UNITED STATES EQUESTRIAN FEDERATION, INC.
SELECTION PROCEDURES
2027 FEI North American Youth Championships – U25
DRESSAGE
August 2-8, 2027
Traverse City, Michigan

1. SELECTION SYSTEM

1.1. Minimum eligibility requirements for an athlete to be considered for nomination to a Team:

1.1.1. **Nationality Requirements:**

The athlete must be a U.S. citizen and in compliance with the current edition of the FEI General Regulations, which can be found on the FEI's website at www.fei.org, at the time of application, selection, and until the conclusion of the 2027 FEI North American Youth Championships (the "Event" or "NAYC").

1.1.2. **Minimum International Federation (IF) standards for participation:**

- Athletes are eligible to compete in the U25 division from the beginning of the calendar year in which they reach the age of sixteen (16) until the end of the calendar year in which they reach the age of twenty-five (25).
- A horse must be a minimum of eight (8) years old to compete in the U25 division. Ponies and mules are ineligible to qualify for or compete in the NAYC. Horses must have a height at the withers exceeding 148 cm without shoes.
- The athlete and horse must be registered and in good standing with the FEI prior to being named to the Nominated Entry and until the conclusion of the Event.
- FEI Rider Registration and FEI Horse Registration must be completed in accordance with FEI rules no later than the FEI nominated entry, as listed in the FEI schedule. USEF strongly encourages the registrations to be completed by the application deadline, May 4, 2027.
- The horse's FEI passport must be completed, and FEI validated in accordance with FEI rules no later than the date of FEI nominated entries as listed in the FEI schedule. USEF strongly encourages the registrations to be completed by the application deadline, May 4, 2027. Please be reminded that FEI Passports may take many business days to process after they are received by USEF. USEF strongly urges all individuals to send their FEI passport(s) with tracking.
- The athlete and horse must comply with FEI Rules for the Event.

1.1.3. **Other Requirements**

- The athlete must be a Competing Member in good standing of the United States Equestrian Federation ("USEF") at the time of application, in order to earn a qualifying score, at the time of selection, and at the start of and through the conclusion of the Event.
- The horse must be recorded with USEF pursuant to USEF GR1102, and in good standing at the time of application, in order to earn a qualifying score, at the time of selection, and at the start of and through the conclusion of the Event.
- The individual owner(s) of the horse listed on the FEI passport must be a Competing Member in good standing with the USEF at the time of application, in order to earn a qualifying score, at the time of selection, and at the start of and through the conclusion of the event.
- **Certificate of Domicile**: An athlete may have only one domicile, which is where the athlete has their permanent home and where, whenever absent, intends to return. A minor's domicile follows that of the parent or guardian who has lawful custody of the minor (unless the minor is emancipated from their parent/guardian). For purposes of these selection procedures, a minor is any athlete that has not yet reached their 18th birthday as of January 1, 2027. Every athlete, or parent/guardian if the athlete is a minor, must complete and submit a Certificate of Domicile with the Application. If an athlete, or legal guardian if the rider is a minor, is found to have submitted inaccurate or misinformation or failed to submit the Certificate of Domicile within five (5) business days, the athlete may be subject to disqualification from the Event. The Region of each athlete/horse combination is determined by where the athlete is domiciled in the U.S. beginning January 1, 2027, regardless of multiple temporary residences (see definition above).

This address must be recorded on the Certificate of Domicile. If an athlete's domicile changes between January 1, 2027 and April 1, 2027, the athlete must submit a request to change their Region, which must be received by the USEF no later than 5:00PM Eastern Time on April 1, 2027. USEF will issue a decision on the change in Region within a reasonable time of the submission of the request. No requests for changes in Region will be accepted after April 1, 2027. Applicants domiciled outside of the United States must meet the Citizenship and Minimum International Federation Standards for Participation outlined in Section 1.a above.

