

**UNITED STATES EQUESTRIAN FEDERATION, INC.**  
**ATHLETE SELECTION PROCEDURES**  
**2019 Pan American Games**  
**DRESSAGE**  
**Lima, PERU**

**USOC Review Date: January 16, 2019**

**Updated February 11, 2019 with USOC Final Entry Date**

**Disclaimer: These Selection Procedures are subject to changes/updates because the Equine Health and Transport Requirements have not yet been published by the Lima 2019 Organizing Committee.**

**I. SELECTION SYSTEM**

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

- 1. Nationality/Passport Requirements** - The athlete must be a national of the United States and in compliance with FEI General Regulations, 23<sup>rd</sup> Edition, Article 119 (see [www.fei.org](http://www.fei.org)) at the time of application, selection, and until the conclusion of the 2019 Pan American Games Dressage Competition (“the Event”). Athletes must hold a valid U.S. passport that does not expire until after January 26, 2020.
- 2. Minimum International Olympic Committee (IOC), International Paralympic Committee (IPC) and/or Pan American Sport Organization (PASO) (PAG and PPAG only) standards for participation:**
  - a.** Any competitor in the Olympic, Paralympic, Pan American or Parapan American Games must be a national of the country of the National Olympic Committee (NOC) or National Paralympic Committee (NPC) which is entering such competitor. For additional information regarding an athlete who is a national of two or more countries, has changed his or her nationality or acquired a new nationality, refer to the IOC Charter (Rule 41), or the IPC Handbook (Section 2, Chapter 3.1), or the PASO Statutes (Article XXII, Sections 4 and 5).
- 3. Minimum International Federation (IF) Standards for Participation:**
  - a.** All athletes and horses wishing to compete on the 2019 United States Pan American Games Dressage Team (the “Team”) must earn a FEI Certificate of Capability in accordance with the FEI Dressage Regulations, 25<sup>th</sup> Edition, Article 422.3.7 and 450. The rules and a list of qualifying events can be found on the FEI website <https://inside.fei.org/fei/games/cont-regional/panam-2019>.
  - b.** The athlete must have been born on or before December 31, 2003 (see FEI Dressage Regulations, 25<sup>th</sup> Edition, Article 422.1.1).
  - c.** To be eligible for participation in the Event, athletes and horses must comply with all current FEI Regulations as well as Rules 40 & 41 of the Olympic Charter and its Bye-Laws pertaining to the IOC Eligibility Code and Nationality.
  - d.** A Big Tour (see definition on pages 13-14) horse must be eight (8) years old or more and the horse must have height at the withers exceeding 149 cm including shoes (see FEI Rules for Dressage Events, 25<sup>th</sup> Edition, Article 422.1.4). A Small Tour (see definition on pages 13-14) horse must be seven (7) years old or more and the horse must have height at the withers exceeding 149 cm including shoes (see FEI Rules for Dressage Events, 25<sup>th</sup> Edition, Article 422.1.4).
  - e.** The athlete and horse must be registered and in good standing with the FEI at the time of application, selection, and until the conclusion of the Event.
  - f.** The athlete and horse must comply with FEI Rules for the Event.
- 4. Other Requirements:**
  - a.** The athlete must be active member of the United States Equestrian Federation (“USEF”).
  - b.** The horse must be recorded with USEF pursuant to USEF GR 1102.
  - c.** Application - Athletes wishing to be considered for the Team must complete an online application (Attachment A) with the appropriate application fee at [www.usef.org](http://www.usef.org). Applications submitted online on or before **February 20, 2019 at 11:59 EST** will be charged \$70 per application. Applications submitted online after February 20, 2019 and received by USEF on or before February 27, 2019 will be charged an application

fee of \$300 per application. **NO APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER FEBRUARY 27, 2019 at 11:59 EST.**

- d. Horse Loan Agreement: Owners of horses named to the FEI Nominated Entry (See I.C.3 below) must sign the USEF Horse Loan Agreement (Attachment B). A horse owner(s)' failure to sign the USEF Horse Loan Agreement may result in the removal of the horse and/or athlete from the FEI Nominated Entry.
- e. The athlete shall certify by signing the Application that he has received, read, and assumes responsibility for meeting all requirements of the Selection Procedures for the Event. The athlete and horse owner(s) must certify, by signing the Application (Attachment A), that they have received, understand, and have read the Selection Procedures for the Team; the USEF Code of Conduct (Attachment C); the USEF Release, Assumption of Risk, Waiver and Indemnification (Attachment D); and the U.S. Center for SafeSport's Code; the USEF Safe Sport Policy (Attachment E), USOC Code of Conduct and Grievances Procedures (Attachment F), and USOC online registration, and that they understand those documents, and that they agree to be bound by them.
- f. Athletes must have successfully completed all Games Registration requirements by stated deadline, unless the athlete requests for an extension of the deadline due to an extraordinary circumstance. Any extension must be approved by the USOC.

