



MEMORANDUM

To: Potential Applicants for 2020 Olympic Games US Dressage Team

Date: December 13, 2019

From: Hallye Griffin, Managing Director of Dressage

Copy: Debbie McDonald
Will Connell

Re: Mandatory Outing

Dear Potential Applicants for the 2020 Olympic Games US Dressage Team,

Per the Selection Procedures for the 2020 Olympic Games Dressage Team (click [here](#)), a Mandatory Outing will be required of the top ten (10) ranked athletes on the [USEF Grand Prix 12-Month Ranking List](#) as of January 27, 2020 (*you must review complete Selection Procedures as there are additional competitions required for selection*). In the event of a tie in the top ten (10) ranked athletes, USEF may invite eleven (11) athletes to participate in the Mandatory Outing.

The Mandatory Outing will be the Wellington CDI5* scheduled for February 19-23, 2020 in Wellington, Florida.

Invitations will be issued to the top ten (10) ranked athletes on the USEF Grand Prix 12-Month Ranking List as of January 27, 2020. These athletes are not required to apply for the CDI5* through separate application. All athlete/horse combinations must meet the FEI requirements for competing in a CDI5* level event: To participate an Athlete/Horse combination must have achieved a minimum of sixty four percent (64%) in Grand Prix at two (2) different CDI 3*/ CDI4*/CDI-W or CDIO3*/CDIO4* (Consolation Competitions do not count) after 01 January the previous year.

An athlete in the top ten (10) of the USEF Grand Prix 12-Month Ranking List as of January 27, 2020 may submit a request to the Selectors to not compete in the Mandatory Outing. Requests to not compete in the Mandatory Outing must be received prior to the start of the FEI Grand Prix Test at the Mandatory Outing. The Selectors will approve or disapprove the request based on these factors:

1. An athlete/horse combination that has demonstrated "Proven Ability" (See definition on page 14 of the athlete selection procedures [here](#)) to succeed at CDI competitions;
2. Previous international experience of the athlete and/or horse;
3. The circumstances, facts, and in the case of illness or injury to a horse or athlete, documentation by the Team Veterinarian or physician(s) approved by USEF; and/or
4. Unforeseen circumstances which create a logistical emergency.

Should a special consideration be approved, the next ranked athlete may be invited if the FEI Definite Entry timeline permits entry.

For those athletes competing in the Mandatory Outing, information regarding the entry deadlines will be sent with the invitation. Invitations are anticipated to be sent via email no later than Friday, January 31, 2020. All athletes will be required to enter the FEI Grand Prix Test. The six (6) top ranked athletes invited are required to opt for the FEI Grand Prix Special. The remaining invited athletes may choose between the FEI Grand Prix Special or the FEI Grand Prix Freestyle.

The Mandatory Outing will also count as a Tryout Event/Qualifying Competition. Please review the complete Selection Procedures for all the scores required for selection. Please also note a combination not being required or not eligible to compete in the mandatory outing does not preclude them from being selected to the Short List, Nominated Entry or final Team selection. Examples of reasons why a combination may not compete in the mandatory outing:

- (i) Combination is not invited because they are not ranked in the top 10 of the USEF Grand Prix 12-Month Ranking List
- (ii) Combination is approved by the Selectors for a special consideration not to compete

(iii) Athlete/horse combination does not meet FEI requirements to compete in a CDI5* level event

The expenses associated with competing in the mandatory outing will be of the athlete/horse owner. However, there is a possibility of assistance through program membership or additional grants.

If you have any questions regarding the above information or the development of the Selection Procedure for the 2020 Olympic Games US Dressage Team, please do not hesitate to contact Hallye Griffin at (859) 225-6949 or hgriffin@usef.org.