

**UNITED STATES EQUESTRIAN FEDERATION, INC.**  
**SELECTION PROCEDURES**  
**2018 World Equestrian Games**  
**SHOW JUMPING**  
**Tryon, North Carolina, USA**

**I. SELECTION SYSTEM**

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

- 1. Nationality Requirements:** The athlete must be a U.S. citizen and in compliance with the FEI General Regulations [23<sup>rd</sup> Edition, 1 January 2009, updates effective 1 January 2017] Article 119 at the time of application, selection, and through the conclusion of the 2018 FEI World Equestrian Games (“the Event”).
  
- 2. Minimum International Federation (IF) standards for participation:**
  - a. All athletes and horses wishing to compete on the 2018 World Equestrian Games Show Jumping Team (“Team”) must earn a FEI Certificate of Capability in accordance with the FEI World Equestrian Games 2018 – Qualification Procedures [updated 17 October 2017] Article 305. The rules and a list of qualifying events can be found on the FEI website, <http://inside.fei.org/fei/fei-weg/2018>.
  - b. The athlete must have been born on or before 31 December, 2000 (eighteen (18) years of age in the year of the World Equestrian Games). (See FEI World Equestrian Games 2018 – Qualification Procedures [updated 17 October 2017] Article 305.2).
  - c. A horse must be born on or before 31 December, 2009 (nine (9) years of age - the age being counted from 1 January of the year of birth). (See FEI World Equestrian Games 2018 – Qualification Procedures [updated 17 October 2017] Article 305.1).
  - d. The athlete and horse must be registered with the FEI.
  - e. The athlete and horse must comply with FEI Rules for the Event.
  
- 3. Other Requirements:**
  - a. The athlete must be a member of the United States Equestrian Federation (“USEF”).
  - b. The horse must be recorded with USEF pursuant to USEF GR1102.
  - c. Application – Athletes wishing to be considered for the Team must complete and submit an online Application (Attachment A) with the appropriate application fee at [www.usequestrian.org](http://www.usequestrian.org).  
**PHASE I Application Deadline-** Athletes in consideration for selection to the Short List (see Section I.B.2.a) based on the December 15, 2017 Rolex/USEF Show Jumping Average Ranking List must complete and submit an online Application on or before **December 18, 2017**. Applications submitted online on or before **December 18, 2017** will be charged \$70 per Application. Applications for Phase I Selection for the Short List will not be accepted after December 18, 2017.  
**PHASE II Application Deadline-** Athletes wishing to be considered for the Short List based on the criteria outlined in Phase II Selection for the Short List– Section I.B.2.b must complete and submit an online Application on or before **April 2, 2018**. Applications and fees submitted online on or before April 2, 2018 will be charged \$70 per Application. Applications and fees submitted online after April 2, 2018 and received by USEF on or before April 9, 2018 will be charged an application fee of \$300 per Application. **NO APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER APRIL 9, 2018.**
  - d. Horse Loan Agreement: Owners of horses named to the Short List (See I.B.2) 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.
  - e. 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 Team, the USEF Code of Conduct (Attachment C), the USEF Release, Assumption of Risk, Waiver and Indemnification (Attachment D), 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. **Provided below are the event names, dates and location of all trials, events and camps to be used as part of the selection process:** It is anticipated that approximately 10 athletes and their approved horse(s) will compete at designated Observations Events between May 1, 2018 and August 13, 2018. The designated Observation Events will be published on [www.usequestrian/jumping.org](http://www.usequestrian/jumping.org) no later than April 1, 2018.
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 trials, events or camps listed above in B. 1 (if any):** The below information was communicated to potential Event applicants and published on the USEF’s website on May 31, 2017 (Attachment F).
  - a. **Phase I for Short List Selection: Rolex/USEF Show Jumping “Average Ranking List”-** On or about December 20, 2017, the Chef d’Equipe, in consultation with the Advisors, will recommend that the four (4) highest ranked athletes and their horse(s)\* (see Note 1) on the December 15, 2017 Rolex/USEF Show Jumping “Average Ranking List” (see [www.usequestrian/jumping.org](http://www.usequestrian/jumping.org)) be named to the “Short List” provided that the athlete and horse(s) have met the application requirements set forth in Section I.A above. Such list is subject to the approval of the USEF Sport Committee or its designees.

