



## REGIONAL SELECTION POLICY 2013

### OBJECTIVE OF SELECTION POLICY

The over-riding objective of the Selection Policy is to guide selection of Regional teams in a fair, equitable and transparent way. Selection for Teams is open to all British Dressage members resident in the respective BD Region.

Selection is subject to compliance with British Dressage, BEF and FEI Rules on doping and medication control for Human and Equine.

The Selection Policy applies to the selection of riders / teams for the following:

- Senior Home International
- Senior Inter-Regional Competition
- Para Home International

### ELIGIBILITY / AVAILABILITY FOR CONSIDERATION

The RDO is responsible for ensuring that all riders available for selection have current British Dressage membership.

Only riders fulfilling the criteria stated in the schedule will be considered for selection.

Riders applying for consideration for selection **MUST** ensure their availability for the dates of the respective competition they are applying for. Received applications will deem to be automatic acceptance of the published competition dates.

Riders will only be considered for **two** team competitions in any one calendar year. However, in exceptional circumstances (e.g. the region has too few riders who meet the required eligibility levels), this restriction may be waived with the approval of the Regional Committee.

Riders may only represent their region in one category each calendar year, ie: BYRDS or Senior's. Para riders may go forwards for the Para Home International and one other competition either BYRDS or Senior Inter-Regional's, Sheepgate Under 25's .

#### **Senior Eligibility**

- Riders are required to attend **three** BD regional training events in the 12 month period preceding the final selection date. Attendance at Regional training in neighbouring regions can be included and Riders should inform their RDO if they have attended training in another region.
- Regional residential camps will be counted as **two** BD regional training events.

- **One** non-ridden session may count towards eligibility (e.g. DVD evenings, veterinary talks etc).
- Senior Riders may be required to submit progress charts at the request of the regional selection panel.

### **Para Eligibility**

- Riders are required to attend **two** regional training days and both must be ridden.
- The Para Home International is open to Para riders aged 12 yrs and over.

### **SELECTION CRITERIA**

The Selectors reserve the right not to send a team or individual to any competition.

**Selection will be based on results from BD competitions.**

#### **Senior Selection**

Riders will be asked to submit their highest 6 scores at affiliated dressage competitions in the 12 months preceding selection. Only scores achieved at the relevant level can be considered (i.e the level at which the rider is hoping to compete), this may not include training sections. Freestyle scores cannot be considered.

The mean average score of each combination will be calculated and selection will be based on the highest average scores at each level. Where scores are very close (less than 1 % between them) the selection panel will review the competition record and any additional information and make decisions based on consistency and recent form. Past form at major events and team events, may be taken into consideration.

A list of selected combinations will be published on the regional pages of the BD website following selection.

Due to the limited number of spaces available at the Senior Inter-regional and Senior Home International riders may only be selected with one horse per competition.

#### **Para Selection**

Riders will be asked to submit their highest 3 scores at affiliated para dressage competitions in the 12 months preceding selection. Only scores achieved at the relevant grade can be considered, this may not include training sections. Freestyle scores cannot be considered.

The mean average score of each rider will be calculated and selection will be based on the highest average scores at each level. Where scores are very close (less than 1 % between them) the selection panel will review the competition record and any additional information and make decisions based on consistency and recent form. Past form at major events and team events, may be taken into consideration.

A list of selected combinations will be published on the regional pages of the BD website following selection.

## **SELECTION PANEL**

All Selectors will be appointed by the British Dressage Regional Committee. They will have the knowledge and experience required to effectively select teams and will be as free from all vested interests / conflicts of interest as is possible. A register of Declarations of Interest will be maintained by the CEO of British Dressage and is available for inspection.

If any member of the Selection Panel would like to be considered for selection then they must stand down from the Selection Panel for the relevant event and should not take part in any of the selection processes for this event.

If any one of the Selectors has privately trained any rider who is being considered for selection they must not take part in the selection decision involving that individual.

