



SELECTION PROCEDURES FOR THE 2019 FEI WORLD BREEDING CHAMPIONSHIPS FOR YOUNG HORSES IN DRESSAGE (Five, Six, and Seven Year Olds)

August 1-4, 2019

Approved by the USEF Ad-Hoc Selection Group of the USEF Board of Directors on 9.24.2018

The 2019 FEI World Breeding Championships for Young Horses in Dressage (“the FEI WBD Championships”) will be organized under FEI rules with the support of the World Breeding Federation for Sport Horses (WBFSH). These Selection Procedures are subject to change at any time in order to remain in compliance with FEI/WBFSH guidelines for selection for these Championships.

I. APPLICATION:

1. In order to be considered for the Nominated Entry for the FEI WBD Championships, an **Application of Intent** must be completed and submitted to US Equestrian Federation, Inc. (USEF). If this Application of Intent is received by March 5, 2019 it will be free of charge. After March 5, 2019 but received by USEF on or before May 1, 2019 will be charged a late fee of \$300. No Application of Intent will be accepted after May 1, 2019. The Application of Intent form will be available on the USEF website after January 1, 2019. A confirmation email will be sent to the athlete once the Application of Intent has been received.
2. It is the responsibility of the athletes and owners of horses to ensure that they know and understand the USEF and FEI Rules; Selection Procedures; USEF Code of Conduct; and USEF Safe Sport Policy. By submitting an Application of Intent, athletes and owners acknowledge and agree that they will adhere to and are bound by the USEF Code of Conduct found [HERE](#) and in the USEF Safe Sport Policy found [HERE](#).
3. USEF is not responsible for any late, lost, delayed, misdirected, or stolen correspondence either electronic, postal, commercially shipped, or voice activated. It is the athlete’s responsibility to ensure that all application and application fees have been received by published deadline.

II. MINIMUM ELIGIBILITY:

FOR ATHLETE:

1. Must be a minimum of 16 years of age as of January 1, 2019.
2. Must be an Active Member in good standing with USEF or his/her National Federation at the time of selection and until the conclusion of the Championships. During the Championships, the athlete must be an Active Member in good standing of USEF or have proof, in English, of membership in good standing from their National Federation.
3. Qualification is based upon each athlete/horse combination. An athlete, meeting the requirements listed above, may be changed with permission of the USEF Dressage Sport Committee or its designees. Please refer to Section V of these Selection Procedures.

****Please Note: Athletes who are non-U.S. citizens will be allowed to ride in any CDI-YH via their NF. Entry for these individuals to the FEI WBD Championships will be subject to current FEI/WBFSH rules. Final decisions regarding eligibility will be determined by the FEI WBD Championship Organizing Committee and the FEI. The eligibility requirements will be outlined in the Definite Schedule approved by the FEI for the Championships.***

FOR HORSE OWNER(S):

1. Must be an Active Member(s) in good standing of USEF or his/her National Federation and have proof, in English, of membership at the time of selection and until the conclusion of the FEI WBD Championships;
2. Must be in possession of horse's valid registration papers in the owner's name who is a member of a national studbook that is recognized by the World Breeding Federation, per current FEI rules for this competition. It is the responsibility of the horse owner to verify the horse's eligibility for the FEI WBD Championships through the studbook from which the horse was issued breed registry papers; and
3. Qualification goes with the athlete/horse combination; ownership may change during the qualifying period and up to the nominated entry due date for the FEI WBD Championships as long as the new owner(s) meet all of the above criteria.
4. All of the above "Owner" requirements apply to all listed owners on file with USEF and/or his/her National Federation, including all owners of a partnership, farm, company, corporation, etc. if a horse is recorded as owned by that type of entity.

FOR HORSE:

1. Horses must have an **Annual or Lifetime Recording with USEF** at the time of selection, and until the conclusion of the Championship (**Please Note: Horse Identification [HID] numbers DO NOT fulfill this requirement**). In addition, horses must have either an FEI or National Passport to compete in U.S. CDI-YH events. A FEI Passport is required to compete in the FEI WBD Championships.
2. Horses must have valid registration papers with a member of a national studbook that is recognized by the World Breeding Federation of Sport Horses (WBFSH), per current FEI rules for this competition;
3. Horses must fit into one of the following age categories for competition (FEI Dressage Article 422):
 - A. Become five (5) years of age in 2019;
 - B. Become six (6) years of age in 2019; or
 - C. Become seven (7) years of age in 2019.

