

UNITED STATES EQUESTRIAN FEDERATION, INC.
ATHLETE SELECTION PROCEDURES
2018 WORLD EQUESTRIAN GAMES
REINING

Tryon International Equestrian Center - September 10-23, 2018

I. SELECTION SYSTEM

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

1. Citizenship: The athlete must be a U.S. citizen and in compliance with FEI General Regulations, 23rd Edition, Article 119 (see www.fei.org) at the time of application, selection, and until the conclusion of the 2018 World Equestrian Games Reining Competition (“the Event”).

2. Minimum International Federation (IF) standards for participation:
 - a. All athletes and horses wishing to compete on the 2018 World Equestrian Games Reining Squad (the “Squad”) must earn a FEI Certificate of Capability between January 1, 2017 and May 13, 2018 (see the FEI Rules for Reining Events [5th Edition, updates effective 1 January 2017] Article 303). The rules can be found at <http://inside.fei.org/sites/default/files/Reining%20Rules%20-%202017Clean%20version.pdf>
 - b. To earn a FEI Certificate of Capability an Athlete must be qualified as a FEI 3* Athlete (see the FEI Rules for Reining Events, Art. 304) and achieve a minimum average score of 70 at two (2) out of three (3) different CRI3* competitions (Championships excluded), all completed with no elimination, disqualification or withdrawal, during the qualification period.
 - i. One of the qualifying results as defined above must be achieved no earlier than the 1st of January of the year (2018) in which the Championships take place and no later than the end date of the qualification period.
 - ii. Nations who enter a Team must have organized a CRI of any level or an FEI Reining Championship in their home country during the qualification period. It is not compulsory for the Team members to have participated in this CRI/CH.
 - iii. An NF that is not able to send a team may send up to two individual Athletes and two Horses who have achieved the minimum qualification criteria as stated above.
 - c. The athlete must have been born before January 1, 2001 (see the FEI Rules for Reining Events [5th Edition, updates effective 1 January 2017] Article 302.1).
 - d. A horse must be a minimum of seven (7) years of age (the age is counted from January 1 of the year of birth) (see the FEI Rules for Reining Events [5th Edition, updates effective 1 January 2017], Article 314 can be found [here.](#))
 - e. The athlete and horse must be registered with the FEI.
 - f. The athlete and horse must comply with FEI Rules for the Event.

3. Other Requirements:
 - a. The athlete must be an Active USEF member.
 - b. The horse must be recorded with USEF pursuant to USEF GR1102 under USEF rules.
 - c. The athlete and owner of horse must be a USA Reining member.
 - d. The horse must be recorded with USA Reining.
 - e. Application – Athletes wishing to be considered for the Squad must complete and submit an online Application (Attachment A) with the appropriate application fee at www.usef.org. Applications and

fees submitted online on or before **April 1, 2018** will be charged \$70 per application. Applications and fees submitted online after April 1, 2018 and received by USEF on or before April 7, 2018 will be charged an application fee of \$300 per application. **NO APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER APRIL 7, 2018. IF AN APPLICATION IS RECEIVED WITHOUT THE APPLICATION FEE, IT WILL BE ACCEPTED IF THE APPLICATION FEE IS RECEIVED ON OR BEFORE APRIL 14, 2018.**

- f. Horse Loan Agreement: Owners of horses named to the Short List/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 Short List/FEI Nominated Entry.
- g. The athlete and horse owner(s) must certify, by signing the Application (Attachment A), that they have received and read the Selection Procedures for the Squad, the USEF Code of Conduct (Attachment C), and the USEF Release, Assumption of Risk, Waiver and Indemnification (Attachment D) and the USEF Safe Sport Policy (Attachment E) and that they understand those documents, and that they agree to be bound by them.