## **B. Tryout Events:**

1. **Provide the event names, dates and location of all trials, events and/or camps to be used as part of the selection process:** It is anticipated that **up to** 8 athlete/horse combinations will be named to a Short List after the conclusion of the Qualifying Competition period (April 29, 2019). Athlete/horse combinations named to the Short List will be required to maintain a "State of Preparedness" (see definition on pages 13-14). A competition plan to ensure "State of Preparedness" will be agreed upon with each Short List athlete and the Chef d'Equipe, in consultation with the Selectors. Competition plans for Big Tour combinations are anticipated to include European CDIs and/or CDNs (with the possibility of CDIs and/or CDNs in the U.S. or Canada). Competition plans for Small Tour combinations are anticipated to include CDIs and/or CDNs within the U.S. or Canada (with the possibility of European CDIs and/or CDNs). Links to the competition schedules can be found in Section B.2.a.

Additionally, "Home Visits" (see definition on pages 13-14) may be conducted with each Short List athlete/horse combination.

2. **Provided below are the event names, dates, locations and description of how athletes qualify for any "preliminary or qualifying" events or procedures that are prerequisites to attend any of the events listed above in B.1 (if any):**

- a. **Small Tour Applicants:** Tryout Events/Qualifying Competitions will include all U.S. and foreign CDI 1\*/2\*/3\*/4\*/5\*/CDI-W or CDIO events between September 17, 2018 – April 29, 2019. A list of these competitions can be found at <https://data.fei.org/Calendar/Search.aspx>.

Athlete/horse combinations qualifying for the Small Tour must complete the FEI Prix St. Georges test and the FEI Intermediate I test in combination at two CDI Tryout Events/Qualifying Competitions (Waivers may be granted for combinations who have limited competition results during the initial qualifying period but have earned high scores). Athlete/horse combinations must also complete one FEI Intermediate I Freestyle test at a CDI Tryout Event/Qualifying Competition during the qualifying period; however, the FEI Intermediate I Freestyle test score will not be used in the calculation of an athlete/horse combination's average on the ranking list. Each FEI Prix St. Georges and FEI Intermediate I test count as 50% of an athlete/horse combination's overall average from each CDI Tryout Event/Qualifying Competition (i.e. PSG 50% + I-I 50% = 100%) on the ranking list. Athlete/horse combinations must complete a minimum of one CDI Tryout Event/Qualifying Competition after January 1, 2019.

If an athlete/horse combination completes the FEI Prix St. Georges test and FEI Intermediate I test at three or more CDI Tryout Event/Qualifying Competitions, the athlete/horse combination's lowest FEI Prix St. Georges test and lowest FEI Intermediate I test will each be automatically dropped, respectively (regardless if the FEI Intermediate I Freestyle test was ridden) on the ranking list.

**Big Tour Applicants:** Tryout Events/Qualifying Competitions will include all U.S. and foreign CDI 3\*/4\*/5\*/CDI-W or CDIO events between September 17, 2018 – April 29, 2019. A list of these competitions can be found at <https://data.fei.org/Calendar/Search.aspx>.

Athlete/horse combinations qualifying for the Big Tour must complete the FEI Grand Prix test and the FEI Grand Prix Special test in combination at two CDI Tryout Events/Qualifying Competitions (Waivers may be granted for combinations who have limited competition results during the initial qualifying period but have earned high scores). Athlete/horse combinations must also complete one FEI Grand Prix Freestyle test at a CDI Tryout Event/Qualifying Competition during the qualifying period; however, the Grand Prix Freestyle test score will not be used in the calculation of an athlete/horse combination's final average on the ranking list. Each FEI Grand Prix and FEI Grand Prix Special test count as 50% of an athlete/horse combination's overall average from each CDI Tryout Event/Qualifying Competition (i.e. GP 50% + GPS 50% = 100%) on the ranking list. Athlete/horse combinations must complete a minimum of one CDI Tryout Event/Qualifying Competition after January 1, 2019.

If an athlete/horse combination completes the FEI Grand Prix and the FEI Grand Prix Special test at three or more CDI Tryout Events/Qualifying Competitions, the lowest FEI Grand Prix test score and lowest FEI Grand Prix Special test will each be automatically dropped, respectively (regardless if the FEI Grand Prix Freestyle test was ridden) on the ranking list.

- b. Athletes must be eligible to participate in these Tryout Events/Qualifying Competitions pursuant to the FEI Rules for Dressage, which can be found at [www.fei.org](http://www.fei.org).
- c. This information was communicated to potential Event applicants and published on USEF's website on August 10, 2018 (Attachment G). In exceptional circumstances, the Selectors may grant a waiver for all or part of the requirements outlined in the initial qualifying period if it is in the best interests of the perceived results of the Team and for combinations who have limited competition results during the initial qualifying period but have earned high scores).
- d. The following will apply to the Rankings (Found [HERE](#)): If an athlete/horse combination is eliminated and/or does not receive a score from any test at any Tryout Event/Qualifying Competition, for purposes of ranking, no score will be shown for that test on the Ranking. Exception: If an athlete or horse has been disqualified by USEF or FEI for a medication rule violation from a sample collected in connection with a Tryout Event/Qualifying Competition, that score may be marked as zero and counted in the ranking.
- e. After the conclusion of the Qualifying Competition period (April 29, 2019), **up to** eight (8) athlete/horse combinations may be named to the Short List. Additional combinations (up to four (4) athlete/horse combinations) may be named as Alternates to the Short List. These additional combinations may also be considered for the Nominated Entry.