*FEI Dressage Article 422 states: "...The age of horses is counted from 1st January of the year of birth (1st August for Southern Hemisphere)."
4. Neither ponies nor mules will be allowed to qualify for or compete in the FEI WBD Championships.
5. Horses must meet all minimum eligibility requirements and certificate of capability as outlined by the FEI on their website [HERE](#).

III. BREEDING/REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS:

Owners must submit a copy of the horse's registration papers from a member of a national studbook which is recognized by the World Breeding Federation of Sport Horses, WBFSH, with the Application of Intent for the FEI WBD Championships. **Owners must also submit an official letter from the horses' breeding association in the country of the horse registration (member of the WBFSH), which states that the respective horse can represent the U.S. at the FEI WBD Championships. This agreement must be submitted to USEF at least one (1) business day before to the Nominated Entry deadline.**

IV. QUALIFYING PROCEDURE:

- 1. QUALIFYING PERIOD:** The qualifying period shall begin January 1, 2019 and end June 17, 2019, unless otherwise determined and based on the nominated entry deadline as listed in the FEI Definite Schedule for the event.
- 2. QUALIFYING COMPETITIONS:** Qualifying competitions are considered to be those competitions designated on the 2019 NAJYRC/USEF Qualifying Competitions Calendar which can be found [HERE](#). All CDI-YH competitions are also designated qualifying competitions thus qualifying scores may also be earned at any CDI-YH within the designated qualifying period.

Please note: for these qualification purposes, competition(s) held over the course of more than one day counts as a single qualifying competition (even if each day has a separate license number) and only the designated test counts. Qualifying scores for the FEI WBD Championships may only be earned at these designated Qualifying Competitions.

- 3. TESTS AND SCORE REQUIREMENTS:** Horses must have earned scores in their respective age FEI Preliminary test and FEI Final test **in combination** at two (2) different designated qualifying competitions and/or CDI-YH events. Current versions of each FEI Test must be used. For the Seven Year Old division, both quality marking and technical tests (of both preliminary and final tests) must be ridden in combination at each event. If a horse is not able to earn scores **in combination** at any designated qualifying event, the Dressage Sport Committee or its designees may grant a waiver for all or part of this requirement if it is in the best perceived interests of the combination or due to unforeseen circumstances. Such requests must be submitted to the Dressage Sport Committee by the end of the qualifying period.

Dressage Tests for the 5-Year Old Division:

“FEI Preliminary Dressage Test for 5-Year Old Horses”

“FEI Dressage Test for 5-Year Old Horses – Final”

Dressage Tests for the 6-Year Old Division:

“FEI Preliminary Dressage Test for 6-Year Old horses”

“FEI Dressage Test for 6-Year Old Horses – Final”

Dressage Tests for the 7-Year Old Division:

“FEI Preliminary Dressage Test for 7-Year Old horses” (includes both Technical and Quality Marking Sheets)

“FEI Dressage Test for 7-Year Old Horses – Final” (includes both Technical and Quality Marking Sheets)

4. MINIMUM SCORES:

Five- and Six-Year Old:

Horses must have earned a minimum score of 8.2 in at least two FEI Preliminary Tests and two FEI Final Tests.

Seven-Year Old:

Horses must have earned the following minimum scores:

-Technical Component: 75.000% in at least two FEI Preliminary Tests and two FEI Final Tests

-Quality Marking Component: 82.000% (or 8.2) in at least two FEI Preliminary Tests and two

FEI Final Tests

5. **JUDGES:** It is required that all judges on the panel for both USEF and FEI competitions have completed and received credit from a USEF or FEI-recognized Young Horse training session. This Young Horse designation is noted in the Licensed Official roster on the USEF and FEI websites listed [HERE](#) and [HERE](#), respectively.

Please note: Judges participating as an owner of a horse or coach of an athlete competing in any Young Horse qualifying class shall NOT officiate for any Young Horse Qualifying Classes in the same age group at designated Qualifying Competitions at any time during the qualifying period. Judges who do so are subject to sanctions. Scores obtained by a judge participating as an athlete under these conditions will not be counted, and the judge is subject to sanctions.

6. **SCORE CALCULATION:** Athlete/horse combinations must complete score requirements as defined in sections 3-5 above listed above. Qualifying scores may be earned prior to submission of Application of Intent. However, scores will not show on the applicable division ranking list until an application of intent is submitted.
7. **DRESS AND SADDLERY:** For National young horse classes, refer to the USEF Dressage Rules. For CDI-YH classes, refer to FEI Dressage Dress and Saddlery Rules.
8. **INTERNATIONAL QUALIFICATION:** Horses that meet all age, registration, and ownership qualifications (see “Minimum Eligibility” above) may also qualify by competing at either FEI competitions or National Level competitions in a foreign country, however, foreign National Level Competitions must be approved by the USEF Dressage Sport Committee or its designees prior to the start of the competition (**except as noted below*). FEI Young Horse Preliminary and Final tests for their age group or equivalent National test for the same age group may be used. Horses must obtain scores as described above in Sections 3-5. A panel of at least two (2) judges must officiate. Copies of entire qualifying score sheet(s) must be submitted to and received by the USEF Dressage Department no later than June 17, 2019.