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:**

Winter Slide Ardmore, OK February 3-5, 2017
 NRBC Katy, TX April 16-23, 2017
 Wild Card Reining Challenge Las Vegas, NV May 23-27
 CNYRHA Syracuse, NY June 10, 2017
 NRHA Derby Oklahoma City, OK June 24 – July 1, 2017
 EPARHA Firecracker Classic Logan Township, NJ July 6-9, 2017
 AQHA World Show Oklahoma City, OK November 7-8, 2017

*Additional competitions will be listed at www.usef.org

- 2. Provide 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 trials, events or camps listed above in B.1 (if any):**

In order to compete at the Selection Trial, the Athlete must have submitted an Application of Intent and competed at **two** (2) FEI CRI3* achieving a minimum average score of 70 at one (1) between January 1, 2017 and May 11, 2018.

Note that eligibility to enter the Selection Trial is not a guarantee that an athlete/horse combination will be named to the Short List/FEI Nominated Entry or the Squad for the Event.

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 becomes eligible to enter to the Selection Trial** – See above in Section I.B.2.
- 2. Selection Trial** – The Selection Trial will be held at Tryon International Equestrian Center in Tryon, NC May 11-13 2018. The schedule for the competition will be posted on the USEF website www.usef.org by no later than February 1, 2018. All horses in the Selection Trial must adhere to the FEI Equine Anti-Doping and controlled Medication Regulations as outlined in Section I.E.1 from the start of the Veterinary Inspection of the Selection Trial through the conclusion of the Trial.
 - a. No athlete may enter more than three (3) horses in the Selection Trial.

- b. There may be a rest day between Rounds One and Two of the Selection Trial.
- c. Only ties for 4th/5th place and 5th/6th place will be broken. Ties will be broken according to the following criteria in the order in which they are listed:
- All Judges' scores from Both Rounds will be tallied to determine the winner;
 - If there is still a tie, all Judges' scores from the Round Two will be tallied to determine the winner;
 - If there is still a tie, all Judges' scores from Round One will be tallied to determine the winner;
 - A tie-breaking Judge will be designated by draw under the supervision of the Chief Steward or Technical Delegate if appointed. The tie-breaking judge's name will not be communicated. The score of the tie-breaking Judge will decide.
 - If the athletes are still tied, A run off
 - If a tie in the Selection Trial placing still exists after the tie-breaking process described above, the USEF Reining Sport Committee, in consultation with the Chef d'Equipe will recommend the ranking of the tied athlete/horse combinations, for approval by the USEF Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the USEF Board of Directors.

The Selection Trial will be conducted in accordance with FEI Regulations and Rules for Reining Events. Both can be found at www.fei.org.

3. August 13, 2018: Short List/FEI Nominated Entry – Following the Selection Trial, but no later than the closing date for Nominated Entries August 13, 2018, and based upon the procedures set forth below, the USEF Reining Sport Committee, in consultation with the Chef d'Equipe and Team Veterinarian, will recommend five (5) athlete/horse combinations and up to the maximum number of horses and athletes (Substitutes) able to be nominated under FEI Rules for the Event for the "Short List/FEI Nominated Entry".

1. Athlete/horse combinations will be selected and ranked in the order of their final placing at the final Selection Trial, subject to a veterinary examination if requested.
2. The USEF Reining Sport Committee, in consultation with the Chef d'Equipe and Team Veterinarian, may use the below discretionary criteria to name the fifth and/or sixth Athlete/horse combination(s) to the Short List/FEI Nominated Entries thereby moving the other lower ranked combinations down one or two respective places in the ranking.
 - Perceived ability to win an Individual medal and contribute to a Team medal,
 - Scores at Reining competitions within the previous 6 months
 - Athlete's previous record at Championships, Games and high profile Reining competitions
 - Placing at the final Selection Trial if achieved,
 - Soundness of the horse,
 - The behavior of the athlete and people associated with the athlete (including, without limitation, owners and grooms) that may have an impact on creating a positive team environment.

Recommended nominated entries are subject to approval of the USEF Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection group approved by the Board of Directors. Such list will be submitted to the FEI as the Nominated Entry no later than the closing date for FEI Nominated Entries, August 13, 2018.