- **Application:** Athletes wishing to represent a Region at the NAYC must complete an application and submit the application along with the appropriate fee per application to the USEF. U25, Young Riders, and Juniors wishing to apply in multiple divisions must submit a separate application for each division to compete at NAYC. Please see the selection procedures for Young Riders and Juniors for applicable application information. Application and fees submitted online on or prior to April 20, 2027, at 11:59pm eastern time will be charged seventy-five dollars ($75.00) per application. Applications and fees submitted online between April 21, 2027, and May 4, 2027, at 11:59pm eastern time will be charged an application fee of three hundred dollars ($300.00) per application. **NO APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER May 4, 2027, at 11:59pm eastern time.** Athletes are permitted to compete at the NAYC with only those horses named on the athlete's application. Additional horses may be added to an application already received at no additional fee through April 20, 2027, at 11:59pm eastern time. Between April 21, 2027, and May 25, 2027, at 11:59pm eastern time the rider will be required to pay a seventy-five-dollar ($75.00) fee for each added horse added to an application already submitted. No additional horses may be added to the application after May 25, 2027, at 11:59pm eastern time. Online applications will be available on January 1, 2027, and can be found here: https://members.usef.org/.

- Each athlete, and their parent/legal guardian if the athlete is a minor, must certify by signing the Application , that they have received, read, understand, and agree to be bound by the Selection Procedures for the Event, the USEF Code of Conduct, the USEF Release, Assumption of Risk, Waiver, and Indemnification, the U.S. Center for SafeSport Code, including the Minor Athlete Abuse Preventing Policies (MAAP), the USEF Non-Discrimination Policy, and the USEF Whistleblower & Anti-Retaliation Policy.

- Prior to being named to the nominated entry, athlete/horse combinations must have earned a Certificate of Capability as outlined in Section 2.3.

- Any athlete age 18 years old or older will be required to undergo a background screen in accordance with the current USOPC Background Check Policy and USEF Background Check Policy.

- Any athlete age 18 years old or older will be required to remain current with the U.S. Center for SafeSport's education and training requirements in accordance with the USEF Safe Sport Policy and the USOPC Athlete Safety Policy.

2. STEP-BY-STEP DESCRIPTION OF THE SELECTION PROCESS

2.1. Qualifying Events: Qualifying scores for the Event may only be earned within the qualifying period, which begins July 28, 2026, and ends June 28. 2027, at the following events, unless USEF has otherwise indicated a change to the qualifying period prior to February 3, 2027.

- **USEF/NAYC Qualifying Competitions (CDNs):** A series of national competitions held throughout the U.S. have been designated as USEF/NAYC Qualifying Competitions. A list of these designated USEF/NAYC Qualifying Competitions is available on the USEF website here or by contacting the USEF Dressage Department.

- **CDIs:** Athletes may also earn qualifying scores at any CDI, held within the United States or any other country that offers the FEI Intermediate II Test (FEI Intermediate II A Test effective January 1, 2027) and FEI Grand Prix 16-25 tests within the designated qualifying period. CDI scores are calculable at the option of the athlete and will only be computed into the athlete/horse's overall average upon receipt of a USEF CDI & Championship Report Form within the specified deadline stated on the form (Form can be found on the USEF website HERE). The 2026 & 2027 FEI Calendar can be found on the FEI website HERE. Please make sure to check the calendar(s) frequently for updates. Scores submitted late will not be accepted. It is the sole responsibility of the athlete to ensure that qualifying CDI scores for NAYC are accurately presented to USEF and on time.

- An athlete/horse combination cannot earn a score in a national Qualifying Competition if a CDI is also offered at the same event. Exception, if a CDIO-U25 is held, a combination may earn scores from the CDI-U25 or national qualifying classes if offered by the competition.

- **USEF Brentina Cup Dressage National Championship:** Scores earned at the 2026 USEF Brentina Cup Dressage National Championship can be used as optional qualifying scores and are reportable under the same rules as a CDI if within the qualifying period.