The Short List and Alternate combinations recommended to the Dressage Sport Committee by the Selectors, in consultation with the Chef d'Equipe and Team Veterinarian, and will be subject to the approval of the USEF Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the Board of Directors, will be selected based on the following (in no priority order):

1. Scores from tests [FEI Grand Prix, FEI Grand Prix Special and FEI Grand Prix Freestyle; FEI Prix St. Georges, FEI Intermediate I and FEI Intermediate I Freestyle] at any CDI or CDN within the last 12 months;
2. Ranking from Qualifying Competitions;
3. Potential of athlete and/or horse to contribute to a medal winning team in 2019 and/or future teams;
4. The trend in the scores from the relevant tests;
5. Consistency of scores over 73%;

6. “State of Preparedness” (see definition on pages 13-14) of athlete and horse;
7. Athlete/horse combination has demonstrated “Proven Ability” (see definition on pages 13-14) to succeed at CDI competitions.
8. Previous international experience of athlete and/or horse;
9. Errors or incomplete qualifying competitions due to elimination or withdrawal; and
10. Behavior of athlete and people associated with the athlete (including, without limitation, owners, coaches and grooms) that may have an impact on creating a positive team environment.

In exceptional circumstances, athlete/horse combinations may be selected that have not completed the minimum qualifications outlined in section I.B.2(a-c) above.

**C. Provided below is a comprehensive, step-by-step description of the method that explains how athletes will go through the selection process to become team nominees:**

1. Athlete/horse combinations named to the Short List will be required to maintain a “State of Preparedness” (see definition on pages 13-14). A competition plan to ensure “State of Preparedness” will be agreed upon with each Short List athlete and the Chef d’Equipe, in consultation with the Selectors. Competition plans for Big Tour combinations are anticipated to include European CDIs and/or CDNs (with the possibility of CDIs and/or CDNs in the U.S. or Canada). Competition plans for Small Tour combinations are anticipated to include CDIs and/or CDNs within the U.S. or Canada (with the possibility of European CDIs and/or CDNs).

Additionally, “Home Visits” (see definition on pages 13-14) may be conducted with each Short List athlete/horse combination.

An athlete named to the Short List may request special consideration for selection without competing by submitting a written request to the Selectors, who will approve or disapprove the request based on these factors:

1. An athlete/horse combination that has demonstrated “Proven Ability” (See definition on pages 13-14) to succeed at CDI competitions;
2. Previous international experience of the athlete and/or horse;
3. The circumstances, facts, and in the case of illness or injury to a horse or athlete, documentation by the Team Veterinarian or physician(s) approved by USEF; and/or
4. Unforeseen circumstances which create a logistical emergency.

If the Selectors approve the above exception for the athlete to whom the exception was granted, they may also require additional Home Visits (see definition on pages 13-14) to ensure ongoing “State of Preparedness.”

2. **June 26, 2019: FEI Nominated Entry** - After the Qualifying Competitions period ends on April 29, 2019 but no later than the closing date for the FEI Nominated Entry, and based upon the procedures set forth herein, the Selectors, in consultation with the Chef d’Equipe and Team Veterinarian, will recommend to the USOC and/or the FEI as required at least four (4) athlete/horse combinations (made up of Small and Big Tour combinations) and up to the maximum number of horses and athletes able to be nominated under FEI Rules for the Event for (the “FEI Nominated Entry”) subject to approval of the USEF Dressage Sport Committee, and the USEF Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the Board of Directors. The FEI Nominated Entry will be forwarded to the FEI by no later than June 26, 2019.

The Selectors, in consultation with the Chef d’Equipe and Team Veterinarian, and upon the recommendation of the USEF Dressage Sport Committee, and subject to the approval of the USEF Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the Board of Directors will name up to the maximum number of athlete/horse combinations, on the FEI Nominated Entry based on the following (in no priority order):

1. “State of Preparedness” (see definition on pages 13-14) of athlete and horse;
2. Rankings from Qualifying Competitions (as of April 29, 2019);

3. Scores from tests [FEI Grand Prix, FEI Grand Prix Special and FEI Grand Prix Freestyle; FEI Prix St. Georges, FEI Intermediate I and FEI Intermediate I Freestyle] at any CDI or CDN within the last 12 months;
4. The trend in the scores from the relevant tests;
5. Consistency of scores over 73%;
6. Competition format of the 2019 Pan American Games;
7. Potential of athlete and/or horse to contribute to a medal winning team in 2019 and/or future teams;
8. Athlete/horse combination has demonstrated “Proven Ability” (see definition on pages 13-14) to succeed at CDI competitions; and
9. Previous international experience.

An athlete/horse combination may be named to the FEI Nominated Entry that has not completed the minimum qualifying competitions/Tryout Events and/or has been approved for special consideration by the Selectors to not compete based on the criteria listed above.

**Chef d’Equipe Permissions:** Once athlete/horse combinations have been named to the FEI Nominated Entry they will come under the control of the Chef d’Equipe through the conclusion of the Event. They shall not compete without the permission of the Chef d’Equipe.