The **Senior Selection Panel** will comprise the following:-

- Regional Chair
- A Senior Judge within the region
- 1 x other individual considered to have suitable experience and no perceived conflict of interest

The **Para Selection Panel** will comprise the following:-

- Para Representative
- Regional Chair
- 1 x other individual considered to have suitable experience and no perceived conflict of interest.

NB: Subject to budgetary constraints, Regional Committees are encouraged to consider using the third selection position for an individual from outside the region. Where this is not possible, it is vital the selector should have no connections to individuals being considered.

## **CONFIDENTIALITY**

It is vitally important for the integrity of the Selection Policy and those involved in its application both as riders, owners, selectors or other officials, that there is at all times a high degree of confidentiality relating to information which may have a bearing on selection.

## **TEAM SPIRIT**

Team spirit is of utmost importance and each region expects riders and their supporters to have good attitude and participate in all the required activities. A high level of commitment to all the varied aspects for the preparation process is important.

## **FITNESS**

Although good results in competitions are important, the onus is on the riders not to over campaign their horses / ponies.

It is important that riders plan ahead so they and their horse / pony are in the best form for the designated Home International / Inter Regional.

## **FINANCE**

All Home Internationals / Inter Regional competitions will be entirely self-funded by riders in 2013.

Regions may conduct fund-raising activity to assist riders with the funding of attendance at the competition. Details will be available via the RDO.

## **RULES**

All Selected riders agree to abide by the rules of the competition at all times.

## **SUBSTITUTION**

The Selectors may substitute a Team member for a Reserve between the announcement of the Team up to one hour before the Veterinary Inspection (Home International) or start of competition (Inter Regionals). However the reason for a substitution must be only because either there is a strong veterinary case for substitution or the performance of the Team member has dropped off to such an extent that for the success of the Team a substitution is vital. The latter situation will almost certainly occur as a result of a veterinary problem which it may or may not be possible to define given the time/resources available at the time.

If the decision is made to change a Team member for a reserve then this issue must be handled in a very sensitive and sympathetic manner.

## **CHANGING REGION**

If a horse is stabled in a different region to the rider's address the rider may nominate which region they wish to ride for. However the combination may only be selected for the team on the basis of regional training in the nominated region.

If a rider lives within 10 miles of the border between regions, or significantly closer to activities in a neighbouring region than the activities held in their own region, they may nominate to ride for the neighbouring region. However the combination may only be selected for the team on the basis of regional training in the nominated region.

Under either circumstance both of the RDO's involved must be made aware, and a rider may not change region more than once per year.

## **CHANGES IN POLICY**

The Selectors will have the right to amend or change selection policies where necessary at any time in order to fulfil the objectives of the Selection Policy as long as these changes and amendments are clearly communicated to all parties.

## **CANCELLATION / POSTPONEMENT**

In the event of cancellation the relevant parties will be notified straightaway. In the event of postponement a situation might arise where a new and/or different squad needs to be selected in which case all parties will be notified and normal procedure for selection will be followed.

## **FORCE MAJEURE**

In the event of exceptional circumstances beyond the NGB's control e.g. disease outbreak in horses or humans, war or terrorism, the British Dressage Board reserves the right to make the decision

either to change the selection policy or procedure which might include withdrawing the Teams from competition or cancelling the competition.

### **VETERINARY / MEDICAL**

Short listed riders must notify their RDO / Senior Training or Para Representative of any change in their own health or fitness status, or their horse / pony health status or veterinary / medical management immediately.

### **AVAILABILITY**

A rider's application (to be considered for selection) is taken as a rider's declaration to be available for the dates of the competition for which they have applied.

### **ENQUIRIES**

Enquiries about the Selection Policy can be made either in writing or on the telephone to the RDO in the first instance or relevant Selector.

### **APPEALS PROCESS AND PROCEDURES**

Riders have the right to appeal against the decision of the selectors. Appeals must be made in writing within 48 hrs of the announcements. Appeals must be sent to the Chief Executive of British Dressage. If the Chief Executive is not able to satisfy the appellant's concerns the appeal may be forwarded to the BEF. The processes and procedures of the BEF Appeals process are set out in the BEF Rule Book.