- Scores from the 2026 NAYC may not be used toward qualifying for the 2027 NAYC.

2.1. Qualifying Tests

FEI U25 division: the FEI Intermediate II Test (current edition) or in the FEI Intermediate II A Test (effective January 1, 2027) FEI Grand Prix 16-25 Test (current edition), and FEI Grand Prix Freestyle (current edition), must be used for qualification for the NAYC.

2.2. Qualifying:

- Athlete/horse combinations are required to achieve at least two (2) scores in the current edition of the FEI Grand Prix 16-25 Test, at least two (2) scores in the current edition of the FEI Intermediate II Test or in the FEI Intermediate II A Test (effective January 1, 2027), and at least one (1) score in the FEI Grand Prix Freestyle in at least two (2) Qualifying Competitions.

- The FEI Grand Prix 16-25 Test and the FEI Intermediate II Test (current edition) or in the FEI Intermediate II A Test (effective January 1, 2027) completed at a national Qualifying Competition must be in individual classes specifically designated as NAYC Qualifying, USEF/NAYC Qualifying, or Markel/USEF/NAYC in the prize list.

- "Test of Choice" (TOC) will not count for the FEI Intermediate II Test (current edition) or in the FEI Intermediate II A Test (effective January 1, 2027) or the FEI Grand Prix 16-25 Test. "Test of Choice" (TOC) classes will only be allowed to count for the FEI Grand Prix Freestyle Test.

- Qualifying tests completed at a CDN must be officiated by a panel of at least two (2) USEF 'S' and/or FEI Judges. Freestyle tests completed at a CDN must be officiated by a minimum of one (1) USEF 'S' or FEI judge. For CDI events, FEI Dressage Rules apply.

- For calculation purposes, the athlete/horse combination's overall average score will be determined by averaging the scores earned in the FEI Intermediate II Test (FEI Intermediate II A Test effective January 1, 2027) with the scores earned in the FEI Grand Prix 16-25 Test.

- Competition(s) held over the course of more than one day count(s) as a single qualifying competition (even if each day has a separate competition license number) and only the designated qualifying tests count.

- **Drop Scores:** If an athlete/horse combination earns three (3) or more scores in the FEI Grand Prix 16-25 Test, the lowest score earned in this Test will be dropped. If a combination earns three (3) or more scores in the FEI Intermediate II Test (FEI Intermediate II A Test effective January 1, 2027), the lowest score in this Test will be dropped. Only one (1) score will be dropped from the Grand Prix 16-25 Test and only one (1) score will be dropped from the FEI Intermediate II Test (FEI Intermediate II A Test effective January 1, 2027). All remaining scores will be used to calculate each combination's overall average.

- USEF will automatically track scores for athlete/horse combinations that are earned at designated USEF/NAYC Qualifying Competitions (CDNs). CDI scores earned will NOT be automatically calculated into the athlete/horse's overall average without receipt of a CDI & Championship Report Form within the specified deadline stated on the form.

- Percentages are carried out to the third decimal point with numbers of five (5) and above rounded up (63.4555% = 63.456%). It is the responsibility of the athlete to verify the accuracy of the standings posted on the USEF website. USEF is not responsible for inaccurately reported or illegible scores. If any errors are detected, athletes are encouraged to contact the USEF office immediately. Errors must be reported no less than five (5) business days prior to the NAYC nominated entry deadline as published in the FEI Definite Schedule.

- At the end of the qualifying period, any ties in overall averages on the final ranking list will be broken according to the athlete/horse combination that achieved the highest overall average of the FEI Intermediate II Test (FEI Intermediate II A Test effective January 1, 2027).

