



## MEMORANDUM

**To:** 2024 FEI North American Youth Championships

**Date:** September 5, 2023

**From:** Sarah Hollander, Director, Dressage Performance & Event Support

**Re:** Qualifying Dates & Competitions for 2024 FEI North American Youth Championships, Children

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Dear Potential 2024 FEI North American Youth Championships Applicants:

This preliminary information is being provided to assist you with your competition planning. Please remember that this information is based on the recommendations of the United States Equestrian Federation (USEF) Dressage Sport Committee and is subject to approval by the USEF Board of Directors and therefore subject to change. Any determined updates and documentation submission will be outlined in the NAYC Selection Procedures.

**SELECTION PROCESS SUMMARY:** Athlete/horse combinations must compete in qualifying competitions and earn scores in the Team and Individual tests (see more detail below). Ranking lists will be maintained and selection will be based on the final rankings of each Region (see more detail below). The 2024 FEI North American Youth Championships is scheduled to take place on July 30<sup>th</sup> – August 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024, in Traverse City, Michigan.

### 1. **Qualifying Period**

The proposed qualifying period for the 2024 FEI North American Youth Championships will begin on July 25, 2023. It is anticipated that the qualifying period will finish at least seven days prior to the Nominated Entry date.

### 2. **Qualifying Competitions**

It is anticipated that athlete/horse combinations will be required to complete at least two Qualifying Competitions. Qualifying Competitions include:

- **Competitions listed on the NAYC/USEF Qualifying Competitions Calendar** (within the qualifying period): Scores earned at these competitions will be automatically counted towards the Ranking List. NAYC/USEF Qualifying Competitions scheduled to take place beginning July 25, 2023 through December 31, 2023 can be found [HERE](#). The 2024 NAYC/USEF Qualifying Competitions Calendar will be available in the Fall of 2023 [HERE](#). Please make sure to check the Calendar(s) frequently for updates.
- **CDI-Ch Events** (within the qualifying period): Scores earned at CDI-Ch are calculable at the option of the athlete and will only be computed into the Ranking List upon receipt of a CDI & Championship Report Form within the specified deadline stated on the form (Form can be found at [www.usdf.org](http://www.usdf.org)). The 2023 and 2024 FEI Calendars can be found on the FEI website [HERE](#) (Please note that the FEI 2024 calendar is not approved until after the FEI General Assembly in November). Please make sure to check the Calendar(s) frequently for updates.
- **USEF Children Dressage National Championships** (within the qualifying period): Scores earned at these National Championships are calculable at the option of the athlete and will only be computed into the Ranking List upon receipt of a CDI & Championship Report Form



within the specified deadline stated on the form.

3. **Tests Required:** It is anticipated that athlete/horse combinations will be required to achieve **two** scores in the current edition of the FEI Children Team Test and **two** scores in the current edition of the FEI Children Individual Test. The Technical Test scoresheet and Quality Marking sheet will be averaged, and the average will serve as the final score on the ranking list. Athlete/horse combinations that achieve more than two scores in the relevant team or individual test, may drop the lowest score earned in the Team Test and the Individual Test, regardless of whether these scores were earned in the same Qualifying Competition. Regardless of the number of scores achieved, rider will only be permitted to drop the lowest Individual Test score and the lowest Team Test score. Athletes wishing to qualify for the Children Championship must qualify with FEI Children Tests. In addition to these tests, athlete/horse combinations will be required to complete the FEI Childrens Preliminary test at one designated qualifying competition.
4. **Certificate of Capability:** Each athlete/horse combination must earn a Certificate of Capability by attaining a minimum overall average of 62.000% or greater attributed by a panel of two (2) or more USEF 'S' or FEI Judges, in the FEI Children Team Test and FEI Children Individual Test at two (2) different qualifying competitions. The Technical Test scoresheet and Quality Marking sheet will be averaged, and the average will serve as the final score on the ranking list. Scores achieved from Test of Choice classes cannot be counted towards the Certificate of Capability. **A minimum overall average of 62% or greater will be required in order to be named to the nominated and definite entries.** In addition to these tests, athlete/horse combinations will be required to earn one technical score of 60% or higher in the FEI Children Preliminary B test at a designated qualifying competition. The FEI Children Preliminary B test may be ridden in a designated qualifying class or the FEI Test of Choice at a designated qualifying competition. The technical score is given by the judge at C. If there is more than one judge, the quality score will be judged by the judge at E or B but will not count towards the certificate of capability requirement.