Selection of **Substitutes** for the Short List/FEI Nominated Entry - In addition to recommending the Short List/FEI Nominated Entry and based upon the procedures set forth herein, the USEF Reining Sport Committee, in consultation with the Chef d'Equipe and Team Veterinarian, will recommend that the

athlete/horse combinations that complete the Selection Trial that are not named to the Short List/FEI Nominated Entry be named as Substitute athlete/horse combinations in order of their final placing at the Selection Trial subject to the approval of the USEF Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection group approved by the Board of Directors.

Once the Short List/FEI Nominated Entry for the Event has been announced and prior to the deadline for the submission of the Short List/FEI Nominated Entry, athlete/horse combinations may be substituted with the substitute athlete/horse combinations for veterinary or medical reasons, or for breach of the USEF Code of Conduct, or for failure to sign the USEF Horse Loan Agreement, or for failure to comply with the USEF Safe Sport Policy, or other exceptional circumstances having a direct bearing upon obtaining the best qualified team for the Event, but only with the approval of the USEF Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the Board of Directors upon recommendation from the USEF Reining Sport Committee. Any substitutions for medical or veterinary reasons must also be documented by a physician(s) or veterinarian(s) and approved by the USEF Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc group approved by the Board of Directors. Please refer to Section III for further details regarding Substitute/Replacement of athletes.

Once athlete/horse combinations have been named to the Short List/FEI Nominated Entry they will come under the control of the Chef d'Equipe through the Event. They shall not compete without the permission of the Chef d'Equipe.

- 4. September 3, 2018 FEI Definite Entries** – After Submission of the FEI Nominated Entries, August 13, 2018, but no later than the closing date for the FEI Definite Entries for the Event, September 3, 2018, based upon the procedures set forth herein, the USEF Reining Sport Committee, in consultation with the Chef d'Equipe and Team Veterinarian, will recommend a team of four (4) athlete/horse combinations and one (1) individual athlete/horse combination from the Nominated Entries (“the Squad”) subject to approval of the USEF Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection group approved by the Board of Directors. Such list will be submitted to the FEI as the Definite Entry no later than the closing date for FEI Definite Entries, September 3, 2018.

In addition, the USEF Reining Sport Committee, in consultation with the Chef d'Equipe and Team Veterinarian, may recommend that athletes and horses remaining on the FEI Nominated Entries serve as Replacement athletes and horses for the Squad at the Event. These recommendations will also be subject to the approval of the Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the Board of Directors.

- 5. After acceptance of the Definite Entries and until one hour before the First Horse Inspection** – Substitutions will be done in accordance with FEI Regulations and in accordance with the criteria outlined in section III.B.3.
- 6. September 12, 2018; Declaration of Starters** – The declaration of starters will be done in accordance with FEI General Regulations [23rd Edition, updates effective 1 January 2017] Article 121.
- 7. After the Declaration of Starters** – Replacements will be done in accordance with FEI General Regulations [23rd edition, updates effective 1 January 2017] Article 121 and in accordance with the criteria outlined in section III.B.5.

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 Reining Sport Committee will oversee the selection process, which process shall be reviewed and recommended by the USEF International Discipline Council, and approved by

the USEF Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the Board of Directors. (See Attachment F 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 the 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 applicable discipline 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 throughout the selection period, which is defined as commencing on May 13, 2018, 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 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 Veterinary Panel appointed for the 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.

