



UNITED STATES EQUESTRIAN FEDERATION  
SELECTION PROCEDURE FOR CIOs  
Effective May 25, 2017

The United States Equestrian Federation (USEF) Eventing Sport Committee will oversee the selection process, which shall be reviewed and approved by USEF Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the USEF Board of Directors.

**I. APPLICATION** – Athletes wishing to be considered for selection for a CIO to which the US receives an invitation must meet all of the FEI requirements and submit an application in accordance with the deadlines published for the Event. Athletes wishing to **also** be considered for a Travel Grant to the same competition must submit a grant application through your MY USEF account by no later than the published deadline.

**II. SELECTION** - If more athletes have indicated a desire to compete than the Organizer can accommodate, entries will be submitted in the order of the athlete/horse combination ranking by the USEF Selectors at the time applications are considered for each CIO and will be decided based on travel times and other constraints or opportunities.

For each event, athletes/horse combinations will be named to the team or as a reserve/individual by the Eventing Sport Committee, or its designees, based on the availability of the horse, subject to approval by the USEF Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the USEF Board of Directors.

The Selectors, in evaluating athlete/horse combinations to be named to the Team and the reserves to the team (who may ride as individuals), will base their evaluations on the following factors (“Factors”):

- i. The overall performance and soundness of the athlete/horse combination in competitions 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;
- ii. The previous international experience of the athlete/horse combination, preference may be given to athlete/horse combinations who have demonstrated ability to succeed in multiple international eventing competitions;
- iii. Athlete’s fitness;
- iv. The athlete/horse combination’s will to win and the suitability of the combination to win an individual medal or contribute to a team medal at the Event; and
- v. Willingness of the athlete to work within the confines of the accreditation allocation and restrictions.

**III. SUBSTITUTIONS FOR VETERINARY, MEDICAL and/or EXTRAORDINARY REASONS** - After a team and alternates have been named, substitutions, if they occur, will be filled by the athlete/horse combinations in the order of their ranking on the list recommended by the Eventing Sport Committee, or its designees, and approved by the USEF Board of Directors or the Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the Board of Directors.



If a selected athlete/horse combination withdraws and all the remaining reserve athletes are unavailable, an additional athlete/horse combination that did not submit an application in accordance with the deadlines for the subject event may be selected by the Eventing Sport Committee, or its designees, to fill the vacancy subject to approval by the USEF Board of Directors or the Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the Board of Directors. The factors outlined in Section II will be used to determine the substitution if there are no remaining athlete/horse combination on the reserve list.

Any substitution for veterinary reasons must have the approval of the Team Veterinarian, or by a member of the Veterinary Advisory Group.

Any substitution for extraordinary circumstances must have the unanimous recommendation of the Eventing Sport Committee, or its designees, and approval by the USEF Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the Board of Directors.

**IV. DIRECT RESERVE HORSES** - An athlete may be named with a Direct Reserve Horse. In the event that the horse on which they were named becomes unavailable, the Direct Reserve Horse would become an automatic replacement. Direct Reserve Horses are recommended by the Eventing Sport Committee, or its designees, and approved by the USEF Board of Directors or the Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the Board of Directors.

*Failure by an athlete to comply with the directives of the Chef d'Equipe/Technical Advisor with regard to naming the team or after the athlete has been named to the team may result in a Code of Conduct violation for the athlete.*

*Veterinary reasons must be documented by the Team Veterinarian. Medical reasons must be documented by a physician approved by the International Disciplines Council.*

**V. ADDITIONAL COMBINATIONS** – If the US receives invitation(s) for additional athlete/horse combinations or horses at a CIO, they will come from the Ranking List for the event as determined by USEF Selectors at the time applications are considered.

**VI. 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 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 once the Team and Substitutes for an event have been named following notification to the applicant at least 24 hours prior to collection of samples. Samples collected from horses out-of-competition will be tested for the presence of substances prohibited by the FEI, including metabolites and markers. Failure to make the horse available for collection of samples may result in the elimination of the horse and/or athlete from the Selection Process. Before elimination occurs, the owner and athlete will be afforded a hearing by the Selection Hearing Panel.

Positive Finding. At any time during the selection period that the presence of a prohibited or forbidden substance, or a metabolite or marker, in the sample, the results, including the level detected for controlled medications, will be reported to the USEF Chief Executive Officer and General Counsel, who will notify the Director of Sport Programs or the Discipline Director for dissemination of information as appropriate. In such instance, the positive finding may result in the elimination of the horse and/or athlete from the Selection Process unless the Veterinarian Panel appointed for selection of the Event certifies that the substance detected has been approved or is legitimate and appropriate under the circumstances. Before elimination occurs, the owner and athlete will be afforded a hearing by the Selection Hearing Panel.

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

Also see the memo 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).

**VII. SOUNDNESS** - Horses may be examined for soundness at the athlete's expense by a veterinarian(s) chosen by the Eventing Sport Committee prior to Selection. Horses declared to be unsound may be eliminated from any Selection (See Section III, Substitutions), but only with the approval of the Eventing Sport Committee or its Designees and the USEF Board of Directors or the Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the Board of Directors.

**VIII. EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES** - In extraordinary circumstances, these procedures may be modified by the International Disciplines Council at the request of the Eventing Sport Committee.

**IX. USEF CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY** - All persons participating in any decision made pursuant to these Selection Procedures including but not limited to the Selectors, Team Veterinarian, Physicians, members of the Eventing Sport Committee, International Discipline Council, and the USEF Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the Board of Directors will be required to execute and abide by the USEF Conflict of Interest Policy (see attached) and [Safe Sport Policy](#).



### **USEF Eventing Selectors Working Group**

- Robert Costello (chair)
- Jan Byyny
- Phyllis Dawson
- Deborah Furnas
- Derek di Grazia

### **USEF Eventing Sport Committee**

- Mike Huber (chair)
- Jan Byyny
- Robert Costello
- Buck Davidson
- Derek di Grazia
- Phillip Dutton
- Jonathan Elliott
- Jonathan Holling
- Mike Huber
- Carol Kozlowski
- Janis Linnan
- Kerry Millikin
- Margie Molloy
- Marilyn Payne
- Diane Pitts
- Kaiti Saunders
- Non Voting Advisors
  - Rob Burk
  - Sharon Gallagher
  - Joanie Morris