*In the event the Federation was not notified of the request for scores earned in foreign National Level Competitions to count towards qualifying and an 8.2 was earned, a request may be submitted to the USEF Dressage Sport Committee or its designees for consideration. **These requests must be submitted no later than June 17, 2019.**

- V. **FEI NOMINATED ENTRY/SHORT LIST:** After the qualifying period ends on June 17, 2019 but no later than the closing date for the FEI Nominated Entry (per the FEI Definite Schedule), USEF will name the maximum number of combinations permitted for FEI Nominated Entry based upon rankings through the qualifying procedure outlined above including any horses qualified through ‘International Qualification.’

The combinations named for the FEI Nominated Entry will also comprise of the Short List. No ranking will be made of Short Listed horses or their riders. In order to be considered for the FEI Definite Entry, short listed horses and their athletes* must participate in training and evaluation sessions with the USEF Young Horse Coach. Non-compliance with this requirement may result in removal of the athlete/horse combination from the selection process.

A combination named to the Short List may request special consideration for Definite Entry selection without participating in a training and evaluation session by submitting a written request prior to or during qualifying period (January 1, 2019 – June 17, 2019) to the USEF Dressage Sport Committee or its designees who will approve or disapprove the request based upon these factors:

1. The combination has already participated in a 2018 Young Horse Training Session with the

- USEF Young Horse Coach prior to the start of the qualifying period;
2. The results from previous Markel/USEF Young Horse Dressage National Championships or FEI WBD Championships;
3. The illness, injury or other circumstances of horse or athlete, in which documentation must be provided;
4. Unforeseen circumstances which creates a logistical emergency.

**Exceptions for changes in athlete may be made with permission of the Dressage Sport Committee or its designees.*

VI.FEI DEFINITE ENTRY: No later than the closing date of the FEI Definite Entry, the Dressage Sport Committee or its designees will evaluate the athlete/horse combinations on the FEI Nominated Entry/Short List and recommend a ranking of combinations for the FEI Definite Entry. The Dressage Sport Committee or its designees may also recommend a list of ranked alternates. The Dressage Sport Committee or its designees, when evaluating the athlete/horse combinations for the Definite Entry and list of ranked alternates, will base their evaluations on the following:

1. Scores from tests [FEI Dressage Tests for the 5 or 6 or 7 Year Old divisions – Preliminary and Final] from any CDI or CDN;
2. Young Horse Training Session(s);
3. Consistency of scores at and/or above minimum requirements;
4. Previous international experience of athlete and/or horse;
5. The experience of the judges in relevance to the FEI World Breeding Championships;
6. “State of Preparedness” of athlete and horse. State of Preparedness is defined as an athlete/horse combination’s overall state of readiness to perform successfully at international Dressage competitions, not just limited to health and soundness of the horse;
7. Whether the horse is U.S. bred, which is preferable; U.S. bred is defined as a horse foaled in the United States;
8. Incomplete Qualifying Competitions, due to elimination or withdrawal;
9. The physical conditions in which the FEI World Breeding Championships for Young Horses in Dressage will be held, including the travel to these FEI World Breeding Championships, and the potential impact of those conditions on the athlete/horse combinations’ performance; and
10. Ability of athlete and his team (including, without limitation, owners, coaches and grooms) to contribute to a positive team environment.

The Maximum number of invitations for representatives of the U.S. to the 2019 FEI WBD Championships is determined by the FEI and WBFSH and will be identified in the approved FEI Definite Schedule. The FEI Definite Entry is subject to the approval by the USEF Board of Directors or an Ad-Hoc Selection Group approved by the by the USEF Board of Directors.

In the case that an invited athlete/horse combination is not able to accept the invitation to represent the U.S. in the FEI WBD Championships, the next alternate athlete/horse combination may be invited to represent the U.S. at the FEI WBD Championships following the recommendation of the USEF Dressage Sport Committee, or its designees and the approval of the USEF Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the USEF Board of Directors.

As FEI Regulations provide that the National Federation (NF) has responsibility for the selection of all athletes and horses to represent the U.S. at an international Championship, only horses who have met and completed the specific criteria set forth in these Selection Procedures will be eligible to compete in the 2019 FEI WBD Championships (see FEI Art.122).

