



**UNITED STATES EQUESTRIAN FEDERATION
AREA SELECTION PROCEDURES
2026 USEF EVENTING YOUNG RIDER CHAMPIONSHIPS**

1. Observation Events:

- Athletes are expected to compete at one or more of the Area Selection and/or Observation Events at the FEI level they intend to compete at Championships. A list of Area Selection and/or Observation Events by Area can be found in Appendix 2 of this document.
- For those Areas that do not have Area Selection and/or Observation Events, declared Athletes must notify the Area Young Rider Coordinator by May 15, 2026, of their planned competition schedule leading up to the Championships.

2. Selection Process:

- The Area Selectors will utilize the following factors in selecting their Athletes for the USEF Nominated Entry, USEF Definite Entry, and Team and/or Individual spots, in no order of priority:
 - Within the Qualifying Period, the overall performance and soundness of the Athlete/Horse combination in competition with emphasis on dressage scores, current fitness, cross country, and show jumping performance: jumping without faults and/or incurring time penalties, boldness, rideability, and speed with priority given to Selection Trials designated by the respective Area.
 - Previous experience, within the Qualifying Period, of the Athlete/Horse combination; preference may be given to Athlete/Horse combinations who have demonstrated ability to succeed in multiple Eventing competitions. The depth of experience the Athlete/Horse combination has at multiple venues. Preference will be given to candidates who meet the USEF qualification as an Athlete/Horse combination.
 - Ranking Logic list found on the Championships website page. Details on ranking logic are located in Section 5 of these Procedures.
 - The Athlete's fitness.
 - The Athlete/Horse combination's will to win and the suitability of the combination to win or contribute to a Team placing at the Championships.
 - Any yellow cards, or other disciplinary actions, will be taken into consideration.

3. Additional Requirements:

- Athletes are responsible for completing all entries to the FEI event(s) before the closing date for any Selection and/or Observation Trials they plan to attend and the Championships. A complete entry includes but is not limited to the submission of all paperwork, including FEI portal requirements, stabling requests, and paying all fees. Athletes are responsible for keeping track of their Athlete/Horse qualifications and performance.
- The Athlete must sign an agreement acknowledging the financial responsibility of representing their Area at the Championships.
- Athletes are expected to be Team players and to be present for the entire Championships to support the Area Team, regardless of individual status in the Championships, and to abide by the rules established by the Area Chef d'Equipe and/or Team Coach that are set forth in the team meetings to be held at the Championships regarding Athlete conduct, social media use, and Horse welfare. Additionally, Athletes are expected to return all funds provided by the Area to purchase team equipment and/or gear if the Athlete is excused from the Area Team for violating USEF, USEA, FEI, or Area Team rules.
- Each candidate will be required to complete ten (10) volunteer hours within the Qualifying Period. These hours must be completed at a USEA Recognized Event. Hours must be recorded via the USEA Volunteer Incentive Program Dashboard (eventingvolunteers.com).

4. Ranking Logic:

- The Athlete/Horse combination’s performance during the entire Qualifying Period will be evaluated with a focus on no more than the last six (6) runs at Training level and above. If an Athlete/Horse combination does not have six (6) runs together at Training level or above, only those runs as a combination will be considered.
- The ranking, modeled off the FEI and EquiRatings ranking logic, takes into consideration fitness at the time of competition, boldness, and rideability based on the overall performance of the Athlete/Horse combination in competition with an emphasis on dressage scores, cross country and show jumping performance: jumping without faults and/or incurring time penalties and falls.
- There are times when a ranking is the result of a negative performance that can be justified. Athletes are encouraged to send a letter to explain any extenuating circumstances or factors for the Selectors to consider. Examples include: time faults as a result of footing, a glance off because of a spook at fence judge, or a hold on course where you chose to Withdraw instead of waiting for a restart. Justifications should be sent while the information is fresh. Letters received after the closing date of the Championships will not be considered.
- Overall Scores and Dressage Scores are multiplied by the following factors to adjust for complexity.

Training: 1.00	CCI1*: 0.85
T3D: 0.95	CCI2*-S: 0.8
Modified: 0.90	CCI2*-L: 0.75
Preliminary: 0.80	CCI3*-S: 0.70
Intermediate: 0.70	CCI3*-L: 0.65
Advance: 0.60	CCI4* (S or L): 0.60

5. Area Selectors and/or any individuals involved with the Area Selection process for the 2026 USEF Eventing Young Rider Championships. Appendix 1 has a list of the Area Selectors.

Note: The Area Young Rider Coordinator may also be involved in the Selection Process.