- **Foreign CDN Competitions:** U.S. Citizens wishing to earn qualifying scores in CDN competitions outside the United States (national competitions outside the United States) must submit a written request to lroberts@uef.org. This request should be received at least two (2) weeks prior to the first day of the competition and requires approval by the USEF Dressage Selectors. If approved, athletes are responsible for reporting scores to USEF using the CDI & Championship Report Form within five (5) days of the conclusion of the competition.

2.3. Certificate of Capability

- A minimum overall average of 64.000% or greater on the final ranking list will be required in order to be named to the Nominated and Definite Entries.

- Additionally, athlete/horse combinations will be required to earn one score of 65.000% or higher in the FEI Grand Prix Freestyle. The Freestyle Test score must be earned in an FEI Grand Prix Freestyle Test held at a CDI or national Qualifying Competition, or an FEI Freestyle Test of Choice class held at a national Qualifying Competition. Freestyle Tests completed at a national Qualifying Competition must be officiated by a minimum of one (1) USEF 'S' or FEI judge.

- In circumstances where an athlete/horse combination has an overall average and/or freestyle score within 0.5% of the required scores noted above. The USEF Dressage Selectors, may recommend athlete/horse combinations for selection. The USEF Dressage Selectors, may recommend athlete/horse combinations for selection based on the following factors:
    - Previous international experience of the athlete and/or horse;
    - Athlete/horse combinations have earned a score in the FEI Intermediate II Test (FEI Intermediate II A Test effective January 1, 2027) or the FEI Grand Prix 16-25 Test which exceeds the minimum required overall average;
    - Recent scores and the trend in scores (i.e. consideration for an athlete/combination showing an upward trajectory in scores);
    - The circumstances, facts, and in the case of illness or injury to an athlete, documentation required; and/or
    - Unforeseen circumstances which create a logistical emergency.

2.4. Special Rules pertaining to Dress, Saddlery, Schooling & Warm-up at Qualifying Events:

- DRESS & SADDLERY: If competing in a CDI event, FEI Dressage and General Regulations will apply. If competing in a USEF/NAYC Qualifying competition the USEF Rules will apply.
- **SCHOOLING & WARMUP**: Under penalty of disqualification for NAYC qualifying purposes, within 24 hours prior and at no time during a competition offering the NAYC Qualifying classes at a designated USEF/NAYC Qualifying competition, may any horse entered in a qualifying class be ridden by anyone other than the athlete entered in the class on that horse. Exception: grooms riding on a loose rein.
    - For NAYC Qualifying Competitions held at USEF licensed Dressage Competitions, the competition starts when horse and athlete arrive on the show grounds and ends at the conclusion of the USEF licensed Dressage Competition.
    - For CDIU25 events horses may not leave the stables, the competition area, or the areas supervised by Stewards for any purpose unless authorized by a recognized FEI Official of the event or a veterinarian acting in the interest of the health and welfare of the horse.

2.5. Nominated Entry (as published on the approved FEI Schedule):

By no later than the nominated entry date published in the FEI Schedule, USEF will submit to the FEI up to eight (8) athletes and horses per Region for the Event ("Nominated Entry") based on the Final Ranking. It is anticipated that the Nominated Entry date will be set a minimum of seven (7) days following the end of the qualifying period.

2.6. Definite Entries (as published on the approved FEI Schedule):

Definite Entries will consist of the three (3) or four (4) applicant athlete/horse combinations per Region, in order of ranking on the Nominated Entry, named to the "Team." Reserve athlete/horse combinations are not allowed. After submission of the Nominated Entry but no later than the Definite Entries, USEF will submit the definite entry list to the FEI no later than the date published in the FEI schedule based on the Final Ranking.

2.7. Combining of Regions to Form Teams

If a Region is unable to field a team of at least three (3) athlete/horse combinations, USEF may combine Regions to complete a Team no later than one (1) business days prior to the definite entry date as published in the FEI Definite Schedule. USEF will make the final decision to combine athlete/horse combinations by the deadline published in the FEI Definite Schedule.