3. **June 24, 2019: USOC Final Entries** - By no later than the closing date for the USOC Final Entries for the Event, the Selectors, in consultation with the Chef d’Equipe and Team Veterinarian, and upon the recommendation of the USEF Dressage Sport Committee, and subject to approval of the USEF Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the Board of Directors will evaluate the athlete/horse combinations submitted on the FEI Nominated Entry and nominate to the USOC and/or FEI as required the Team of four (4) athlete/horse combinations per FEI Rules. The team composition (Number of Small Tour combinations and number of Big Tour combinations) will be determined at this time.

The Selectors when evaluating the athlete/horse combinations for the Team base their evaluations on the following (in no priority order):

1. “State of Preparedness” (see definition on pages 13-14) of athlete and horse;
2. Rankings from Qualifying Competitions (as of April 29, 2019);
3. Scores from tests [FEI Grand Prix, FEI Grand Prix Special and FEI Grand Prix Freestyle; FEI Prix St. Georges, FEI Intermediate I and FEI Intermediate I Freestyle] at any CDI or CDN within the last 12 months;
4. The trend in the scores from the relevant tests;
5. Consistency of scores over 73%;
6. Competition format of the 2019 Pan American Games;
7. Potential of athlete and/or horse to contribute to a medal winning team in 2019 and/or future teams;
8. Athlete/horse combination has demonstrated “Proven Ability” (see definition on pages 13-14) to succeed at CDI competitions.
9. Previous international experience of athlete and/or horse;
10. Errors or incomplete qualifying competitions due to elimination or withdrawal;
11. Behavior of athlete and people associated with the athlete (including, without limitation, owners, coaches and grooms) that may have an impact on creating a positive team environment; and
12. Meet the 2019 Pan American Games Qualification Criteria.

#### 4. Replacements/Substitutions

Last Date for Replacements - The Last Date for Replacements is the last date at which an athlete or horse can be substituted into the team of four athlete/horse combinations selected to travel to the Event. The date will be based on when the U.S. horses fly to the Event, where they fly from, the number of athlete/horses taking part in final training prior to departing to the Event and the availability of space on the Official Lima Horse flights departing at a later date and the practicality of travelling a horse at a later date. The date will be decided by the USEF Director

of Sport in consultation with the designated horse shipping company, The Dutta Corporation, the Managing Director of Dressage, Chef d'Equipe and Team Veterinarian. The date will be published to all athletes selected to the FEI Nominated Entry List as soon as it can be decided upon. To clarify, horse will only be allowed to travel to the Event on the Official Horse flights as organized by the designated horse shipping company, The Dutta Corporation.

See Section IV.B for the method in which substitution athletes and horses should be selected, should a vacancy occur.

- 5. Declaration of Starters** – The declaration of starters will be done in accordance with the FEI Dressage Regulations, 25<sup>th</sup> Edition, Article 424.

**D. Provided below are the names of all committees/groups who oversee the selection process, including the name(s) and role(s) of their members.** The USEF Dressage Selectors and USEF Dressage Sport Committee will oversee the selection process, which process shall be reviewed and approved by the USEF Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the Board of Directors (Attachment H for list of USEF committees, their roles, and list of members).

**E. Other Considerations:**

- 1. 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 GR 409 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 or the Discipline Director 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 of at least one member of the applicable discipline High Performance Committee along with at least two members of the Hearing Committee, one of which must be an Eligible Athlete. The Chairman of the USEF Veterinary 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 throughout the selection period, which is defined as commencing on February 27, 2019 following notification to the applicant 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.

**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 or the Discipline Director 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.

This provision does not abrogate the enforcement of applicable equine anti-doping rules at Federation licensed competitions, including competitions where GR 409 is invoked whereby samples will be tested for FEI prohibited substances, including metabolites and markers.

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.

#### **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 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](http://www.fei.org).

2. **Soundness** - Horses that are candidates for selection for the Event may be examined at any time during the selection process which commences on February 27, 2019 for soundness by the Team Veterinarian along with a member of the Veterinarian Panel and/or a Selector upon the request of the Selectors, Chef d'Equipe, or USEF Dressage Sport Committee. Horses found to be unsound by the Team Veterinarian or Veterinarian Panel may result in the elimination of the athlete/horse combination from the selection process, upon the recommendation of the Selectors, Chef d'Equipe, USEF Dressage Sport Committee, but only with the approval of the USEF Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the Board of Directors.
3. **Team Veterinarian Request** – Applicants, *at their own expense*, shall make available, upon the request of the Team Veterinarian, 24 months' worth of complete veterinary records of horses considered for selection. In addition, applicants, *at their own expense*, shall be responsible for supplying any follow-up diagnostic information requested by the Team Veterinarian for horses under consideration for selection. Applicants, *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 under consideration for selection. Failure to comply with any reasonable request of the Team Veterinarian may result in the removal of the athlete/horse combination from the selection process by the Selectors upon the recommendation of the Team Veterinarian and the USEF Dressage Sport Committee, and subject to the approval of the USEF Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the Board of Directors.
4. **Veterinary Treatment** - Once the Athletes are named to the Short List (including any athlete with permission not to compete), by no later date of FEI Nominated Entry, and prior to the departure of the horses for the Event venue for the purpose of competing in the Event, athletes will be required to obtain written permission from the Team Veterinarian prior to treatment of "invited" horses being treated by any person other than the Team Veterinarian or Veterinary Panel. This permission must be obtained by using an official USEF Dressage Veterinary Treatment Request Form (Attachment I).

