

## British Dressage Senior and U25 Selection Policy for CDI and CDIO Competitions 2024

### 1. Introduction

- 1.1. This is the British Dressage Selection Policy for CDI/CDIOs 2024. The athlete / horse combinations will be selected by the British Dressage ("BD") Selectors (the "**Selectors**") in accordance with this Policy. Once selected, the combinations will be entered by BD.

### 2. Objectives

- 2.1. The Selectors shall select (in accordance with this Selection Policy) the athlete/horse combinations that in their view will most likely maximise the potential to achieve the objectives set out in this section of the Selection Policy ("**the Objectives**").
  - 2.1.1 **Primary objective:** To optimise preparation by facilitating access to appropriate international competitions (where possible) for those athlete / horse combinations identified as contenders as appropriate for a Senior team and/or individual place at the Paris 2024 Olympic Games or an Under 25 team and/or individual place at the FEI U25 European Championships 2024 St Margarethen, Austria.
  - 2.1.2 **Secondary objective:** To offer opportunities for progression and development by facilitating access to appropriate international competitions from 1 January 2024 and thereafter the respective Championships as stated in the Primary Objective, to those athlete / horse combinations considered to have the perceived potential to develop into medal winning contenders at future Senior Championships or U25 European Championships.
  - 2.1.3 **Tertiary objective:** To enable athlete/horse combinations to compete at specific international competitions (where possible) in order to broaden their competition experience, with the ultimate aim of supporting performance progression.

### 3. Outcome of Selection Process

- 3.1. In line with the number of invitations issued by the Organising Committee ("**OC**") the Selectors shall select a number of athlete / horse combinations which will make up the definite entries and reserves.

#### 4. Minimum Performance Standards (“MPS”) to be considered for Selection

- 4.1. Prior to consideration for selection athlete/horse combinations will be required to achieve Minimum Performance Standards.
- 4.1.1 As an absolute minimum athlete/horse combinations must have achieved at least once the Minimum Performance Standard (“MPS”) at the level at which they wish to compete or a higher level.
- 4.1.2 MPS must be achieved within the 14 months preceding the date of the first FEI international competition the athlete wishes to be considered for AND fall within the timeframes for definite entries applicable to the proposed competition.
- 4.2. The Selectors will have the right to select athlete/horse combinations for FEI international competitions that may not have achieved MPS if it is in the interest of fulfilling the Objectives of the Policy (in accordance with Section 2).
- 4.3. Achievement of MPS does not guarantee selection.
- 4.4. British athletes based in Great Britain
- 4.4.1 Score(s) must be achieved at either BD National or Winter Championships, BD Premier League competitions, BD High Profile shows.
- 4.4.2 Scores and current form from BD local competitions may also be taken into consideration for CDI Amateur classes.

To be considered to compete at:	Final Score of:	Tour	Competition level
Foreign CDI	70%	Small	Prix St Georges / Intermediate 1
Home* CDI	69%		
Foreign or Home* CDI	67%	Middle	Intermediate 11 / Intermediate A or B / Grand Prix
Foreign or Home* CDI	67%	U25	Intermediate 11 / Intermediate 11 (U25) / Grand Prix (16 – 25)
Foreign or Home* CDI	67%	Big	Grand Prix, Grand Prix Special, Short Grand Prix
Amateur classes Foreign or Home* CDI	68%	Small	Prix St Georges / Intermediate 1
	67%	Middle	Intermediate 11 / Intermediate A or B / Grand Prix
	67%	Big	Grand Prix / Grand Prix Special

\* Home CDI denotes athlete’s country of residence

#### 4.5. British athletes based and competing abroad

##### 4.5.1 Scores must be achieved at a CDN or equivalent level competition

To be considered to compete at:	Final Score of:	Tour	Competition level
Foreign or Home* CDI	69%	Small	Prix St Georges / Intermediate 1
Foreign or Home* CDI	67%	Middle	Intermediate 11 / Intermediate A or B / Grand Prix
Foreign or Home* CDI	67%	U25	Intermediate 11 / Intermediate 11 (U25) / Grand Prix (16 – 25)
Foreign or Home* CDI	67%	Big	Grand Prix, Grand Prix Special, Short Grand Prix
Amateur classes Foreign or Home* CDI	68%	Small	Prix St Georges / Intermediate 1
	67%	Middle	Intermediate 11 / Intermediate A or B / Grand Prix
	67%	Big	Grand Prix / Grand Prix Special

\* Home CDI denotes athlete's country of residence

4.5.2 Qualification and eligibility will be checked by the BD International Officer (“IO”) [lianne.martin@britishdressage.co.uk](mailto:lianne.martin@britishdressage.co.uk). Selectors may request a link to video footage of the test (either via email or WhatsApp, as appropriate).