VII. MARKEL/USEF YOUNG HORSE DRESSAGE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS:

Horses that are named to the FEI Nominated Entry may be eligible for an automatic invitation to the 2019 Markel/USEF Young Horse National Championships (pending filing of Application of Intent). Only Five and Six Year horses are eligible for their respective age divisions. Automatic invitations to the National Championships for Short-Listed horses will only be granted for a maximum of the top five (5) ranked horses in each age division (five and six year olds).

VIII. CODE OF CONDUCT:

Athletes and horse owners will be required to sign the USEF Code of Conduct prior to competing in the FEI WBD Championships.

IX. FUNDING DISCLAIMER: Selection to the Definite Entry for the FEI WBD Championships does not guarantee that any funds will be available to assist with the expenses associated with travel or entry to the event.

X. INTERNATIONAL DISCLAIMER – These procedures are based on the FEI rules and regulations as presently known and understood. Any change in the selection procedures caused by a change in 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.

XI. ATHLETE OMBUDSMAN – Athletes who have questions regarding their opportunity to compete that are not answered by USEF may contact the USOC Athlete Ombudsman's Office by:

1. Telephone at (719)866-5000
2. Toll free telephone at (888) ATHLETE (1-888-284-5383)
3. E-mail at Kacie.Wallace@usoc.org
4. www.athleteombudsman.org

XII. DRUG TESTING:

Equine Drug Testing: All applicant horses are subject to drug testing both in competition and out of competition.

In-Competition. All horses entered to compete in any FEI or USEF competition are subject to drug testing at any time from when the competition begins until the competition ends or beginning when the horse arrives for the competition until the competition ends, whichever beginning occurs first. Blood and/or urine samples may be collected and tested for substances prohibited or forbidden under the subject competition rules. National competitions may invoke GR409 whereby samples will be tested for FEI prohibited substances, including metabolites and markers.

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-competition, 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 for dissemination of information as appropriate. In such instance, the positive finding 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 a panel ("Selection Hearing Panel") comprised at least one member of the Dressage Sport Committee along with at least two members of the Hearing Committee, one of which must be an Eligible Athlete. The Chairman of the USEF Veterinarian Committee, or his designee, may serve Ex Officio and a member of the Veterinarian Panel selected for the Event may serve Ex Officio.

Out-of-Competition. Blood and/or urine samples may be collected out-of-competition at any time after submission of an application of intent, following notification to the applicant at least 24 hours prior to

collection. 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.

Positive Finding. At any time during the selection period that the presence of a prohibited or forbidden substance, or a metabolite or 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 for dissemination of information as appropriate. In such instance, the positive finding may result in the elimination of the horse and/or athlete from the Selection Process unless the Veterinarian Panel appointed for 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.

Also see the section on Veterinarian Treatment, a violation of which may result in elimination under this provision. Before elimination occurs in either instance, the owner and athlete will be afforded a hearing by the Selection Hearing Panel.

This provision does not abrogate the enforcement of applicable equine anti-doping rules at Federation licensed competitions, including competitions where GR409 is invoked.

USEF GR409 Equine Drugs and Medications, Prohibited Substance Provisions

1. This paragraph applies only to FEI Banned Substances and Methods.
For all Federation Equestre Internationale (FEI) recognized disciplines, Articles 2 (what constitutes a violation), 3 [proof of violations (except 3.1 and 3.2.3)], 4 (banned substances and methods), and 8.2 (principles of fair hearing) of the FEI Equine Anti-Doping rules govern. Those Articles are incorporated by reference as if fully set out herein and can be found at www.fei.org or the Drugs & Medications tab at www.usef.org.
2. 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 a competition 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.
3. EXHIBITORS, OWNERS, TRAINERS, AND VETERINARIANS ARE CAUTIONED AGAINST THE USE OF MEDICINAL PREPARATIONS, TONICS, PASTES, AND PRODUCTS OF ANY KIND, THE INGREDIENTS AND QUANTITATIVE ANALYSIS OF WHICH ARE NOT SPECIFICALLY KNOWN, AS MANY OF THEM NO DOUBT CONTAIN ONE OR MORE FORBIDDEN SUBSTANCES.

PLEASE NOTE: *The FEI WBD Championships are conducted under FEI Drug and Medication Rules.*

FOR QUESTIONS CONCERNING THESE PROCEDURES PLEASE CONTACT:

Hannah Niebielski
Director, National Dressage
4047 Iron Works Pkwy
Lexington, KY 40511

(859) 225-6918
hniebielski@usef.org