Failure to adhere to this policy and/or the directives of the Team Veterinarian as outlined on the USEF Dressage Veterinary Treatment Request Form may result in the removal of the athlete/horse combination from the selection process by the Selectors upon the recommendation of the Team Veterinarian and the USEF Dressage Sport Committee, and subject to the approval of the USEF Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the Board of Directors.

5. **Medical Request** - In the event of illness or injury, applicants may be required to submit to a medical examination by a physician(s) approved by the USEF International Disciplines Council at any time during the selection process for the purposes of determining the applicant's ability to compete at the Event. Failure to submit to such examination may result in the removal of the applicant from the selection process by the Selectors upon the recommendation of the USEF approved physician(s) and the USEF Dressage Sport Committee, and subject to 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 applicant to be unfit to compete, the applicant will be removed from the selection process upon the recommendation of the USEF Dressage Sport Committee, and subject to the approval of the USEF Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the Board of Directors.

## **II. DISCRETIONARY SELECTION**

**A. Rationale for utilizing discretionary selection:** Discretionary selection is used to field the best team possible for the Event.

**B. Discretionary criteria and how it will be used:** See Section I.C.

### **C. Discretionary Selection Committee:**

**1. Names of the committee(s) that will be responsible for discretionary selection.**

- USEF Dressage Selectors
- USEF Dressage Chef d'Equipe
- USEF Dressage Veterinary Panel
- USEF Dressage Team Veterinarian
- USEF Dressage Sport Committee
- USEF Board of Directors or Ad Hoc Selection Group

**2. Provide a complete list of the members of the committee(s), their titles and their NGB role that qualifies them to serve in this capacity:** See Attachment H for list of USEF committees, their roles, and list of members.

**Selectors:** Five (5) individuals (the "Selectors") will be appointed by the USEF International Disciplines Council upon recommendation of the USEF Dressage Sport Committee. The Selectors are subject to the USEF Code of Conduct (Attachment C), the Code of Ethics and Conflict of Interest Policy, the U.S. Center for SafeSport's Code, Safe Sport Policy of the USEF (Attachment E). The Selectors are Senior Active Members in good standing of USEF, who are also members of the Dressage community and who are knowledgeable and experienced in Dressage at the international level, and include a minimum of one Dressage Eligible Athlete Representative as defined by the USOC (See Definitions) but who is not an applicant for the Team (the "Eligible Athlete Representative Selector").

The Selectors will make recommendations to the Dressage Sport Committee based on consultation with the Chef d'Equipe, the Team Veterinarian and when appropriate, the Veterinary Panel.

A minimum of two (2) Replacement Selectors may 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. There will be a minimum of 20% Eligible Athlete Representation on the panel of Selectors.

**Ad Hoc Selection Group:** The Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the Board of Directors.

**3. Specify the process that will be used to identify and handle any potential conflicts of interest involving a member of the committee.**

Any member of the selection committee that has a possible conflict of interest must disclose it. If such conflict exists, the selection committee member must recuse him/herself from committee discussions and voting. Further, the committee member should not otherwise influence other members of the committee in the nomination process. However, a committee member who recused him/herself, but 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 the committee member who declared the conflict of interest does not vote toward the final decision.



### **III. REMOVAL OF ATHLETES**

#### **A. Prior to the acceptance of the nomination by the USOC, USEF has jurisdiction over potential nominees:**

An athlete who is to be nominated to the Team by USEF may be removed as a nominee for any of the following reasons, as determined by USEF:

- Voluntary withdrawal. An athlete must submit a written letter to the USEF CEO.
- Injury or illness as certified by a USEF approved physician (or medical staff). If an athlete refuses verification of their illness or injury by a USEF approved physician (or medical staff), their injury will be assumed to be disabling and they may be removed.
- Violation of the USEF Code of Conduct (Attachment C).
- Violation of the USOC Code of Conduct and Grievance Procedures (Attachment F).
- Failure of an owner to sign the Horse Loan Agreement (Attachment B).
- Injury or illness of the horse as determined by a majority of the Veterinary Panel and/or Team Veterinarian. If an athlete 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.
- Exceptional circumstances having a direct bearing upon obtaining the best qualified team for the Event, but only with the approval of the Chef d'Equipe and Selectors.
- Detection of a prohibited substance in the horse.
- Failure to adhere to all WADA, FEI, USEF and/or USADA, anti-doping protocols, policies and procedures including participation in out-of-competition testing as required by the WADA, FEI, USEF and/or USADA Rules.
- Failure to comply with a request of the Team Veterinarian and/or any member of the Veterinary Panel or with the USEF Dressage Veterinary Treatment Request Form protocols.
- Failure to submit a written request not to attend the mandatory training session prior to the start of the mandatory training session, if possible, but no later than the conclusion of the mandatory training session to the Selectors.
- Failure to comply with USEF Safe Sport Policies (Attachment E).
- Behavior of the athlete and people associated with the athlete (including, without limitation, accredited owners, coaches and grooms) that may have an impact on creating a positive team environment that will affect (either positively or negatively) the ability to win a team medal.

In these procedures, the removal of an athlete is closely related to the process by which they will be substituted.

Therefore, the reasons for which an athlete may be removed are thoroughly addressed in Section IV.