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Appendix 1 – Area Selectors

Area I - CT, ME, MA, NH, NY, RI & VT

- Stephie Baer
- John Bourgoïn
- Bevin Dugan
- Jane Hamlin

Area II - NJ, PA, MD, DE, VA & NC

- Ashley Adams
- Holly Hudspeth
- Shannon Lilley
- Erin Kanara
- Allison Springer

Area III - SC, MS, AL, GA & FL

- Hilda Donahue (FL)
- Lauren Eckardt (GA)
- Ashley Johnson (FL)
- Waylon Roberts (SC)

Area IV - IL, IA, KS, MO, MN, NE, ND & WI

- Eric Dierks
- Ali Kuhn
- Liz Lund

Area V - AR, LA, OK & TX

- Alexis Lind
- Stephanie Reimers (Area Chair)
- Becky Roper
- Laura Welsh
- Christy Zweig Niehues

Area VI – CA & HI

- Andrea Baxter
- Amber Birtcil
- Bec Braitling
- Auburn Excell-Brady
- Olivia Putrino

Area VII - OR, WA, ID, MT & AK

- Anna Collier
- Karen O'Neil
- Brooke Phillips

Area VIII - IN, KY, MI, OH, TN & WV

- Deborah Snyder (Area Chair)
- Erin Strader
- Emily Watson

Area IX - CO, WY, UT & SD

Area IX does not utilize Selectors.

Area X - AZ, NM & NV

- Lindsay Lechner
- Manuela Propfe
- Alice Sarno



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Appendix 2 – Area Selection and/or Observation Trials

Area I - CT, ME, MA, NH, NY, RI & VT

Does not utilize Selection and/or Observation Trials.

Area II - NJ, PA, MD, DE, VA & NC

- Carolina International CCI & H.T. March 19-22, 2026
- Fair Hill International April H.T. & CCI-S April 17-18, 2026
- Tryon International Three Day Event May 06-10, 2026
- Virginia Horse Center Eventing May 21-24, 2026

Area III - SC, MS, AL, GA & FL

- The Event at TerraNova March 26-29, 2026
- Stable View Spring 2/3/4* and H.T. April 3-5, 2026
- Ocala International April 16-19, 2026
- Stable View H.T. May 2-3, 2026

Area IV - IL, IA, KS, MO, MN, NE, ND & WI

Does not require Selection and/or Observation Trials.

Area V - AR, LA, OK & TX

- Texas Rose Horse Park H.T. May 02-03, 2026
- Or an equivalent event agreed upon between the Athlete and Area V Selectors should the athlete be temporarily based out of Area 5 for competitions.*

Area VI – CA & HI

- Ram Tap H.T. February 13-15, 2026
- Galway Downs International H.T. March 26-29, 2026
- Twin Rivers Spring International April 9-12, 2026
- Woodside Spring H.T. May 22-24, 2026

Area VII - OR, WA, ID, MT & AK

Does not utilize Selection and/or Observation Trials.

Area VIII - IN, KY, MI, OH, TN & WV

Does not utilize Selection and/or Observation Trials.

Area IX - CO, WY, UT & SD

Does not utilize Selection and/or Observation Trials.

Area X - AZ, NM & NV

Does not utilize Selection and/or Observation Trials.



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Appendix 3 – Area Young Rider Coordinators and Chef d’Equipes
The most up to date information can be found on the [USEA Area Directory](#).

Area I - CT, ME, MA, NH, NY, RI & VT
Website: <http://www.area1usea.org>
Young Rider Coordinator:
Melanie Loschiavo
melanie.loschiavo@gmail.com

Area II - NJ, PA, MD, DE, VA & NC
Website: www.usea2.net
Young Rider Coordinators:
Susie Beale (Chef d’Equipe)
susiebeale@gmail.com
Joanie Morris
joaniemorris1@icloud.com

Area III - SC, MS, AL, GA & FL
Website: www.usea3.org
Young Rider Coordinators:
area3youngriders@gmail.com
Joanne Morse
Joannemorse1@yahoo.com
Jessica Robinette
jessica_robinette@yahoo.com

Area IV - IL, IA, KS, MO, MN, NE, ND & WI
Website: www.useaiv.org
YTC Coordinators:
Kristin Strehlow
areaivyoungriders@gmail.com

Area V - AR, LA, OK & TX
Website: www.areaveventing.com
Young Rider Coordinator:
Stephanie Reimers
areavyoungriders@gmail.com

Area VI – CA & HI
Website: <http://www.areavi.org>
Young Rider Coordinator:
Teresa Harcourt
harcourteventing@gmail.com

Area VII - OR, WA, ID, MT & AK
Website: www.areavii.org
Young Rider Coordinator:
Scott Weide
seweide@yahoo.com
Kendra Zartman
kizart@comcast.net

Area VIII - IN, KY, MI, OH, TN & WV
Website: www.usea8.org
Young Rider Coordinator:
Rachael Rosendaul
rrosendaul@aol.com

Area IX - CO, WY, UT & SD
Website: www.areaixeventing.com
Young Rider Coordinator:
Ingrid George ingrid.thundermountain@gmail.com
Samantha Houglan Sehoug@gmail.com

Area X - AZ, NM & NV
Website: <http://www.useax.org>
Young Rider Coordinator:
Heather Drager
hdrager@gmail.com