The Average Ranking List is published monthly on the U.S. Jumping Ranking List program page at [usequestrian.org/jumping](http://usequestrian.org/jumping).

If any of the four (4) highest ranked athletes on the December 15, 2017 Rolex/USEF Show Jumping Ranking List are unavailable, withdrawn or removed for any reason, this vacancy will be filled according to one of the selection methods outlined below in Section I.B.2.b.

- b. **Phase II for Short List Selection:** By no later than April 25, 2018, the Chef d’Equipe, in consultation with the Advisors, will recommend a minimum of six (6) additional athletes and their horse(s)\* (see Note 1) to the Short List. The Short List in total will be comprised of a minimum of ten (10) athletes and their horse(s). The Short List is subject to the recommendation of the USEF Jumping Sport Committee or its designees and the approval of the USEF Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the USEF Board of Directors.

The athletes recommended to the Short List during Phase II of the selection process will be selected according to the following method:

- i. **Rolex/USEF Show Jumping Ranking “Horse List” - April 6, 2018:** The three (3) highest ranked athletes on the April 6, 2018 Rolex/USEF Show Jumping Ranking “Horse List” who have not already been selected to the Short List will be recommended to the Short List provided that the athlete and horse(s) have met the application requirements in Section I.A.

The Horse List is published weekly and is available on the U.S. Jumping Ranking List program page at [usequestrian.org/jumping](http://usequestrian.org/jumping).

- ii. **World Cup Final – Paris, FRA April 12-15, 2018:** The highest placed U.S. athlete in the Final Overall Standing of the 2018 World Cup Final, who has not already been selected to the Short List, will be recommended for the Short List provided that the athlete finished in the top 10 of the Final Overall Standings of the 2018 World Cup Final and that the athlete and horse(s) have met the application requirements in Section I.A.

If the highest placed U.S. athlete in the Final Overall Standings of the 2018 World Cup Final, who has not already been selected to the Short List, is not within the top 10 of the Final Overall

Standings, the selection for this Short List position will be based on the April 20, 2018 Rolex/USEF Show Jumping Ranking "Horse List".

- iii. **Discretionary Selection:** The Chef d'Equipe in consultation with the Advisors will use discretion to recommend two (2) athletes to the Short List provided that the athlete and horse(s) have met the application requirements in Section I.A. The Chef d'Equipe may utilize his discretionary selection positions at any time but by no later than April 25, 2018.

The Chef d'Equipe and Advisors, in evaluating athletes and horses for discretionary selection purposes, will take into account the following criteria:

1. Current ability of the athlete and horse to meet the standards of the Event.
2. Overall performance of the athlete and horse with emphasis on:
  - a) 2017/2018 Nations Cup and Grand Prix Show Jumping competitions;
  - b) The ability to compete without incurring jumping and/or time penalties at the highest level of course difficulty, as well as a record of having done so on a consistent basis;
  - c) Previous international experience, including the demonstrated ability of the horse and/or athlete to succeed in either FEI or High Performance Level Grand Prix Show Jumping competitions within the past 2-3 years;
  - d) The ability to contribute to a medal winning team medal; and/or win an individual medal the Event;
  - e) A record of successfully jumping over a variety of types of international level courses, and in particular over courses that included a water jump and tested for carefulness, scope and rideability; and
  - f) The ability to jump international level courses within the Time Allowed.
3. The fitness and soundness of the horse.
4. The fitness of the athlete to maximize the performance of the horse.

For further explanation of terms used above, see page 16 "Definitions."

