



## MEMORANDUM

**To:** 2023 Pan American Games U.S. Dressage Team Applicants

**Date:** May 15, 2023

**From:** Laura Roberts, Managing Director of Dressage

**Re:** Observation Events – 2023 Pan American Games (Dressage)

Per the Selection Procedures for the 2023 Pan American Games U.S. Dressage Team, at the conclusion of the initial qualifying period (September 15, 2022 – July 9, 2023), it is anticipated that up to eight (8) athletes will be selected to a Short List and required to compete in Observation Events, anticipated to be scheduled between July 10, 2023 and October 20, 2023. Additional athletes may be added to the Short List (see Section 1.2.3). Waivers may be considered for the Observation Events upon approval by the Selectors (see section 1.3.3 of the Selection Procedures).

Athlete/horse combinations named to the Short List must compete in one of the following Observation Events:

- The 2023 U.S. Dressage Festival of Champions (Grand Prix or Intermediaire I National Championships) Details can be found on the USEF website (<https://www.usef.org/compete/disciplines/dressage/dressage-championships---national--fei/us-dressage-festival-of-champions>);
- or
- A minimum of one FEI Dressage Event between July 10, 2023 and September 10, 2023 (CDI3\* and above for Big Tour and CDI1\* for Small Tour) A list of events can be found online (<https://data.fei.org/Calendar/Search.aspx>).

Athlete/horse combinations named to the Short List are required to maintain a “State of Preparedness” (see definition below). A competition plan to ensure “State of Preparedness” will be agreed upon between each Short List athlete and the Chef d’Equipe, in consultation with the Selectors. In exceptional circumstances, European or US national events may be approved in addition to the events listed above as part of the competition plan with stipulations regarding video, judges, equipment, FEI drug rules.

Additionally, “Home Visits” (see definition below) may be conducted with each Short List athlete/horse combination.

An athlete named to the Short List may request special consideration for Team selection without competing in the required number of Observation Events by submitting a written request prior to or during the Observation Events to the Selectors who will approve or disapprove the request based on these factors:

- An athlete/horse combination that has demonstrated “Proven Ability” (See definition below) to succeed at CDI competitions;
- Previous international experience of the athlete and/or horse;
- 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
- Unforeseen circumstances which create a logistical emergency.

The 2023 Pan American Games are scheduled to take place in Santiago, Chile October 20-November 5, 2023.

|                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| <b>20 October</b> | Horse Inspection   |
| <b>21 October</b> | Horse Re-Inspection                                      |
|                   | Official Familiarization                                 |
| <b>22 October</b> | Prix St. George / Grand Prix (Team & Individual)         |
| <b>23 October</b> | Intermediate I / Grand Prix Special (Team & Individual)  |
|                   | Medal Ceremony   |
| <b>24 October</b> | Second Horse Inspection                                  |
| <b>25 October</b> | Freestyle Intermediate I / Grand Prix (Individual Final) |
|                   | Medal Ceremony   |

**STATE OF PREPAREDNESS** – Athlete/horse combinations overall state of readiness to perform successfully at International Dressage Competition, not just limited to health and soundness of the horse.

**HOME VISITS** – Visits with the Technical Advisor/Chef d’Equipe, Team Veterinarian (or a member of the Veterinary Panel), and the USEF Managing Director, Dressage where veterinary evaluations are conducted and training is observed. Additionally, key performance indicators and targets are agreed upon. Selectors, the USEF Dressage Development Coach, and/or guest trainers may be invited to attend Home Visits.

**PROVEN ABILITY**

*Big Tour Applicants: Athlete/horse combination has earned 74% or higher in CDI Grand Prix or CDI Grand Prix Special in 2022 or 2023.*

*Small Tour Applicants: Athlete/horse combination has earned 77% or higher in CDI Prix St. Georges or CDI Intermediate I in 2022 or 2023.*

**If you have any questions regarding this memo, please do not hesitate to contact Laura Roberts at (859) 225-6986 or [lroberts@usef.org](mailto:lroberts@usef.org).**