2.8. Declaration of Starters

Once at the Event site, and after the horse inspection, each Chef d'Equipe will declare the starting order of the athlete/horse combinations.

2.9. Reserve athlete/horse combinations

Reserve athlete/horse combinations (including a reserve horse for an athlete) are not allowed on the FEI definite entry. USEF may nominate up to eight (8) athlete/horse combinations per Region in order of the Region's Final Ranking for each Event. Substitutions may be made from the nominated entry per section 3 of these selection procedures. Only athlete/horse combinations listed on the Definite Entry will be permitted in FEI stabling.

3. DISCRETIONARY SELECTION

3.1. Provided in Attachment A are the names of all committees/groups who oversee the selection process, including the name(s) and role(s) of their members.

- Group or committee that determines the substitution list: The USEF Dressage Selectors and the USEF Board of Directors, Executive Committee, or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the Board of Directors.
- Group or committee that determines a substitution prior to and after the Definite Entries: The USEF Dressage Selectors and the or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the Board of Directors.

3.2. Process that will be used to identify and handle any potential conflicts of interest involving a member of the committee:

All committee members must comply with the USEF's Conflict of Interest and Gifts & Entertainment Policy including completing and submitting a disclosure form for review by the USEF Legal Department and USEF Audit Committee prior to convening the committee. Any committee members who has an actual, possible, or perceived conflict of interest must disclose it to the USEF Legal Department and USEF Audit Committee prior to the start of the selection process and/or recuse oneself from the review process and/or voting. A conflict of interest exists when a personal, family, financial, professional, club, team or business interest of the committee member poses a direct or indirect relationship, connection, or affiliation, past or present, with an Athlete or Horse in contention for the applicable team selection that could compromise the committee members' ability to participate in the selection process in an unbiased manner. If a conflict exists, the USEF Legal Department and USEF Audit Committee shall review the conflict and determine the committee member's level of involvement (e.g., whether that committee member must recuse oneself from participating in discussions and/or voting). For example, if it is determined that a committee members must recuse oneself from voting, the Audit Committee may still determine that a Selector who has relevant and necessary information with respect to athlete performance, for example a team coach or high performance director, may, if requested by the committee members, provide such information to the committee members so long as such information is provided in a fair and unbiased manner and so long as the committee member with the conflict of interest does not participate in the deliberation or vote toward the final decision. The committee member must not otherwise influence other committee members in the selection process. Additionally, any person (including any potentially impacted Athlete, owner, or coach of a potentially impacted Athlete or Horse) with a good faith belief that a committee member has a conflict of interest may report the alleged conflict of interest to the USEF General Counsel and/or the USEF Audit Committee. Reports may be made anonymously. No committee member shall retaliate in any way against a person who, in good faith, reports an alleged conflict of interest. Any recused individual shall be replaced in accordance with the USEF selection committee appointment process.

3.3. Other Criteria:

- **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, at the owner's expense, by an approved USEF Veterinarian. Horses found to be unsound and/or unfit by the USEF Veterinarian may be eliminated from the Selection Process but only with the recommendation of the Chef d'Mission, USEF Dressage Selectors, 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 FEI Definite Entry may undergo a baseline exam with the USEF Veterinarian, at the owner's expense, any time between selection and the conclusion of the Event. The USEF Veterinarian and the athlete's veterinarian must be in communication regarding the soundness and preparation of the Definite Entry Listed horse.

- **USEF Veterinarian Request**: Applicants, at their own expense, shall make available, upon the request of the USEF Veterinarian, 12 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 USEF Veterinarian for horses under consideration for selection. Failure to comply with any reasonable

request of the USEF Veterinarian may result in the removal of the horse and/or athlete from the selection process upon the recommendation of the Chef d'Mission, USEF Dressage Selectors, and the approval of the USEF Board of Directors, or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the USEF Board of Directors.

