PARA-EQUESTRIAN DRESSAGE PROGRAM STRUCTURE AND PATHWAYS
(Updated and Effective January 1, 2020)

Condensed Summary of Elite and Developing Criteria for Selection.
For the complete Program criteria requirements, benefits, and maintenance please read the entire program document found.

Elite Athlete Program - Criteria for Selection
Open to current athlete / horse combinations who have met the criteria from one of the two track options within the previous 24 months:

- Track 1: The athlete / horse combination have medaled (Team, Individual, or Freestyle) at the previous WEG or Paralympic Games.
- Track 2: The athlete / horse combination have earned two (2) 72% or above scores in each of the three (3) tests at Athletes’ classified Grade (Team, Individual, and Freestyle) for a total of six (6) scores at a minimum of one CPEDI3*. Scores do not have to be obtained from the same CPEDI3*. One set of scores (1-Team, 1-Individual & 1-Freestyle) may be obtained through the USEF Virtual Judging program.

Athlete / Horse combination must compete in a minimum of two (2) separate USEF licensed competitions in FEI Para Team Test or Individual Test at their Grade OR through the USEF virtual judging program.

In extenuating circumstances, the Technical Advisor may request the Selectors select an athlete / horse combination to the Elite Program for a set period of time (maximum 24 months).

Athletes may be de-selected from the Program by the Technical Advisor for lack of achievement of their individually assigned KPIs or Targets.

Development Athlete Program - Criteria for Selection
Open to current athlete / horse combinations who have met the criteria within the previous 24 months:

The athlete / horse combination have earned one (1) 62% or above score in each of the three (3) tests at Athletes’ classified Grade (Team, Individual, and Freestyle) for a total three (3) scores at CPEDI3* events. Scores do not have to be obtained from the same CPEDI3*.
Athlete / Horse combination must compete in a minimum of two (2) separate USEF licensed competitions in FEI Para Team Test or Individual Test at their Grade OR through the USEF virtual judging program.

**Additional Criteria for both Programs**

- Athlete must be an active member of the United States Equestrian Federation (USEF).
- Horse must be actively recorded with the United States Equestrian Federation (USEF).
- The athlete and horse must be registered and active with the Federation Equestré Internationale (FEI).
- Satisfactory veterinary inspection and/or report before Athlete/Horse acceptance or renewal into program, or as requested from Technical Advisor and/or team vet.
- Agreement to Requirements of Program.
- Willingness of athlete to agree to the aims of the Program.
- Communication between the athletes' own support staff (trainer, vet, farrier etc.) and the Program / Team support staff.
- Quality of the athlete and horse and their perceived ability to advance internationally.
- FEI Classification with a status of Confirmed or Review (with set date).

**Application**

It will be the responsibility of the athlete to apply for selection to the Elite and Development Athlete Programs based on results achieved in the previous 24 months to the Application.

Emerging Athletes who have successfully obtained a classification and required results as listed above must complete and submit an application in order to be added to the USEF Emerging Athlete List.
**Introduction**
The U.S. Para-Equestrian Dressage athletes and Team are currently in the medal zone at Games level, but much work is required to maintain and exceed the current levels of performance if a Team Medal is to be a reality in 2020. Only a few athlete / horse combinations are close to being considered internationally competitive. There is a need to set parameters and clearly define what is required.

**Staffing**
- Discipline Director – Laureen Johnson
- Para-Equestrian Dressage Technical Advisor and Head of Coach Development – Michel Assouline
- COE Coordinator – Laura Roberts
- Team Veterinarian – Duncan Peters

**Structure**
- Elite Athlete Program
- Developing Athlete Program
- Emerging Athlete Program