### **IMPORTANT REMINDERS**

**Application of Intent:** An Application of Intent is required to be submitted in order to be eligible for this Championship. An application is considered to be submitted once the email acknowledgement has been received from USDF. The Application of Intent will be available no later than January 1, 2024. Qualifying scores may be earned prior to submission of Application of Intent.

**Certificate of Domicile:** As a part of the application of intent, every athlete or parent/guardian if the athlete is a minor shall complete and submit a Certificate of Domicile. An athlete may have only one domicile, which is where the athlete has his permanent home and where, whenever he is absent, intends to return. A minor's domicile follows that of the parent or guardian who has lawful custody of the minor (unless the minor is emancipated from their parent/guardian). A minor is any rider that has not yet reached his 18<sup>th</sup> birthday as of January 1, 2024. More information regarding the Certificate of Domicile will be published in the Selection Procedures for the event.

**USEF Safe Sport:** Athletes will be responsible for abiding by the USEF Safe Sport Policy, including the Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies. Any Athlete age 18 or older will be required to undergo a background screen in accordance with the current USEF Background Check Policy contained in the [USEF Safe Sport Policy](#). Any Athlete age 18 or older as of the conclusion of the Championships will be required to remain current with the U.S. Center for SafeSport's education and training requirements in accordance with [USEF Safe Sport Policy](#).

More information can be found on the USEF website [HERE](#).

**FEI Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE):** It is recommended that you review any medications you are taking through the GlobalDRO.com in the presence of the prescribing provider and review and submit specific TUE documentation, if applicable. A TUE application can be found online at <https://inside.fei.org/fei/cleansport/humans/tues>, or contact Steven Morrissey at USEF ([smorrissey@usef.org](mailto:smorrissey@usef.org)). TUEs must be completed and submitted to the FEI at least 30 days prior to participating in an FEI event.

**Equine Anti-Doping:** Please be reminded that all horses that are registered with the FEI or USEF shall be subject to in-competition testing. Please work with your FEI veterinarian for compliance. More information on the FEI Prohibited substance database can be found on the FEI website [HERE](#).

**Grievances:** Athletes wishing to file a grievance challenging a denial or threatened denial to participate in competition, please see the Athlete's Guide to Filing a Grievance Regarding Opportunity to Participate and Grievance Form. For procedural guidance for filing a grievance, please contact Emily Pratt at [epratt@usef.org](mailto:epratt@usef.org). Please contact the USOPC Athlete Ombudsman Office at (719) 866-5000, or [ombudsman@usathlete.org](mailto:ombudsman@usathlete.org), or visit [www.athleteombudsman.org](http://www.athleteombudsman.org) for guidance as to the USOPC grievance processes.

**Equipment:** Per DR121, only snaffle bridles will be permitted for FEI Tests for Children. **If you are competing in a CDI and/or NAYC, FEI Rules apply.**

**Horse Requirements:** The ability to compete with a pony in the FEI Children's Championship will be determined prior to the publication of final selection procedures, no later than December 1, 2023.

## **QUESTIONS**

If you have any questions regarding the above Qualifying Competitions or the development of the Selection Procedures for the 2024 FEI North American Youth Championships, please do not hesitate to contact Sarah Hollander at (859) 225-6914 or [shollander@usef.org](mailto:shollander@usef.org).