**Note 1:** \*There is no limit on the number of horses per athlete named to the Short List; however, all horses must have met the application requirements in Section I.A and are subject to approval. The Chef d'Equipe and Advisors in evaluating horses to be named to the Short List will take into account the criteria outlined in Section I.B.2.b.iii. For Phase I Short List Selection, it is possible for an athlete to request to be considered with an additional horse(s) after the athlete has been named to the Short List in December 2017. For Phase II Short List Selection, it is possible for an athlete to request to be considered with an additional horse(s) after the athlete has submitted an application. Athletes wishing to be considered with additional horses must indicate this request in writing to Lizzy Chesson, USEF Managing Director, Show Jumping Programs no later than Monday, April 16, 2016. Exception: See Section I.C.2.

The athletes named to the Short List will NOT be ranked at the time they are named to the Short List. The list will be approved and listed in alphabetical order using the name of the athlete.

- c. **Communication with Chef d'Equipe and Team Veterinarian:** Once named to the Short List, athletes must be in direct communication with the Chef d'Equipe with regard to the preparation, fitness and competition schedule of themselves and their horse(s).

In addition, all horses named to the Short List may undergo a baseline exam with the Team Veterinarian and/or a member of the Veterinary Panel at any time between selection and departure for

the Event. The Team Veterinarian and the athlete's veterinarian must be in communication regarding the soundness and preparation of the Short Listed horse(s).

Failure to adhere to the agreed upon plans and/or directives of the Chef d'Equipe and/or Team Veterinarian may result in the removal of the athlete and horse(s) from the selection process. (See Section III).

- d. Substitutes for the Short List:** On or about April 25, 2018, the Chef d'Equipe in consultation with the Advisors will recommend up to five (5) athletes and their horse(s)\* (see Note 1) as Substitutes to the Short List. The Substitutes to the Short List are subject to the recommendation of the USEF Jumping Sport Committee or its designees and the approval of the USEF Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the USEF Board of Directors.

The Substitutes to the Short List will be recommended as follows:

- i. Rolex/USEF Show Jumping Ranking "Horse List" - April 20, 2018: Up to the three (3) highest ranked athletes on the April 20, 2018 Rolex/USEF Show Jumping Ranking "Horse List", who have not already been named to the Short List may be recommended as Substitutes to the Short List provided that the athlete and horse(s) have met the application requirements in Section I.A.
- ii. Discretionary Selection: The Chef d'Equipe in consultation with the Advisors may use discretion to recommend no more than two (2) athletes as Substitutes to the Short List provided that the athlete and horse(s) have met the application requirements in Section I.A.

The Chef d'Equipe and Advisors, in evaluating athletes and horses for discretionary selection purposes, will take into account the criteria outlined in Section I.B.2.b.iii.

The athletes named as Substitutes to the Short List will NOT be ranked at the time they are named as Substitutes to the Short List. The list will be approved and listed in alphabetical order using the name of the athlete.

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

1. **CSIO/CSI Observation Events for the Short List:** The athletes and their horse(s) named to the Short List will compete at designated CSIO/CSI observation events. The Chef d'Equipe in consultation with the Advisors will recommend the athletes for each designated CSIO/CSI observation event subject to the recommendation of the USEF Jumping Sport Committee or its designees and the approval of the USEF Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the USEF Board of Directors.

The designated CSIO/CSI observation events will be published on [usequestrian.org/jumping](http://usequestrian.org/jumping) no later than April 1, 2018.

To remain eligible for selection for the Event, the athletes and horse(s) named to the Short List are required to participate at their assigned CSIO/CSI observation event(s), except as noted below.

Subject to the approval of the Chef d'Equipe and USEF Jumping Sport Committee or its designees, an athlete and their horse(s) that is not able to compete a CSIO/CSI designated observation event(s) because of veterinary, medical, or family emergencies or for logistical reasons, may request special consideration for selection by submitting a written request to Lizzy Chesson, USEF Managing Director, Jumping Programs. The Chef d'Equipe will consult with the Advisors and will recommend to 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 a physician(s) approved by the USEF. In the event the Chef

d'Equipe disapproves the applicant's request, the athlete and their horse(s) must compete in the designated CSIO/CSI observation event(s) or they may no longer be considered for selection.