4.6. Any athlete/horse combination that has been selected and subsequently competes in a foreign or home-based CDI / CDIO should achieve a final score of 65% at the level (excluding Freestyle tests) in which they competed in order to be considered for future CDI/CDIO.

4.7. If for any reason they do not achieve a final score of 65%, the Selectors may request that they achieve the MPS outlined (Section 4.4 and/or Section 4.5) prior to consideration for a future CDI / CDIO.

## 5 Selection Criteria

5.1. The Selectors will consider the criteria set out below and use their absolute discretion and expert opinion to select athlete / horse combinations. They must, at all times, use their discretion honestly and with due integrity.

5.1.1 Achievement of Minimum Performance Standards (MPS) (with due regard for clauses 4.2 and 5.2).

5.2. The Selectors will have the right to select athlete/horse combinations for FEI international competitions that may not have achieved MPS if it is in the interest of fulfilling the Objectives of the Policy (in accordance with Section 2).

5.3. The following criteria will be applied when considering selection for CDI/CDIOs:

- a) The athlete or horse's competition needs, in order to prepare them to execute their best possible performance at that year's Championships.
- b) The athlete/horse combination's competition needs, in order to develop into a potential medal winning team contributor at future Championships.
- c) The requirement to develop an athlete/horse combination's competition ability to produce peak performances in conditions similar to that year's Championships.
- d) The athlete/horse maintaining fitness and/or performance.
- e) The number of GBR invitations received for each FEI international competition.

## 6. Eligibility, availability, and conditions for consideration for selection

6.1. All athlete / horse combinations must have indicated their show preferences with the IO to be considered for selection within the timeframes set out in Section 7.

6.2. The IO will ensure that each athlete and horse put forward to the Selectors as being available for selection for international competitions is eligible for consideration, including that:

- a) The athlete is a national of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and in compliance with the Fédération Equestre Internationale ("FEI") General Regulations, 24<sup>th</sup> Edition, Article 119 at the time of the application, selection and until the conclusion of the 2024.
- b) The athlete is a British Citizen with a current British passport valid for a minimum of six months after the dates of competition.
- c) The athlete has been granted a license by the British Equestrian Federation to compete in international events in accordance with FEI General Regulations, 24<sup>th</sup> Edition, Articles 113 and 117 and in regard to the Amateur classes holds a valid Amateur's License granted by the NF (see Annex 3 of the FEI Dressage Regulations).
- d) The athlete is eligible under any anti-doping code (i.e., they are not serving a competition ban as a result of a proven doping or controlled medication violation), not serving a competition ban as a result of any breach of any ethical code or misconduct and not in receipt of a funding ban from UK Sport.
- e) The athlete is a full (competing) and active member of BD and not serving any suspensions under either the BD and/or BEF rules.
- f) The legal owner of the horse is a minimum of a full (competing or non-competing) member of BD and not serving any suspension under BD and/or BEF rules for 2024.
- g) The athlete is fully registered with the FEI for 2024.
- h) The horse is fully registered with BD and the FEI for 2024.
- i) The athlete and horse each satisfy the minimum eligibility criteria as defined in the FEI Regulations and are not, for any reason, ineligible to take part in the competition under BEF, FEI or BD rules.

6.3. Athletes must comply with any request for their horse(s) to be examined for fitness / soundness at any time during the selection process by a BD approved veterinary surgeon.

- 6.4. Athletes must comply with any request for a medical health examination at any time during the selection process by a BD approved athlete health professional.
- 6.5. The Selectors may, at any time, request an athlete/horse combination to compete in one or more specific competitions. If an athlete agrees to attend the competition but subsequently does not, without a veterinary/medical certificate, this will be the athlete's responsibility and may negatively impact on the selection process. The ID will inform the athlete concerned when this request is made.
- 6.6. The Selectors may request that British based athletes/horses participate in specific training days. The ID will inform athlete(s) concerned when this request is made. Participation will be compulsory, except under exceptional circumstances agreed in advance with the ID.
- 6.7. In addition, an athlete, together with their owners, grooms, coaches, partner and their SSM Team (collectively known as "the **Home Team**"), will be expected to:
- a) Abide by any BEF and BD charter which may be in force at any time during the selection process and throughout the competition. The BD Code of Conduct and the British Equestrian Team Charter are set out on the respective BD and BEF websites. <https://www.britishdressage.co.uk> and <https://www.britishequestrian.org.uk>
  - b) Comply with FEI and BEFAR (BEF equine anti-doping and controlled medication rules) UK Anti-Doping (UKAD) and World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) rules on human anti-doping which may be in force at any time during the selection process and throughout the competition.

