



Dear Applicants:

Thank you for your interest in representing United States on the 2020 US Saddle Seat World Cup Team to compete at the International Saddle Seat World Cup in South Africa.

The World Cup is a bi-annual competition that originated in the early 1980's with an information exchange of Saddle Seat riders in the United States and South Africa. It was later named the Saddle Seat Equitation World Cup in 1992. Originally a Three-Gaited Saddle Seat Equitation showcase, it has expanded to include a Five-Gaited section as well. Teams from as many as five nations now compete for the coveted World Cup titles.

Please read thoroughly through the Selection Procedures document prior to commencing the application process as there are several requirements and commitments that must be met in order for an Athlete to remain on the team once chosen.

Following you will find the application information for consideration to be selected for the 2020 US Saddle Seat World Cup Team Selection Trials which will be held at William Woods University in Fulton, Missouri December 6-7, 2019. Applicants will be expected to be in attendance for the draw on December 6, but all riding will occur on December 7 so you may schedule flights out of Missouri the morning of December 8.

Following you will find the application information for consideration to be selected for the 2020 US Saddle Seat World Cup Team Selection Trials. Please use the online application which you will find by accessing your MY USEF account through the following link:

1. Go to <https://www.usef.org/AUAIFrames/Login/Default.aspx> and log in using the ID and password you use to renew your membership
2. Scroll down and click on the icon Athlete Dashboard
3. Click on the icon for Online Applications
4. Choose "Saddle Seat" in the drop down box
5. Select either the Three- or Five-Gaited application
6. Answer all application questions, upload your video, and read and sign the required documents.

Please remember when submitting your online application you must provide:

1. Application (Attachment A)
2. Video submitted as a YouTube link
3. USEF Code of Conduct (Attachment B)
4. USEF Release, Assumption of Risk, Waiver and Indemnification (Attachment C)
5. Saddle Seat Team and Supporter Policies (Attachments D and E)
6. Application fee of \$200



Applications must be completed on or before September 16, 2019. We cannot make any exceptions to this deadline as each application packet must be available to the Selectors for review shortly after the deadline.

You should receive notice from USEF as to whether you have been selected to participate in the World Cup Team Selection Trials no later than October 18, 2019.

If you have any questions, please contact Cailin Bridges at cbridges@usef.org or 859-225-6939.

Sincerely,

Cailin Bridges



CAILIN BRIDGES

National Breeds & Disciplines
Program Coordinator

t 859 225 6939

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usequestrian.org



(Attachment A)

2020 US Saddle Seat World Cup Team
International Saddle Seat World Cup – South Africa

****This form is for information purposes only. All applications must be submitted through the online portal.****

Application Deadline: September 16, 2019

Name of Rider (print): _____ Date of Birth: _____

Address: _____

USEF#: _____ Cell#: _____ E-Mail: _____

Parent Name: _____

Parent Cell: _____ E-Mail: _____

Section trying out for:

Please note you may only try out for one section, either 3 or 5-gaited: 3-gaited 5-gaited

Trainer/Coach Name: _____ Trainer/Coach Email: _____

If no trainer/coach, list the most recent dates you received coaching from a professional:

Are you currently competing? _____

If not riding currently, how are you keeping in riding shape?

As outlined in the Team Selection Criteria, will you commit to attending at least one team practice scheduled once the team is selected?

Yes No

If no, please explain _____

Are you currently competing in Equitation? _____

If not, are you competing in other sections? _____

If not riding currently, how are you keeping in riding shape?





As a team member, you may be substituted to complete a phase(s) of rail or pattern work. Please indicate which you believe is your strength between rail and pattern work.

Rail Pattern

Riding Experience

Please answer the following questions in detail. Please keep in mind this information is an important for the Selectors to have a better understanding of your riding experience and accomplishments so please be thorough.

1. Please provide a brief description of your experience riding a variety of different horses
2. Please list your major wins and accomplishments at equestrian competitions. Please list by year starting with the most recent.
3. Please list any honors you have received related to equestrian sport. Starting with the most recent, please include any awards received through your national or state equestrian organization, local horse show association, or barn.