2. **Additions to the Short List:** Prior to submission of the FEI Definite Entries (September 10, 2018), the Chef d'Equipe, in consultation with the Advisors, may use discretion to recommend that up to one (1) additional horse may be named to the Short List with one of the athletes originally named to the Short List on or about April 25, 2018. This recommendation is subject to the recommendation of the USEF Jumping Sport Committee or its designees and the approval of the USEF Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the USEF Board of Directors. The Chef d'Equipe and Advisors, when evaluating such horses will take into account the criteria outlined in Section I.B.2.b.iii. Horses in consideration must meet the application requirements in Section I.A.

In addition, prior to submission of the FEI Definite Entries (September 10, 2018), the Chef d'Equipe, in consultation with the Advisors, may use discretion to recommend that one (1) athlete/horse combination may be named to the Short List who was not originally named to the Short List on or about April 25, 2018. This recommendation is subject to the recommendation of the USEF Jumping Sport Committee or its designees and the approval of the USEF Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the USEF Board of Directors. The Chef d'Equipe and Advisors, when evaluating such combinations will take into account the criteria outlined in Section I.B.2.b.iii. Athletes and horses in consideration must meet the application requirements in Section I.A.

3. **August 13, 2018: FEI Nominated Entries** –By no later than the closing date for the FEI Nominated Entries for the Event, August 13, 2018, the Chef d'Equipe, in consultation with the Advisors, will evaluate the athletes and horses named to the Short List and as Substitutes to the Short List and recommend a minimum of five (5) athletes and their horse(s) and up to the maximum number of athletes and horses permitted according to the FEI Rules [ten (10) athletes and twenty (20) horses] for the FEI Nominated Entries for the Event subject to the recommendation of the USEF Jumping Sport Committee or its designees, and the approval of the USEF Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the USEF Board of Directors.

The Chef d'Equipe and Advisors, when evaluating athletes and horses will take into account the criteria outlined in Section I.B.2.b.iii. as well as the demonstrated ability of the athletes and horses at the designated CSIO/CSI observation events. Such list will be submitted to the FEI as the FEI Nominated Entries by no later than midnight CET, August 13, 2018.

The athletes named to the FEI Nominated Entries will NOT be ranked at the time they are named to the FEI Nominated Entries. The list will be approved and listed in alphabetical order using the name of the athlete.

4. **September 10, 2018: FEI Definite Entries**– After submission of the FEI Nominated Entries, August 13, 2018, but by no later than the closing date for the FEI Definite Entries for the Event, September 10, 2018, the Chef d'Equipe, in consultation with the Advisors, will evaluate the athletes and horses submitted on the FEI Nominated Entries and recommend the “Squad” which consists of up to the maximum of five (5) athletes and ten (10) horses subject to the recommendation of the USEF Jumping Sport Committee or its designees, and the approval of the Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the Board of Directors.

The Chef d'Equipe and Advisors, when evaluating athletes and horses for the Squad will take into account the criteria outlined in Section I.B.2.b.iii., the demonstrated ability of the athletes and horses at the designated CSIO/CSI observation events as well as the willingness of the athlete to work within the confines of the World Equestrian Games / FEI Accreditation allocations and restrictions. Such list will be submitted to the FEI as the FEI Definite Entries by no later than September 10, 2018.

- 5. After acceptance of the FEI Definite Entries and until one hour before the First Horse Inspection –** After acceptance of the FEI Definite Entries and until one hour before the First Horse Inspection, the Squad will be the same as originally approved at the time of the FEI Definite Entries unless a Replacement is made. (See FEI Rules for Jumping Championships and Games [25<sup>th</sup> Edition, 1 January 2017 – updates effective 5 May 2017] Article 303 and the criteria outlined in IV.B.3).
  