2. Soundness - Horses that are candidates for selection for the Event may be examined at any time during the selection process (which is defined as commencing on the application deadline, April 1, 2018) for soundness by the Team Veterinarian with the recommendation of the USEF Reining Sport Committee, and approved by the USEF Board of Directors. Horses found to be unsound by the Team Veterinarian may result in the elimination of the athlete/horse combination from the selection process, but only with the recommendation of the USEF Reining Sport Committee and 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, the veterinary records of horses being 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 being considered 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 being considered for selection. Failure to comply with any reasonable request of the Team Veterinarian may result in the removal of the horse and/or athlete from the selection process upon the recommendation of the Team Veterinarian and the USEF Reining Sport Committee, and approval by the USEF Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection group approved by the Board of Directors.
4. Veterinary Treatment - Once the Short List/FEI Nominated Entry/Squad is announced, by no later than August 13, 2018, and prior to the departure of the horses for the World Equestrian Games venue for the purpose of competing in the Event, athletes on the Short List/FEI Nominated Entry/Squad will be required to obtain written permission from the Team Veterinarian prior to Short Listed horses being treated by any person other than the Team Veterinarian. This permission must be obtained by using an official USEF Reining Veterinary Treatment Request Form (Attachment G).

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

II. REMOVAL OF ATHLETES

A. An athlete may be removed from the Short List/ FEI nominated Entries for any of the following reasons, as determined by the USEF and in accordance with the procedures:

- 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's Code of Conduct (Attachment C).
- Failure of an owner to sign the Horse Loan Agreement (Attachment B).
- Injury or illness of the horse as determined by the Team Veterinarian and/or Veterinary Panel. 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 recommendation of the Chef d'Equipe.
- Detection of a prohibited substance in the horse.
- Failure to adhere to all WADA, FEI, USEF and USADA anti-doping protocols, policies and procedures including participation in out-of-competition testing as required by the WADA, FEI, USADA Rules.
- Failure to comply with a request of the Team Veterinarian or with the USEF Reining 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 USEF Reining Sport Committee.
- Failure to adhere to the agreed upon plans and/or directives of the Chef d'Equipe.
- Failure to comply with the USEF Safe Sport Policy (Attachment E)
- Any other reason expressly written herein these Procedures.

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 III. SUBSTITUTION OF ATHLETE/HORSE COMBINATIONS.

An athlete removed from the Short List/Nominating Entry or Squad pursuant to this provision has the right to a hearing per USEF's Bylaws, Article 703 and USEF General Rules, Chapter 6, GR 605 or USOC Bylaws, Section 9.

B. An athlete may be removed from the FEI Definite Entries, Squad and/or Team at any time for the following reasons, as determined by the USEF in accordance with these procedures:

- Voluntary withdrawal. An athlete must submit a written letter to the USEF CEO.
- Violation of WADA, FEI, USEF, USADA anti-doping protocol, policies and procedures.
- Injury or illness as certified by a USEF approved physician (or medical staff)
- Injury or illness of the horse as determined by the Veterinary Panel and/or Team Veterinarian.
- Violation of the USEF Code of Conduct (Attachment C).
- Failure to comply with the USEF Safe Sport Policy (Attachment E)

C. An athlete may be removed from the Short List/FEI Nominated Entry, FEI Definite Entries, Squad, or Team at any time for violation of WADA, FEI, USEF, USADA anti-doping protocol, policies and procedures.

III. SUBSTITUTION/REPLACEMENT OF ATHLETES/HORSE COMBINATIONS

A. Following is the process by which the substitution/replacement pool of athlete/horse combinations will be identified: One or more substitute athlete/horse combinations will be named to the Short List/FEI Nominated Entry.