- **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 upon the recommendation of the USEF approved physicians(s) and USEF Dressage Selectors, and the approval of the USEF Board of Directors, Executive Committee, or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the USEF 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 of the USEF Dressage Selectors, and the approval of the USEF Board of Directors, or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the USEF Board of Directors.

4. REMOVAL OF ATHLETES

4.1. At all times during the selection process, USEF has jurisdiction over athlete/horse combinations who might participate at the Event. An athlete and/or horse may be removed for any of the following reasons, as determined by USEF and in accordance with these procedures.

- Voluntary withdrawal. The athlete must advise USEF (Laura Roberts, USEF Managing Director of Dressage, lroberts@usef.org) of their withdrawal in writing.
- Injury or illness as certified by a physician (or medical staff) approved by USEF. If an Athlete refuses verification of their illness or injury by a physician (or medical staff) approved by USEF, their injury will be assumed to be disabling and he/she may be removed.
- Violation of the USEF Code of Conduct.
- Violation of the U.S. Center for SafeSport Code or USEF Safe Sport Policy.
- Injury or illness of the Horse as determined by the USEF Dressage Team Veterinarian and/or Veterinary Panel. If an Athlete and/or Horse owner refuses to have the Horse examined by the USEF Dressage Team Veterinarian and/or Veterinary Panel, the injury or illness will be assumed to be disabling and the horse may be removed.
- Detection of a Prohibited Substance in the Horse (see below).
- Failure to adhere to all World Anti-Doping Agency ("WADA"), FEI, USEF, and/or U.S. Anti-Doping Agency ("USADA") anti-doping protocols, policies or procedures regarding Athletes and Horses, including participation in required Out-of-Competition testing.
- Non-compliance with the eligibility requirements listed in Section 1 of these selection procedures.

An athlete who is removed from the Team pursuant to this provision has the right to a hearing per the USEF's Bylaws, Part VII.

5. SUBSTITUTION OF ATHLETES

5.1. Following is the process by which the substitute pool of athlete/horse combinations will be identified: Each Region's Final Ranking and/or ranked list of athlete/horse combinations on the Nominated Entry will comprise the pool of substitute athletes for that Region.

5.2. Substitute athlete/horse combinations will be selected, should a vacancy occur, according to the following method in accordance with the FEI Definite Schedule for the Event

After the Nominated Entries and until two (2) hours before the Horse Inspection, USEF has the discretion to substitute athlete/horse combinations for reasons set forth in Section 4.1 except by voluntary withdrawal, upon recommendation by the Chef de Mission. During this time period, Team members may only be replaced with a substitute athlete/horse combination in order of their ranking. Substitutions may only be made in accordance with the current FEI Rules for Dressage.

6. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

USEF will retain all approved Selection Procedures and all supporting documents, including evaluation forms and data from the selection process for six (6) months past the final day of the Event.

7. REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

The following are required to be properly executed by applicants:

- Application
- USEF Code of Conduct
- Declaration of Domicile
- CDI / Championship Report Form if applicable

Applicants will be required to certify that they have received and read a copy of the USEF Code of Conduct and the Safe Sport Policy and that they understand these and agree to be bound by them.

In addition, all persons participating in any decision made pursuant to the Selection Procedures, including but not limited to the members of the USEF Dressage Selectors, and USEF Board of Directors will be required to abide by the USEF Code of Ethics and Conflict of Interest Policies.

8. USEF SAFE SPORT

Every NAYC participant over the age of 18 including, athletes, Team Staff, Team Chef d'Equipe and Team Coach, shall successfully complete a background check and SafeSport Training as required by the USEF Safe Sport Policy prior to the start of the Event. All participants are responsible for reading and understanding the USEF Safe Sport Policy.

9. PUBLICITY/DISTRIBUTION OF PROCEDURES

The USEF approved Selection Procedures (complete and unaltered) will be posted/published by USEF in the following locations and will include the USEF approval date:

USEF website: www.usef.org - These procedures will be posted as soon as possible, but not more than five (5) business days following notice of approval by the USEF.