**SUBSTITUTION/REPLACEMENT OF ATHLETE/HORSE COMBINATIONS AND/OR HORSE.**

An athlete removed from the Team pursuant to this provision has the right to a hearing per the USEF's Bylaw, Article 703 and USEF General Rules, Chapter 6, GR605 or USOC Bylaw, Section 9.

#### **B. After acceptance of nomination by the USOC:**

Once an athlete nomination is accepted by the USOC, the USOC has jurisdiction over the Team, at which time, in addition to any applicable USEF Code of Conduct, the USOC's Code of Conduct and Grievance Procedures apply. The USOC's Code of Conduct and Grievance Procedures can be found at:

<https://www.teamusa.org/Athlete-Resources/Athlete-Ombudsman>

An athlete may be removed from the Final Entry or Team at any time for the following reasons:

- Voluntary withdrawal. An athlete must submit a written letter to the USEF CEO.
- Violation of WADA, FEI, USEF, USADA, and/or USOC anti-doping protocol, policies and procedures. In such instances, the adjudication process will be managed through the United States Anti-Doping Agency.
- Injury or illness as certified by a USEF approved physician (or medical staff).
- Injury or illness of the horse as determined by the Team Veterinarian (and majority of the members of the Veterinary Panel if requested).
- Violation of the USEF Code of Conduct (Attachment C).
- Violation of the USOC Code of Conduct and Grievance Procedures (Attachment F).
- Failure to comply with USEF Safe Sport Policy (Attachment E).

**C. An athlete may be removed from the FEI Nominated Entries, Team or USOC Final Entry at any time for violation of WADA, FEI, USEF, USADA and/or USOC anti-doping protocol, policies and procedures. In such instances, the adjudication process will be managed through the United States Anti-Doping Agency.**

#### **IV. SUBSTITUTION/REPLACEMENT OF ATHLETES/HORSE COMBINATIONS AND/OR HORSE**

**A. Following is the process by which the substitution/replacement pool of athlete/horse combinations will be identified:** The list of athletes on the FEI Nominated Entry will comprise the pool of substitute athlete/horse combinations.

**B. Substitution/Replacement athletes and horses will be selected, should a vacancy occur, according to the following method:**

- 1. Prior to acceptance of the FEI Nominated Entries:** Prior to the submission of the FEI Nominated Entries, athlete/horse combinations named to the Short List may be substituted with the alternate athlete/horse combinations for the reasons set forth in Section III. Any substitutions for veterinary reasons must also have the approval of the Team Veterinarian. Any substitutions for medical reasons must be documented by physician(s) who is approved by the USEF or USOC. To fill openings, if they occur, the Selectors, in consultation with the Chef d'Equipe and Team Veterinarian, will evaluate the athletes and horses named to the Short List and may recommend that substitution be made. Evaluations will be based on the factors outlined in Section I.B.2.d as well as the demonstrated ability of the athletes and horses and any observation that may have already occurred.
- 2. Prior to acceptance of the USOC Final Entries:** To fill openings, if they occur, the Selectors, in consultation with the Chef d'Equipe and Team Veterinarian, will evaluate the athletes and horses named to the Team, or as alternates named to the FEI Nominated Entries and may recommend that a substitution be made. These recommendations are upon the recommendation of the USEF Dressage Sport Committee, and subject to the approval of the Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the Board of Directors, if available within a practical timeframe. The Chef d'Equipe and Selectors when evaluating athletes and horses will base their evaluations on the factors outlined in Section I.C.2-3. Any substitution other than voluntary withdrawal must be upon the recommendation of the Selectors, in consultation with the Chef d'Equipe, and the USEF Dressage Sport Committee, and subject to the approval of the Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the Board of Directors. Any substitution for veterinary reasons other than voluntary withdrawal must have the approval of the Team Veterinarian and when appropriate the Veterinary Panel. Any substitution for medical reasons other than voluntary withdrawal must be documented by a physician(s) who is approved by the USEF or USOC.
- 3. After the acceptance of the USOC Final Entries and until the Last Date for Replacements (see Section I.C.5):** After acceptance of the USOC Final Entries and until the Last Date for Replacements, USEF has the ability to recommend to the USOC to replace athletes and/or horses on the USOC Final Entries for reasons set forth in Section III. B. During this time period, athlete/horse combinations on the Team may be replaced with a Reserve athlete/horse combination or a horse on the FEI Nominated Entries; and the Reserve may be replaced with athletes and horses on the FEI Nominated Entries. Replacements may only be made by recommendation of the Chef d'Equipe, with approval of the Selectors, and in accordance with the FEI Rules and/or for reasons set forth in Section III.B and subject to approval by the U.S. Equestrian Chef de Mission and the USOC. To fill openings, if they occur, the Chef d'Equipe, in consultation with the Selectors and Team Veterinarian will evaluate the athletes and horses named to the Team and the FEI Nominated Entries and may recommend that a replacement be made. The Chef d'Equipe and Selectors when evaluating athletes and horses will base their evaluations on the factors outlined in Section I.C.4. Any substitution for veterinary reasons must be upon the recommendation of the Chef d'Equipe and must also have the approval of the Veterinary Panel. Any substitution for medical reasons must be documented by a physician(s) who is approved by the USEF or USOC.