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: Once the Short List/FEI Nominated Entry for the Event has been announced and prior to the submission of the Nominated Entries (not later than August 13, 2018) Short List/FEI Nominated Entry athlete/horse combinations may be substituted with the substitute athlete/horse combinations in the order of the Nominated Entry as outlined in Section I.C.3 for veterinary or medical reasons, or for breach of the USEF Code of Conduct, or for failure to sign the USEF Horse Loan Agreement, or for Failure to comply with the USEF Safe Sport Policy or other 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 with the majority vote of the USEF Reining Sport Committee and the USEF Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the Board of Directors. Any substitutions for medical or veterinary reasons must also be documented by a physician(s) or veterinarian(s) respectively approved by the International Disciplines Council.
2. Prior to acceptance of the FEI Definite Entries: Once the Squad and substitutes for the Event have been announced and prior to the closing date for FEI Definite Entries, Squad members may only be substituted with substitute athlete/horse combinations as outlined in Section I.C.3 for veterinary or medical reasons, or for breach of the USEF Code of Conduct, or for failure to sign the USEF Horse Loan Agreement, or for failure to comply with the USEF Safe Sport Policy or other 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 Chef de Mission and with the majority vote of the USEF Reining Sport Committee, USEF Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the Board of Directors if time permits. Any substitutions for medical or veterinary reasons must also be documented by a physician(s) or veterinarian(s) respectively approved by the International Disciplines Council.
3. After acceptance of the FEI Definite Entries and until one (1) hour before the First Horse Inspection: After acceptance of the FEI Definite Entries and until one (1) hour before the First Horse Inspection, the USEF has the ability to recommend to the FEI to replace athlete/horse combinations on the FEI Definite Entries for reasons set forth in Section II. B. During this time period, Squad members may only be replaced as outlined in Section I.C.3. Replacements may only be made by the FEI in accordance with the FEI rules for Reining Events, [5th Edition, updates effective 1 January 2017] Article 310.4, for veterinary or medical reasons, or for breach of the USEF Code of Conduct, upon the recommendation of the Chef d'Equipe, approval of the Chef de Mission and subject to the approval of the USEF Reining Sport Committee members physically present at the competition site.
4. Declaration of Starters:
Once at the Event venue, and after the first horse inspection, the Chef d'Equipe will declare the Team of four (4) athlete/horse combinations and one (1) individual athlete/horse combination that will compete. The Team/Individuals declared will be the same as those originally announced. Any substitutions must be approved by the Chef d'Equipe and with the majority vote of the combined membership of the USEF Reining Sport Committee physically present at the competition site. Any substitutions for veterinary reasons must also be approved by the Team Veterinarian physically present at the competition site. Any substitutions for medical reasons must also be documented by a physician(s) approved by the International Disciplines Council.

5. After the Declaration of Starters and up to two (2) hours before the First Competition: After the first horse inspection and up to two (2) hours before the scheduled starting time of the first competition, the USEF has the ability to recommend to the FEI to replace athlete/horse combinations on the FEI Definite Entries for reasons set forth in Section II. B. During this time, Team members may only be replaced with an Individual Combination as described in I.C. Replacements may only be made in accordance with FEI General Regulations 23rd Edition, Article 121, for veterinary or medical reasons, upon the recommendation of the Chef d'Equipe, approval of the Chef de Mission and the USEF Reining Sport Committee physically present at the venue, if time and circumstance permit.

Any replacement for veterinary reasons must also have the recommendation of the Team Veterinarian.

Any replacement for medical reasons must be documented by a physician(s) recommended by the USEF International Disciplines Council.

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

1. Group or committee who determine the substitution/replacement pool: USEF Reining Sport Committee, the USEF International Discipline Council and the Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the Board of Directors (Attachment F).
2. Group or committee who determine a substitution/replacement to the Short List/ Nominated Entries, Team and/ or individuals:
 - a. Prior to acceptance of nominations by the FEI: USEF Reining Sport Committee, and the Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the Board of Directors (Attachment F).
 - b. After acceptance of nominations by the FEI: USEF Reining Sport Committee and the Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the Board of Directors (Attachment F).
 - c. After arrival at the Competition Venue: Members of the groups and committees listed in IV.C.2.b. above who are physically present at the Venue. See IV.C.2.b. above.
 - d. After the First Horse Inspection: See IV.C.2.c. above.

IV. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS – USEF will retain all approved Selection Procedures and all supporting documents, including evaluation forms and data from the selection process for at least six months following the date of the Closing Ceremonies of the Event.

V. 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)
- USEF Safe Sport Policy (Attachment E)

Applicants and horse owners will be required to certify that they have received and read a copy of the USEF Code of Conduct and that they understand the document.

In addition, all persons participating in any decision made pursuant to the Selection Procedures including but not limited to the Team Veterinarian, Physicians, members of the USEF Reining Sport Committee, USEF International Discipline Council, 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 H).