- 6. Date TBD, 2018 Declaration of Starters –** By no later than the assigned time for the declaration of starters, TBD, the Chef d'Equipe, will evaluate the horses and athletes on the Squad and will name the Team of four (4) athlete/horse combinations that will compete at the Event as well as the fifth athlete and/or horse that will serve as the Traveling Reserve. The Chef d'Equipe when evaluating athletes and horses on the Squad will base their evaluations on the factors outlined in Section I.C.2.c as well as the demonstrated ability of the athletes and horses at the designated CSIO/CSI observations events.

**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 Show Jumping Chef d'Equipe, and USEF Show Jumping Sport Committee or its designees will oversee the selection process, which process shall be reviewed and approved by USEF Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the USEF Board of Directors (Attachment G 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 at least one member of the USEF Show Jumping 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 April 25, 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 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 and Fitness:** Horses that are candidates for selection may be examined at any time during the selection process through the conclusion of the Event by the Team Veterinarian or a member of the Veterinary Panel. Horses found to be unsound and/or unfit by the Team Veterinarian or a member of the Veterinary Panel may be eliminated from the Selection Process but only with the recommendation of the Chef d'Equipe, USEF Jumping Sport Committee or its designees, and the approval of the USEF Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the USEF Board of Directors.

All horses named to the Short List may undergo a baseline exam with the Team Veterinarian and/or a member of the Veterinary Panel at any time between selection and departure for the Event. The Team Veterinarian and the athlete's veterinarian must be in communication regarding the soundness and preparation of the Short Listed horse(s).

- 3. Team Veterinarian Request:** Applicants, **at their own expense**, shall make available, upon the request of the Team Veterinarian, 24 months' worth of veterinary records of horses under consideration 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 horse and/or athlete from the selection process by the Chef d'Equipe and Advisors upon the recommendation of the Team Veterinarian and the USEF Jumping Sport Committee or its designees, and the approval of the USEF Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the Board of Directors.
- 4. Veterinary Treatment:** Once a horse(s) is named to the Short List, FEI Nominated Entries or FEI Definite Entries all selected athletes will be required to obtain written permission from the Team Veterinarian prior to their selected horses being treated by any person other than the Team Veterinarian.

This permission must be obtained by using the official USEF Show Jumping Veterinary Treatment Request Form (Attachment H).

Failure to adhere to this policy and/or the directives of the Team Veterinarian as outlined on the USEF Show Jumping Veterinary Treatment Request Form may result in the removal of horse and/or athlete from the selection process by the Chef d' Equipe and the Advisors upon the recommendation of the Team Veterinarian and the USEF Jumping Sport Committee or its designees, and 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 physician(s) approved by the USEF 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 Chef d' Equipe and Advisors upon the recommendation of the USEF approved physicians(s) and USEF Jumping Sport Committee or its designees, and the approval of the 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 may be removed from the selection process pending the review of the USEF Jumping Sport Committee or its designees, and the approval of the 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 explain 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 Show Jumping Chef d'Equipe
- USEF Show Jumping Team Veterinarian
- USEF Show Jumping Veterinary Panel
- USEF Jumping Sport Committee or its designees
- USEF Board of Directors or Ad Hoc Selection Group

2. **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 G for list of USEF committees, their roles, and list of members.

**Advisors:** Three (3) individuals (the "Advisors") will be appointed by the USEF International Discipline Council upon the recommendation of the USEF Jumping Sport Committee. The Advisors are subject to the USEF Code of Conduct (Attachment C) and Code of Ethics and Conflict of Interest (Attachment I) and Safe Sport policies of the USEF (Attachment E) The Advisors are Senior Active Members in good standing of USEF, who are also members of the Show Jumping community and who are knowledgeable and experienced in Show Jumping at the international level.

The Advisors will serve in an advisory capacity to the Chef d'Equipe and the Chef d'Equipe will make recommendations to the USEF Jumping Sport Committee or its designees based on his consultation with the Advisors, the Team Veterinarian and when appropriate, the Veterinary Panel.

A minimum of two (2) Replacement Advisors 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.