## 7. Process and Timelines

- 7.1. For the purpose of selecting athlete/horse combinations for Senior and U25 classes at CDI and/or CDIO competitions the Selectors shall meet and/or communicate (in person or remotely) as often as they consider appropriate and necessary. Such meetings are referred to in this Policy as "**Selection Meetings**".
- 7.2. Once they have achieved the MPS, athletes should apply to be added to the international competition plan distribution list managed by the IO.
- 7.3. The IO will then forward a form for the athlete to complete that indicates which individual competition(s) they would like to be considered for.
- 7.4. On behalf of BD, the IO regularly circulates to athletes a list of competitions together with the listed names of those asking to be considered for particular competitions. It is the athlete's responsibility to check that their name is listed for any competitions they wish to be considered for.
- 7.5. If an athlete decides at any time and for whatever reason that they wish to withdraw from consideration for a specific competition, they **MUST** notify the IO immediately.
- 7.6. Athletes able to access private invitations to a CDI competition should indicate this to the IO. Private invitations must be authorised by the Selectors and will only be granted once MPS has been achieved. They must not take priority over those selected in terms of number of places allocated to GBR athletes by the OC.

- 7.7. For CDI competitions, the Selectors will evaluate athlete/horse combinations asking to be considered for each international competition and, from those, place the selected combinations in alphabetical order of surname and the reserves in rank order. Reserves will move up in the placings as per the rank order in the case of withdrawals and/or additional places.
- 7.8. For CDIO competitions, the Selectors will evaluate the athlete/horse combinations asking to be considered for each Team event and from those may select a maximum of four (4) athletes and four (4) horses or as specified in the competition schedule. In addition, the Selectors will place the remaining combinations in rank order and/or identify specific replacements for named selected combinations.
- 7.9. The Selection Panel retain the right not to send a team to a CDIO competition.
- 7.10. Following any Selection meeting the BD IO will, via e mail, confirm selection outcomes to those on the list for that particular competition.
- 7.11. Athletes should confirm their acceptance of the offer of a place and the IO will be responsible for the entry administration onto the FEI systems.
- 7.12. In case of withdrawal following selection, the athlete will be required to provide a veterinary medical certificate, as per the FEI rules, and the athlete will be responsible for any withdrawal costs.

## 8. Confidentiality

- 8.1 It is vitally important for the integrity of this Selection Policy and its operation, and out of respect for the athletes, owners, selectors, staff, and other parties involved in this selection process, that there is at all times a high degree of confidentiality relating to information that may have a bearing on selection and/or selection decisions.
- 8.2. Any Selector or individual attending a Selection Meeting, whether voting or non-voting, who breaches that confidentiality, may be removed as a Selector and prohibited from attending Selection Meetings. All confidential information, conversations and discussions will be identified as such.

## 9. The Selection Panel

- 9.1. Two (2) voting Selectors will be appointed by the BD Board of Directors a third voting Selector will automatically be appointed from their position on the BD Board as International Director (“ID”).
- 9.2. Throughout this Selection Policy the term “**Selectors**” refers to the three (3) voting Selectors.
- 9.3. The voting Selectors will all have the knowledge and experience required to select Senior and U25 Team and Individual combinations and will be free from any vested interest or conflict of interest, in so far as is possible.
- 9.4. All Selectors must declare any potential or perceived or actual interest or conflict of interest in the selection process as soon as they arise to IO. The IO will be responsible for informing the British Dressage Chief Executive (“**BD CEO**”).

- 9.5. If any interest or conflict of interest on the part of a voting Selector exists, the (“**BD CEO**”) may vary the process set out in this Policy as they see fit, including by requiring any conflicted voting Selector to recuse themselves from any discussion or vote or Selection Meeting.
- 9.6. The Selection Panel so appointed comprise:
- Chief Selector – Judy Harvey, International Director (voting)
  - Selector – Jenny Ward (voting)
  - Selector – Anne Keen (voting)
- 9.7. The following individuals may, at the Selectors request, be invited to attend Selection Meetings (in person or remotely) in a non-voting capacity as experts, for the purpose of assisting the Selectors to select the combinations and shall play such part in any Selection Meeting as the Selectors consider appropriate. The purpose of the expert is to assist the Selectors to select the athlete/horse combinations by providing relevant information, insight, and expert opinion, including, but not limited to, the process of selection, assessment of past and anticipated performance and associated risk factors:
- Dressage Performance Manager (“**PM**”)
  - A WCP Performance Support Services Representative
  - A BD appointed veterinary surgeon.

