athlete or Horse after selection.

RECORD OF EXPERIENCE - Scores earned during the qualifying and selection period including competition, name, date and location, list of judges and scores earned by event (round). A narrative of the Athlete(s) and horse preparation including training activities during the Qualifying and Selection Period, attendance at clinics and camps, overseas preparation and any additional preparation for the World Championships. Additionally, the Individual, Pas de Deux or Squad may include other narrative information about prior competition experience and success.

HORSE PLAN - A record of the primary and reserve horses' experience and scores, confirmed pre-Event training plans, signed horse lease documents (if requested), and all information required for a Nominated Entry for horse and lunger.