Reference is made to the attached USEF Code of Ethics and Conflict of Interest Policies for a full and accurate statement of the requirements of that policy. In particular, however, no individual may participate in a particular phase of the selection process if, after full disclosure, the individual is found by the audit committee to have a disqualifying conflict of interest in the particular phase of the selection process in question per the attached USEF Code of Ethics and Conflict of Interest Policies.

VI. ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS – Applicants will be required to read the USEF Athlete Agreement (Attachment I) and are requested to sign this document.

VII. PUBLICITY/DISTRIBUTION OF PROCEDURES – The USEF approved Selection Procedures (complete and unaltered) will be posted/published by USEF in the following locations and will include the USEF approval date when known:

- USEF website - www.usef.org - These procedures will be posted as soon as possible, but not more than 5 business days following approval by the USEF.
- Other: the Selection Procedures and Application Packet will also be available on the USEF's website www.usef.org and by mail upon request.

VIII. DATE OF NOMINATION – The FEI Nominated Entries will be submitted to the FEI no later than August 13, 2018.

IX. MANDATORY TRAINING AND/OR COMPETITION - Notice of location, schedule and duration of mandatory outing(s) and/or mandatory training will be posted on the USEF website (www.usef.org) no later than 40 days prior to any mandatory outing(s) and/or mandatory training.

A Short Listed athlete/horse combination that is not able to attend the mandatory training sessions because of veterinary, medical, or family emergencies or for logistical reasons may request special consideration for selection by submitting a written request prior to the mandatory training sessions to the USEF Reining Sport Committee who will approve or disapprove the request based on the circumstances, facts, and, in the case of illness or injury to horse or athlete, documentation by the Team Veterinarian or physician(s) approved by the International Disciplines Council.

X. ANTI-DOPING REQUIREMENTS – Athletes must adhere to all WADA, FEI, USEF, USADA protocols, policies and procedures. This includes participation in out-of-competition testing as required by WADA, FEI, USADA Rules, and as stated in these Selection Procedures.

XI. DEVELOPMENT OF SELECTION PROCEDURES – The following committees/groups were responsible for creating these Selection Procedures: USEF Reining Sport Committee, the International Discipline Committee and the USEF Board of Directors. See Attachment F for list of USEF committees, their roles, and list of members.

XII. USEF BYLAWS AND GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES – The USEF Bylaws and Grievance Procedures can be found on the USEF's website www.usef.org.

XIII. INTERNATIONAL DISCLAIMER – These procedures are based on 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 selection procedures 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.

XIV. ATHLETE OMBUDSMAN – Athletes who have questions regarding their opportunity to compete that are not answered by USEF may contact the USOC Athlete Ombudsman, Kacie Wallace, by:

- Telephone at (719) 866-5000
- Toll-free telephone at (888) ATHLETE (1-888-284-5383)
- E-mail at kacie.wallace@usoc.org
- www.athleteombudsman.org

XV. FUNDING DISCLAIMER - Selection to the Team does not guarantee that funds will be available to send a team.

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

XVII. 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.

XVIII.

Position	Print Name	Sign	Date
USEF President	Murray Kessler		11/14/17
USEF Reining Sport Committee	Pete Kyle		2/21/17

Any questions regarding these Selection Procedures should be addressed to Bryn Wells, USEF Director, Reining High Performance Programs, United States Equestrian Federation, 4047 Iron Works Parkway, Lexington, KY 40511, Phone (859) 225-6948 cell (575) 644-5659, [Email: bwells@usef.org](mailto:bwells@usef.org).

Approved by the USEF Reining Sport Committee on: 2/21/17

Approved by the USEF IDC on: 10/17/17

DEFINITIONS

SUBSTITUTE –Substituting an athlete/horse combination prior to the submittal of the FEI Definite Entries.

REPLACEMENT – Replacing an athlete/horse combination after the FEI Definite Entries have been submitted.