## 10. Voting

- 10.1. All Selectors will have equal voting rights. Selection decisions must be reached by a majority of the voting Selectors and with no abstentions unless a voting Selector is required to abstain or recuse themselves from a vote due to a declared conflict of interest.
- 10.2. In the event of a conflict of interest arising, if the remaining voting Selectors reach an equality of votes, the ID will have the casting vote.
- 10.3. In the event of the ID being required to abstain due to a conflict of interest, one of the remaining selectors as nominated by the BD CEO will have the casting vote.
- 10.4. Throughout the selection process, the Selectors will act as experts and are entitled within this Selection Policy, having due regard to the Selection Criteria set out in this Policy, to use their discretion to select athlete / horse combinations. They must at all times use their discretion honestly and with due integrity, having regard to, and acting in compliance with, such applicable code of conduct or code of ethics as might be in force from time to time.

## 11. Appeals Process and Procedures

- 11.1. Athletes have the right to appeal against a selection decision of the Selectors, but only on the grounds that:
  - a) The Selectors did not comply with this Selection Policy when making the decision appealed against, and / or,
  - b) In making the decision appealed against, the Selectors made a decision that no rational body of competent Selectors could reasonably have made.
- 11.2. The right to appeal a selection decision must not be seen as an opportunity to dispute the opinion of the Selectors where the selection procedure and selection criteria have been followed. In reaching their decision the Selectors are acting as experts.
- 11.3. An appeal must be made by submitting notice in writing ("**the Notice of Appeal**") to the BD CEO, in accordance with the BEF Selection Appeal Rules, within 48 hours of the relevant athlete being informed of the Selectors' decision against which the athlete wishes to appeal.
- 11.4. The BD CEO shall, on receipt of the Notice of Appeal, seek to bring together all parties affected by the appeal for a without prejudice discussion that may, if all parties are in agreement, take the form of facilitated mediation.
- 11.5. For the avoidance of doubt, the Appeal Process shall continue to run during such discussion. However, in the event that all affected parties notify the BD CEO (within 24 hours of receipt of the Appeal Notice) that such discussion / mediation has resolved the appeal, the Appeal Process shall be stayed.
- 11.6. The full details of the BEF Rules are set out on the BEF website: [www.britishequestrian.org.uk](http://www.britishequestrian.org.uk) and copies of the BEF Selection Appeal Rules can be obtained from the BEF office.

## 12. Policy Creation & Amendment

- 12.1. This Selection Policy is compiled in consultation with BD Board of Directors, the BD CEO, the BD Selectors and PM.
- 12.2. The Selectors are entitled in exceptional circumstances to amend or revise this Selection Policy, where they reasonably consider it necessary to do so to best achieve the Objectives of the Selection Policy set out in Section 2.
- 12.3. Any amendments of or revisions to this Selection Policy must be approved in writing by the BD CEO and the ID.
- 12.4. The amended or revised clauses will be communicated to all senior international athletes in a manner directed by the BD Selectors, and the full version of the amended or revised Policy will be published on the BD and BEF websites.



### 13. General

- 13.1. **Discretion** – the Selectors are entitled, within the scope of this Selection Policy, to exercise their discretion to achieve the Objectives where it is reasonable to do so.
- 13.2. **Cancellation/postponement** – in the event of cancellation of any competition, the relevant parties will be notified immediately. In the event of postponement of any competition, a situation might arise where a new and/or different list of athlete/horse combinations needs to be selected, in which case all parties will be notified and (subject to any amendments or revisions made to the Selection Policy in accordance with Section 12 above) the normal procedures for selection set out in this Selection Policy will be followed.
- 13.3. **Force majeure** – in the event of exceptional circumstances beyond the BEF or British Dressage control, such as disease outbreak in horses or humans, war or terrorism, or withdrawal of WCP funding, the British Dressage Board reserves the right to make the decision, following consultation with the BD CEO, ID and PM , either to change the Selection Policy or the procedure for selection, which might include withdrawing the team and/or individuals from competition.
- 13.4. **Communication (Publication)** – this Selection Policy will be published on the BD and BEF websites and copies will be available on request from the BD/BEF office.
- 13.5. **Enquiries** – enquiries about this Selection Policy can be made either in writing or by telephone to the BD International Officer at the BD Office.

Jason Brautigam  
Chief Executive  
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