Riding Video

Each rider must submit one (1) five (5) minute (individuals exceeding this limit will be deducted) video via a YouTube link, which includes the following:

1. **Proper attire:** Riding habit will consist of jacket with collars and lapels of the same conservative color with matching jodhpurs, a collared shirt, tie, vest, and complimentary gloves, jodhpur boots, and derby or soft hat (protective headgear may be worn). Conservative colors for informal riding habits include black, blue, grey, burgundy, green, beige, or brown and may contain herringbone, pin stripes, and other combinations of colors that appear solid. Day coats are acceptable for the video.
2. **Railwork:** Rider demonstrating performance at walk, trot and canter (For those trying out for the 5-gaited section, you are required to demonstrate riding at the slow-gait and rack in railwork).
3. **Pattern work:** Rider demonstrating performance of one or more patterns. (For those trying out for the 5-gaited section, slow-gait and rack are not required in your pattern demonstrations).

Please make sure you submit all of the following information:

- YouTube link
- Attachment B-USEF Code of Conduct
- Attachment C- Release, Assumption of Risk, Waiver and Indemnification
- Attachment D- Saddle Seat Team Policies
- Attachment E- Saddle Seat Supporter Policies
- Application fee of \$200



BINDING AGREEMENT: *I have read and understand the Selection Procedure and Application. By providing my signature below, I acknowledge the aforementioned and agree to be bound by the Selection Procedure, governing rules and jurisdiction stated in these documents, and I fully understand and accept my responsibilities as a participant in the 2020 US Saddle Seat World Cup Competition. I further understand and agree that my signature is my legal and binding signature.*

Rider Signature

DATE

Parent Signature if Rider is a minor

DATE

Deadline:
September 16, 2019

Contact:

Cailin Bridges, Program Coordinator

Phone: (859) 225-6939

Email: cbridges@usef.org

MUST SUBMIT ONLINE





(Attachment B)

**UNITED STATES EQUESTRIAN FEDERATION, INC.
CODE OF CONDUCT**

As a United States Equestrian Federation, Inc. (USEF) competitor, I acknowledge my obligation to uphold and adhere to the highest standards of horsemanship, sportsmanship, and citizenship whenever I am representing my country whether as a team member, individual competitor, or horse owner, and whether during actual competition or not.

As a horseman, I will place my horse's welfare above all other considerations and faithfully observe the USEF Code of Conduct.

As a sportsman, I will know and comply with all pertinent rules of USEF as my National Governing Body (NGB), and ISSEA as the International Governing Body; and honor the principles of fair play inherent in them. I will place the interests of the team above my own, and respect the decisions of its duly appointed/elected officials, made in the team's best interest.

As a citizen, I will respect the laws of my own country as well as those of foreign countries in which I may compete. Knowing that as a USEF competitor I also serve as an Ambassador for my sport, USEF, and my country. I will endeavor at all times to reflect credit on them through my conduct, dress, and behavior.

I clearly acknowledge my responsibility to ensure that individuals who accompany me whenever I am competing and/or representing my country also abide by this Code of Conduct.

I understand and accept that serious or repeated transgressions of these Codes may be grounds for suspension from a squad or team, or other appropriate disciplinary action. In addition, I agree to abide by selection procedures established by USEF wherever applicable.

Finally, I fully understand that entries will not be made until this application form is signed and completed in full and that this application indicates my intent to compete. Failure to participate may result in disciplinary action on USEF by the ISSEA. I agree to reimburse all fines imposed by the ISSEA on USEF for failure to participate in the competitions entered and agree to honor all other penalties including possible and further disciplinary action.

Rider (print name)

Rider signature

USEF #

Date

Parent/Guardian (print name)

Parent or Guardian signature
(if Rider is under 18)

USEF #

Date



(Attachment C)

Release, Assumption of Risk, Waiver and Indemnification

Release, Assumption of Risk, Waiver and Indemnification This document waives important legal rights. Read it carefully before signing.