10. ANTI-DOPING REQUIREMENTS

10.1. Human Anti-Doping: Athletes must adhere to all WADA, FEI, USADA, and USEF anti-doping protocols, policies, and procedures, as applicable. This includes participation in Out-of-Competition Testing as required by the WADA, FEI, USADA and USEF rules, as applicable.

10.2. Equine Anti-Doping: All 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 Event are subject to drug testing at any time from when the Event begins until the Event ends or beginning when the Horse arrives for the Event until the Event ends, whichever beginning occurs first. Blood and/or urine samples may be collected and tested for substances prohibited or forbidden under the subject Event rules. National Events may invoke GR409 whereby samples will be tested for FEI prohibited substances, including metabolites and markers.

- Positive Finding. At any time during the observation and selection period that the presence of a prohibited or forbidden substance, or a metabolite or marker, is detected in the sample collected in-Event, the results, including the level detected for controlled medications, will be reported to the USEF Chief Executive Officer and General Counsel.
- They will notify the Director of Sport Programs or the Discipline Director for dissemination of information as appropriate. In such instances, 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 of at least one disinterested member of the applicable discipline Sport Committee along with at least two disinterested members of the Hearing Committee, one of which must be an Athlete Representative. The Chairman of the USEF Veterinary Committee, or his designee, may serve Ex Officio and a member of the Veterinary Panel selected for the Championship 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 the start date of the USEF Qualifying Period following notification to the athlete 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 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 instances, the positive finding may result in the elimination of the Horse and/or athlete from the Selection Process unless the Veterinary Panel appointed for the 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.

- These provisions do not abrogate the enforcement of applicable Equine anti-doping rules at Federation licensed Events, including Events where GR409 is invoked whereby samples will be tested for FEI prohibited substances, including metabolites and markers.
- 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 an Event 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 Horse Anti-Doping and Controlled Medication Regulations, which can be found at www.fei.org.

11. DEVELOPMENT OF SELECTION PROCEDURES

The following committees/groups were responsible for creating these Selection Procedures: USEF Dressage Sport Committee, and USEF Board of Directors. See Attachment B for list of USEF committees, their roles, and list of members.

12. USEF BYLAWS AND GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

USEF Bylaws and Grievance Procedures can be found in USEF Bylaws Part VII and in the Supplemental Procedures for Complaints and Grievances. See www.usef.org.

13. NON-DISCRIMATION CLAUSE

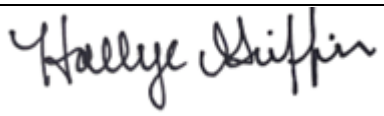
USEF does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion (creed), sex, gender identify, gender expression, age, national origin (ancestry), disability, marital status, sexual orientation, or military status, in any of its activities or operations. Everyone involved in the development of selection procedures and selection process must abide by the Non-Discrimination Policy.

14. INTERNATIONAL DISCLAIMER

These procedures are based on the FEI rules and regulations as presently known and understood. Any change in the selection procedures caused by a change in FEI rules and regulations will be distributed to the affected athletes immediately. The selection criteria are based on the latest information available to USEF. However, the selections are always subject to unforeseen, intervening circumstances, and realistically may not have accounted for every possible contingency.

15. USEF SIGNATURES

I certify that I have read and understand the standards/criteria set by the FEI and incorporated those standards/criteria into our Selection Procedures. I further certify that the information provided herein regarding Athlete Selection Procedures represents the method approved by USEF.

Position	Print Name	Signature	Date
USEF CEO	Bill Moroney		10/26/2026
USEF Director of FEI/High Performance Sport	Hallye Griffin		10/26/2026

Any questions regarding these Selection Procedures should be addressed to:
USEF, Attn: Laura Roberts, 4001 Wing Commander, Lexington, KY 40511 or via e-mail at lroberts@usef.org.