**C. Group or committee that will be responsible for making athlete substitution/replacement determinations:**

1. **Group or committee who determines the substitution/replacement pool:** USEF Dressage Selectors, USEF Dressage Chef d'Equipe, USEF Dressage Team Veterinarian, USEF Dressage Veterinary Panel, USEF Dressage Sport Committee, USEF Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the Board of Directors.
2. **Group or committee who determines a substitution/replacement to the team:**
  - a. **Prior to acceptance of the FEI Nominated Entries:** USEF Dressage Selectors, USEF Team Veterinarian, USEF Dressage Sport Committee, and the USEF Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the Board of Directors.
  - b. **Prior to acceptance of the USOC Final Entries:** USEF Dressage Selectors, USEF Team Veterinarian, USEF Dressage Sport Committee, and the USEF Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the Board of Directors.
  - c. **After the acceptance of the USOC Final Entries and until the Last Date for Replacements:** By the USOC upon recommendation of the USEF Chef de Mission, Chef d'Equipe, USEF Dressage Selectors and USEF Dressage Team Veterinarian.

**V. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:** USEF will retain all approved Selection Procedures and all supporting documents, including evaluation forms and data from the selection process for six months past the date of the Closing Ceremonies of the Event.

**VI. REQUIRED DOCUMENTS:** The following documents are required to be properly executed by applicants and horse owners as a condition of nomination for the Event and are included as attachments:

- Application (Attachment A)
- Horse Loan Agreement (Attachment B)
- USEF Code of Conduct (Attachment C)
- USEF Release, Assumption of Risk, Waiver and Indemnification (Attachment D)
- USOC Code of Conduct and Grievance Procedures (Attachment F)

Applicants and horse owners will be required to certify that they have received and read a copy of the USEF Code of Conduct and USEF Safe Sport Policy and that they understand them and agree to be bound by them.

In addition, all persons participating in any decision made pursuant to the Selection Procedures including but not limited to Selectors, Team Veterinarian, members of the Veterinary Panel, Physicians, members of the USEF Dressage Sport Committee, and the USEF Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the Board of Directors will be required to abide by the USEF Code of Ethics and Conflict of Interest Policies (Attachment J).

**VII. ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS:** Applicants will be required to read the USEF Athlete Agreement (Attachment K) and are requested to sign this document.

**VIII. PUBLICITY/DISTRIBUTION OF PROCEDURES:** The USEF approved Selection Procedures (complete and unaltered) will be posted/published by USEF in the following locations:

- **USEF Website - [www.usef.org](http://www.usef.org)** - These procedures will be posted as soon as possible, but not more than 5 business days following notice of approval by the USEF.
- **Other:** The Selection Procedures and Application Packet will also be available on the USEF's website [www.usef.org](http://www.usef.org) and by mail upon request.

**IX. DATE OF NOMINATION:** The FEI Nominated Entries will be submitted to the FEI no later than June 26, 2019. The USOC Final Entries will be submitted to the USOC no later than **June 24, 2019**.

**X. MANDATORY TRAINING AND/OR COMPETITION:** Competitions plans will be agreed upon with each Short List athlete. Home Visits may be required. Athletes and horses may be required to meet in one location prior to traveling to the Event. This information will be communicated to those athletes named to the Short List.

**XI. ANTI-DOPING REQUIREMENTS:** The athlete agrees to submit to drug testing by the FEI, WADA, and/or USADA or their designees at any time and understands that the use of methods or substances prohibited by the applicable anti-doping rules subject him to penalties including, but not limited to, disqualification and suspension. If it is determined that an athlete may have committed a doping violation, he agrees to submit to the results management authority and processes of the applicable organization, including arbitration under the USADA Protocol, or to the results management authority of the FEI or WADA, if applicable.

**XII. DEVELOPMENT OF SELECTION PROCEDURES:** The following committees/groups were responsible for creating these Selection Procedures: USEF Dressage Sport Committee and the USEF Board of Directors. See Attachment H for list of USEF Committees, their roles, and list of members.

**XIII. USEF BYLAWS AND GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES:** The USEF Bylaws and Grievance Procedures can be found on the USEF’s website [www.usef.org](http://www.usef.org).

**XIV. INTERNATIONAL DISCLAIMER:** These procedures are based on IOC, IPC, PASO, 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, PASO, 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 the 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 will be revised, pursuant to their resubmission to the USOC.


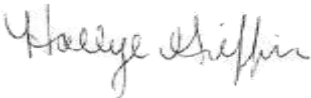
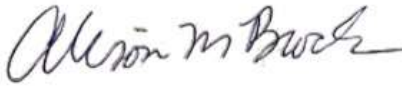
**XV. ATHLETE OMBUDSMAN:** Athletes who have questions regarding their opportunity to compete that are not answered by USEF may contact the USOC Athlete Ombudsman, office, by:

- Telephone at 888-ATHLETE
- Email at [athlete.ombudsman@usoc.org](mailto:athlete.ombudsman@usoc.org)
- Kacie Wallace, Athlete Ombudsman ([Kacie.Wallace@usoc.org](mailto:Kacie.Wallace@usoc.org))
- <https://www.teamusa.org/Athlete-Resources/Athlete-Ombudsman>

**XVI. FUNDING DISCLAIMER:** Selection to the Team does not guarantee that funds will be available to send a team.

**XVII. DISCLAIMER:** Please see Attachment D – USEF Release, Assumption of Risk, Waiver and Indemnification.

**XVIII. NGB SIGNATURES:** I certify that I have read, understand and incorporated our IF standards/criteria into our Selection Procedures and that the information provided herein regarding these Selection Procedures represents the method approved by the United States Equestrian Federation.