I AGREE that in consideration for my participation to compete in the 2020 US Saddle Seat World Cup Selection Trials (“the Trials”) and the 2020 Saddle Seat World Cup Competition (“the Event”) I AGREE that I choose to participate voluntarily in the Trials and the Event, as a rider or as parent or guardian of a junior exhibitor. I am fully aware and acknowledge that horse sports; and the Trials and the Event involve inherent dangerous risks of accident, loss, and serious bodily injury including broken bones, head injuries, trauma, pain, suffering, or death (“Harm”).

I AGREE to release the United States Equestrian Federation (“USEF”), the International Saddle Seat Equitation Association (ISSEA) and William Woods University (“Released Parties”) from all claims for money damages or otherwise for any Harm to me and for any Harm caused by me to others, even if the Harm resulted, directly or indirectly, from the negligence of the Released Parties.

I AGREE to expressly assume all risks of Harm to me, including Harm resulting from the negligence of the Released Parties.

I AGREE to indemnify (that is, to pay any losses, damages, or costs incurred by) the Released Parties and to hold them harmless with respect to claims for Harm to me, and for claims made by others for any Harm caused by me at the Trials and the Event.

If I am a parent or guardian of a junior exhibitor, I consent to my child’s participation and AGREE to all of the above provisions and AGREE to assume all of the obligations of this Release on the child’s behalf.

I AGREE that the “USEF” as used above includes all of their officials, officers, directors, employees, agents, personnel, volunteers and affiliated organizations.

I represent that I have the requisite training, coaching and abilities to safely compete in the TRIALS and EVENT.

I AGREE that if I am injured at the TRIALS or EVENT, the medical personnel treating my injuries may provide information on my injury and treatment to the USEF on the official USEF accident/injury report form.

BY SIGNING BELOW, I AGREE to be bound by all ISSEA and USEF applicable Rules and all terms and provisions of this Release.

Rider

(mandatory)

Signature: _____

Print Name: _____

Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: (Required if Rider is a minor) _____

Date: _____

Print Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Emergency Contact Phone No: _____

Is Rider a U.S. Citizen: ___ Yes ___ No

(Attachment D)

POLICIES FOR USA SADDLE SEAT TEAM MEMBERS

As a USA Saddle Seat Team Member, we ask you to read and sign the following Policies for Team Participation ensuring that everyone understands their role and responsibility.

As a member of a USA Saddle Seat Team, I agree to:

- **Respect** the role and decisions made by the Team Coaches and USEF Team Liaison. These individuals are charged with the responsibility of making decisions in the best interest of the entire team and promoting a positive environment for all team members. I will respect their authority and will bring any concerns to the USEF Team Liaison at an agreed upon time and in an appropriate place if an issue arises that requires discussion.
- **Recognize** that I am part of a team and not an individual competitor for this event. A positive team environment is paramount for a successful experience. I will stay with the team during all practices, activities, and competitions. I understand I may not compete in classes outside of the Event at the competition where the Event is being held. I understand I will have limited free time to spend with supporters during events as my focus must stay on the competition and with the team.
- **Appreciate** that I am part of a team participating in an International Competition and am representing the United States in all of my actions. I acknowledge my obligation to uphold and adhere to the highest standards of horsemanship, sportsmanship, and citizenship whenever I am representing my country.
- **Understand** that the Team Coaches have been selected because of their experience and are my coaches for all team practices and competitions. I will appreciate the opportunity to learn from them, listen to their instructions, and be respectful of their decisions.
- **Encourage** positive relationships between team members and members of other teams. I will be inclusive of all teammates in my communications and actions. I will be supportive of my teammates and respectful of other teams. I will maintain professional relationships with my teammates and members of other teams. I understand that intimate relations with a team member or member of another team are not permitted during the period of days involving team functions, practice and competition.
- **Dress** appropriately at all times. I will show reasonable taste in clothing and personal attire.
 - Clothes should be clean, neat, and in good condition (meaning no holes, rips or cutoffs).
 - Length of skirts and shorts should allow for modesty; tops should have modest necklines.
 - Any clothes that allow underwear to be visible or are provocative are not acceptable.
 - Clothing that promotes such things as drugs, alcohol, violence, profanity, sex, or hate messages are not allowed.