**Veterinary Panel:** A list of veterinarians approved by USEF.

**Ad Hoc Selection Group:** The Ad Hoc Selection Group will be 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. An athlete may be removed from the Short List and/or the FEI Nominated Entries for any of the following reasons, as determined by USEF and in accordance with these 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 the horse 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, in consultation with the Chef d'Equipe.
- 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 the out-of-competition testing as required by the WADA, FEI, and/or USADA Rules.
- Failure to comply with a request of the Team Veterinarian and/or member of the Veterinary Panel or with the USEF Show Jumping Veterinary Treatment Request Form protocols (Attachment H).
- 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).

In these procedures, the removal of an athlete is closely related to the process by which they will be substituted/replaced. Therefore, the reasons for which an athlete may be removed are thoroughly addressed in Section IV. SUBSTITUTION/REPLACEMENT OF ATHLETE AND/OR HORSE.

An athlete removed from the Short List and/or FEI Nominated Entries pursuant to this provision has the right to a hearing per the 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 any of the following reasons, as determined by the USEF and in accordance with these procedures:**

- Voluntary withdrawal. An athlete must submit a written letter to the USEF CEO.

- Violation of WADA, FEI, USEF, and/or USADA 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 a majority of 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 Entries, Squad, or Team, at any time for violation of WADA, FEI, USEF, and/or USADA anti-doping protocol, policies and procedures (See III A and B above).**

**IV. SUBSTITUTION/REPLACEMENT OF ATHLETES AND HORSES**

**A. Following is the process by which the substitution/replacement pool of athletes and horses will be identified:** The list of athletes and horses on the Short List and the Substitutes to the Short List and then the FEI Nominated Entries will comprise the pool of substitute/replacement athletes and horses.

**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 for the Event has been named and prior to the submission of the FEI Nominated Entries (August 13, 2018), the USEF has the ability to substitute athletes and/or horses on the Short List for the reasons set forth in Section III. A.

To fill openings, if they occur, the Chef d'Equipe, in consultation with the Advisors will evaluate the athletes and horses named to the Short List as well as Substitutes to the Short List and may recommend that a substitution be made. In addition, the Chef d'Equipe, in consultation with the Advisors, has the discretion to substitute athletes and/or horses between designated CSIO/CSI events or from the list of Substitutes to the Short List. The Chef d'Equipe and Advisors when evaluating athletes and horses will take into account the criteria outlined in Section I.B.2.b.iii.

Any substitution other than voluntary withdrawal must be upon the recommendation of the Chef d'Equipe, the USEF Jumping Sport Committee or its designees and the approval of the USEF Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the USEF Board of Directors.

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.

- 2. After submission of FEI Nominated Entries and prior to acceptance of the FEI Definite Entries:** After the FEI Nominated Entries (August 13, 2018) have been submitted and prior to acceptance of the FEI Definite Entries (September 10, 2018), substitutions will be done in accordance with the FEI Rules for Jumping Championships and Games [25<sup>th</sup> Edition, 1 January 2017 – updates effective 5 May 2017] Article 303 and the criteria outlined in IV.B.3) Article 303.

To fill openings, if they occur, the Chef d'Equipe, in consultation with the Advisors, will evaluate the athletes and horses named on the Short List as well as Substitutes to the Short List and may recommend that a substitution be made. These recommendations are subject to recommendation of the USEF Jumping Sport Committee or its designees, and the approval of the USEF Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the Board of Directors. The Chef d'Equipe and Advisors when evaluating

athletes and horses will take into account the criteria outlined in Section I.B.2.b.iii., the demonstrated ability of the athletes and horses at the designated CSIO/CSI observation events.

Any substitution for veterinary reasons other than voluntary withdrawal must be upon the recommendation of the Chef d'Equipe and must also have the approval of the Team Veterinarian and when appropriate the Veterinary Panel.

Any substitution for medical reasons must be documented by a physician(s) who is approved by the USEF.