Position	Print Name	Signature	Date
USEF President	Murray Kessler		1/31/19
USEF Dressage Managing Director	Hallye Griffin		31 January 2019
USOC Athletes’ Advisory Council Representative*	Allison Brock		31 January 2019

\* If USOC AAC Representative has delegated authority to the Alternate AAC Representative to sign the Selection Procedures, attach a letter from the AAC Representative indicating the reason he/she has delegated authority.

\* Signature by the AAC Representative constitutes that he/she has read and understands the Selection Procedures and certifies that the Selection Procedures submitted represent the method approved by the NGB/PSO. If the AAC Representative reads and does not agree with the Athlete Selection Procedures being submitted by the NGB/PSO, he/she may submit those reasons in writing to his/her Sport Performance Team representative.

Any questions regarding these Selection Procedures should be addressed to Hallye Griffin, USEF Managing Director of Dressage, United States Equestrian Federation, 4047 Iron Works Parkway, Lexington, KY 40511, Phone (859) 225-6949, Email: hgriffin@usef.org.

Approved by the USEF Dressage Sport Committee on December 18, 2018.

Approved by the USEF Board of Directors on January 30, 2019.

### **DEFINITIONS**

**USEF DRESSAGE SELECTORS** - Five (5) individuals (the “Selectors”) will be appointed by the USEF International Disciplines Council upon recommendation of the USEF Dressage Sport Committee. The Selectors are subject to the USEF Code of Conduct (Attachment C) and the Code of Ethics and Conflict of Interest policies of the USEF (Attachment H). The Selectors are Senior Active Members in good standing of USEF, who are also members of the Dressage community and who are knowledgeable and experienced in Dressage at the international level, and include a minimum of one Dressage Eligible Athlete Representative as defined by the USOC (See Definitions) but who is not an applicant for the Team (the “Eligible Athlete Representative Selector”).

The Selector will make recommendations to the Dressage Sport Committee based on consultation with the Chef d’Equipe, the Team Veterinarian and when appropriate, the Veterinary Panel.

A minimum of two (2) Replacement Selectors 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. There will be a minimum of 20% Eligible Athlete Representation on the panel of Selectors.

**DRESSAGE ELIGIBLE ATHLETE REPRESENTATIVE** – An athlete will be considered a Dressage Eligible Athlete Representative if they meet the following criteria as defined by the USEF in Part IV-Athletes, Bylaw 401 of its Bylaws and the United States Olympic Committee in Article XVII.17.7, B.3 of its Bylaws as eligible for membership on a “designated committee”:

- i) within the past ten (10) years, represented the United States in the Olympic or Pan American Games, or an Operation Gold event, or a World Championship recognized by the United States Olympic Committee for which a competitive selection process was administered by the USEF
- and/or**
- ii) within the past twenty-four (24) months, demonstrated that they are actively engaged in amateur athletic competition by finishing in the top half of the NGB’s national championship or a team selection competition for the events specified in paragraph (i) above.

**SUBSTITUTE** –Substituting an athlete/horse combination after submittal of the FEI Definite Entries.

**STATE OF PREPARDNESS** – Athlete/horse combinations overall state of readiness to perform successfully at International Dressage Competition, not just limited to health and soundness of the horse.

**HOME VISITS** – Visits with the Technical Advisor/Chef d’Equipe, Team Veterinarian (or a member of the Veterinary Panel), and the USEF Managing Director, Dressage where veterinary evaluations are conducted and training is observed. Additionally, key performance indicators and targets are agreed upon. Selectors, the USEF Dressage Development Coach, and/or guest trainers may be invited to attend to Home Visits.

**PROVEN ABILITY** – An athlete/horse combination that has met at least one of the following criteria:

- i) Represented the US at the 2019 FEI World Cup Final earning a minimum of a 75% in the FEI Grand Prix Test.
- ii) Big Tour: Earned recent results (minimum of a 75% in the FEI Grand Prix and FEI Grand Prix Special Tests and a minimum of 80% in the FEI Grand Prix Freestyle Test) in 2018 or 2019 at CDI4\*, CDI5\*, CDI-W or CDIO3\*/4\*/5\* events.
- iii) Small Tour: Earned recent results (minimum of a 73% in the FEI Prix St. Georges and FEI Intermediaire I Tests and a minimum of a 75% in the FEI Intermediaire I Freestyle Test) in 2018 or 2019 CDIs or National Championships.

**BIG TOUR** – Athlete/horse combination competing in the FEI Grand Prix, FEI Grand Special and FEI Grand Prix Freestyles tests.

**SMALL TOUR** – Athlete/horse combination competing in the FEI Prix St. Georges, FEI Intermediate I and FEI Intermediate I Freestyle tests.

**CDI** - Concourse de Dressage International

**CDN** – National Event

**EVENT** – The 2019 Pan American Games

**TEAM** – The 2019 Pan American Games Dressage Team