I will use good judgment and always wear clothing appropriate to the situation, including while in my hotel room.

- **Refrain** from posting negative, critical or provocative messages or photos on social media sites during team events. I understand that I am representing my country and that any negative or inappropriate postings could have a far reaching effect on team efforts as a whole. I recognize that many people in the industry are following team efforts closely and that I am now a role model for young equestrians. I will be cautious of my social media postings for the duration of my time on the team.

- **Understand** that cell phone use is not permitted during team activities, meals, or events with the exception of cases of emergency.
- **Avoid** inappropriate behavior as it could jeopardize the performance of the team. I will be positive and supportive of all team members. I will display good sportsmanship by showing respect and courtesy to the other teams.
- **Respect** any curfew set by Team Coaches or the USEF Team Liaison.
- **Refrain** from using tobacco products, alcohol, or drugs of any kind. I understand that consumption of these products by riders is forbidden at all events.
- **Communicate** concerns directly with the USEF Team Liaison at an agreed upon time and in an appropriate place if an issue arises that requires discussion.
- **Acknowledge** that there are six team members for each section, three or five gaited. I understand that coaches will determine the five riders who will compete at any given time during the competition. I will respect the decisions made by the coaches and will support the team as a whole. I will not act in any manner which would negatively impact another team member related to rider selection.

I acknowledge that I have read the Policies for Team Members and agree to abide by them. I understand that any violation of these policies may result in disciplinary action.

Print Name

Signature

Date

(Attachment E)

POLICIES FOR TEAM SUPPORTERS

As a supporter of a USA Saddle Seat Team Member, we ask you to read and sign the following Policies for Supporter participation ensuring that everyone understands their role and responsibility.

As supporter of _____, I/we agree to:

- **Respect** the role and decisions made by the Team Coaches and USEF Team Liaison. These individuals are charged with the responsibility of making decisions in the best interest of the entire team and promoting a positive environment for all team members. I will respect their authority and will bring any concerns to the USEF Team Liaison at an agreed upon time and in an appropriate place if an issue arises that requires discussion.
- **Recognize** that each rider is a part of the team and not an individual competitor for this event. Team bonding is paramount for a successful experience. Riders will be with the team during all practices, activities, and competitions. Team members have limited free time to spend with the supporters during events as their focus must stay on the competition and with the team. I understand the following:
 - Supporters may not stay at the same hotel as the team during the competition unless an exemption is given for extraordinary circumstances.
 - Supporters may not be present during any team practice unless invited.
 - Supporters are asked to minimize time spent at the barn prior to any practice or competition.
 - Offers to help with preparing suits, cleaning saddles, doing hair and makeup, and/or other tasks are appreciated. However, team coaches – not parents or trainers – are responsible for determining the best way to prepare all riders together as a team.
 - Riders are not permitted to use cell phones during team activities, meals, or events. If an emergency occurs and it is necessary to contact a rider during these events, I will contact the USEF Team Liaison.
- **Appreciate** that riders are part of a team participating in an International Competition and are representing the United States in all of their actions. I acknowledge my obligation to uphold and adhere to the highest standards and will expect the same behavior from my rider.
- **Understand** that the Team Coaches are the coaches for the team members at all team practices and competitions. Unless I am one of the official coaches of the team or am asked by the coaches to assist, I will refrain from coaching my rider or other riders and I will advise any trainer or coach of my rider of this policy so they may understand that it also applies to them.
- **Encourage** positive relationships between team members and members of other teams. Riders are expected to be inclusive of all teammates in their communications and actions. Positive interaction with teammates as well as members of other teams is expected of all riders. Intimate relations between teammates or members of other teams during the period of days involving team functions, practice and competition is not permitted.
- **Expect** riders to show reasonable taste in clothing and personal attire. Clothes should be clean, neat, and in good condition (meaning no holes, rips or cutoffs). Length of skirts and shorts should allow for modesty; tops should have modest necklines. Any clothes that allow underwear to be visible or are provocative are not acceptable. Clothing that promotes such things as drugs, alcohol, violence, profanity, sex, or hate messages are not allowed.