**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, athletes and/or horses on the FEI Definite Entries may be replaced for reasons set forth in Section III.B. During this time period, horses on the Squad may be replaced with other horses on the Squad or on the FEI Nominated Entries and athletes on the Squad may only be replaced with athletes on the FEI Nominated Entries. Replacements may only be made by recommendation of the Chef d'Equipe and approval by the Show Jumping Team Leader and the U.S. Equestrian Chef de Mission and in accordance with FEI Rules for Jumping Championships and Games [25<sup>th</sup> Edition, 1 January 2017 – updates effective 5 May 2017] Article 303 and/or for reasons set forth in Section III.B.

To fill openings, if they occur, the Chef d'Equipe, will evaluate the athletes and horses named to the Squad and the FEI Nominated Entries and may recommend that a replacement be made. The Chef d'Equipe when evaluating athletes and horses will take into account the criteria outlined in Section I.B.2.b.iii, the demonstrated ability of the athletes and horses at the designated CSIO/CSI observation events as well as the willingness of the athlete to work within the confines of the World Equestrian Games Accreditation allocations and restrictions.

Any replacement for veterinary reasons must be upon the recommendation of the Chef d'Equipe and must also have the approval of the Team Veterinarian and when appropriate the Veterinary Panel.

Any replacement for medical reasons must be documented by a physician(s) who is approved by the USEF.

**4. After the First Horse Inspection and prior to the Declaration of Starters:**

After the First Horse Inspection and prior to the Declaration of Starters, athletes and/or horses may be replaced for reasons set forth in Section III. B. During this time period, Squad members may only be replaced with other athletes/horses on the Squad. However, the reason for the replacement must only be because either, the athlete is unfit to compete due to injury or illness or there is a strong veterinary case for replacement or the performance of the Team member has dropped off to such an extent that for the success of the Team a replacement is vital. The latter situation will almost certainly occur as a result of a veterinary problem which it may or may not be possible to define given the time/resources available at the time. Replacements may only be made by recommendation of the Chef d'Equipe, with approval of the Show Jumping Team Leader and U.S. Equestrian Chef de Mission, and in accordance with the FEI Rules for Jumping Championships and Games [25<sup>th</sup> Edition, 1 January 2017 – updates effective 5 May 2017] Article 304 or for reasons set forth in Section III.B.

Any replacement for veterinary reasons must be upon the recommendation of the Chef d'Equipe and must also have the approval of the Team Veterinarian. Any replacement for medical reasons must be documented by a physician(s) physically present at the Event approved by the USEF.

**5. After the Declaration of Starters and up to one hour before the start of the First Competition:** After the Declaration of Starters and up to one (1) hour before the start of the First Competition, athletes and/or

horses may be replaced for reasons set forth in Section III. B. During this time period, Team members may only be replaced with the Traveling Reserve. However, the reason for the replacement must only be because either, the athlete is unfit to compete due to injury or illness or there is a strong veterinary case for replacement or the performance of the Team member has dropped off to such an extent that for the success of the Team a replacement is vital. The latter situation will almost certainly occur as a result of a veterinary problem which it may or may not be possible to define given the time/resources available at the time. Replacements may only be made by recommendation of the Chef d'Equipe, with approval of the Show Jumping Team Leader and U.S. Equestrian Chef de Mission, and in accordance with the FEI Rules for Jumping Championships and Games [25<sup>th</sup> Edition, 1 January 2017 – updates effective 5 May 2017] Article 304 or for reasons set forth in Section III.B.

Any replacement for veterinary reasons must be upon the recommendation of the Chef d'Equipe and must also have the approval of the Team Veterinarian. Any replacement for medical reasons must be documented by a physician(s) physically present at the Event approved by the USEF.

**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 Show Jumping Chef d'Equipe, USEF Show Jumping Team Veterinarian, USEF Show Jumping Veterinary Panel, USEF Jumping Sport Committee or its designees, and the Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the Board of Directors (Attachment G).
- 2. Group or committee who determines a substitution/replacement to the Team:**
  - a. Prior to acceptance of nominations by the FEI:** USEF Show Jumping Chef d'Equipe, USEF Show Jumping Team Veterinarian, USEF Show Jumping Veterinary Panel (if applicable), USEF Jumping Sport Committee or its designees, and the Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the Board of Directors.
  - b. After the acceptance of the FEI Definite Entries:** U.S. Equestrian Chef de Mission, Show Jumping Team Leader, Chef d'Equipe and 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)

Applicants and horse owners will be required to certify that they have received and read a copy of the USEF Code of Conduct and Safe Sport Policy 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 Advisors, members of the Veterinary Panel, Physicians, members of the USEF Jumping Sport Committee or its designees, International Discipline Council, and the 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, Conflict of Interest Policy (Attachment I) and USEF Safe Sport Policy and that they understand them and agree to be bound by them.

**VII. ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS** - Applicants will be required to read the USEF Athlete Agreement (Attachment J 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 U.S. Equestrian in the following locations and will include the USEF approval date when known:

- US Equestrian website: [www.usequestrian.org](http://www.usequestrian.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 by mail or email upon request.

**IX. DATE OF NOMINATION** - The FEI Nominated Entries will be submitted to the FEI no later than midnight CET August 13, 2018. The FEI Definite Entries will be submitted to the FEI no later than CET September 10, 2018.

**X. MANDATORY TRAINING AND/OR COMPETITION** – Notice of location, schedule and duration of competitions and final preparation will be communicated to the Short Listed Athletes by no later than July 1, 2018.

**XI. ANTI-DOPING REQUIREMENTS** - Athletes must adhere to all WADA, FEI, and USADA anti-doping protocols, policies and procedures. This includes participation in out-of-competition testing as required by the WADA, FEI, and/or USADA Rules, if applicable.

**XII. DEVELOPMENT OF SELECTION PROCEDURES** - The following committees/groups were responsible for creating these Selection Procedures: USEF Jumping Sport Committee, USEF International Discipline Council and the USEF Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the Board of Directors.

**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 USEF and/or FEI rules and regulations as presently known and understood. Any change in the selection procedures caused by a change in IOC, IPC, 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 USEF.

**XV. 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
- Email at [kacie.wallance@usoc.org](mailto:kacie.wallance@usoc.org)
- [athleteombudsman.org](http://athleteombudsman.org)

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

**XVII. DISCLAIMER** - 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.

<b>Position</b>	<b>Print Name</b>	<b>Signature</b>	<b>Date</b>
USEF President	Murray Kessler		12/7/17
USEF Show Jumping Managing Director	Lizzy Chesson		12/7/17

Any questions regarding these Selection Procedures should be addressed to Lizzy Chesson, USEF Managing Director, Show Jumping Programs, United States Equestrian Federation, PO Box 83, Gladstone, NJ 07934, Phone (859)225-7689, Email: [lcchesson@usef.org](mailto:lcchesson@usef.org).

Approved by the USEF Jumping Sport Committee on: October 30, 2017

Approved by the USEF International Discipline Council on: December 5, 2017

Approved by the USEF Board of Directors on: December 7, 2017

## **DEFINITIONS**

**Consistently** – The ability of the horse and athlete to produce low-scoring rounds over a high percentage of the time and in a variety of conditions and venues.

**Carefulness** – The ability of the horse and athlete to consistently avoid jumping penalties over a wide variety of obstacles, in particular those constructed to fall down easily.

**Scope** – The ability of the horse and athlete to successfully negotiate high and wide oxers from both long and short distances.

**Rideability** – The ability of the horse and athlete to negotiate a variety of complicated distance problems on course, as would typically be encountered at the highest international level.

**International Experience** – A competitive record over the past 2 or 3 years indicating that the horse and/or athlete have successfully met the challenges of FEI international events, while demonstrating an ability to perform under pressure on a consistent basis.

**Succeed in FEI or International Level Grand Prix Show Jumping Competitions** – The ability of the athlete/horse combination to consistently produce low scoring rounds in CSIO's, CSI's and International Level USEF Competitions.