



# HORSE SPORT IRELAND

Athlete Selection Policy

FEI World Equestrian Games™

Tryon, (USA) 12-22 September, 2018

Dressage WEG-D

## SECTION I TIMELINES

1.1	<b>30 July 2018</b>	Pursuant to the <a href="#">FEI Dressage Rules, 2018, Chapter V, CDIOS, World, Continental, Regional, Individual and Team Dressage, FEI Championships and Games, Art 449.1.2.2</a> An NF may enter one (1) team, each team is composed of three (3) Athletes and three (3) Horses or four (4) Athletes and four (4) Horses. Reserve combinations are not allowed. In a team composed of four (4) Athletes the three (3) best scores only count for the team result. As such, the Senior Dressage & Para-Dressage High Performance Director reserves her right to select a team of three (3) or a team of four (4), or where circumstances prevail one (1) or two (2) individuals. The number of athlete combinations selected to compete at the WEG-D, is discretionary on the part of the Senior Dressage & Para-Dressage High Performance Director, regardless of athletes achieving the Minimum Eligibility Requirement (MER) and taking into account all factors in delivering the best possible result for Team Ireland. The selection for Dressage WEG-D will be made on 30 July 2018.
1.3	<b>13 August 2018</b>	Horse Sport Ireland formally submits the nominated entries to the FEI, to include a certificate of capability for the WEG, pursuant to FEI General Regulations Art. 116.2.2.i. For CH-M-D/Dressage each NF may submit a Nominated Entries list of maximum 8 athletes and 8 horses for WEG-D.
1.4	<b>3 September 2018</b>	Horse Sport Ireland will submit the Definite Entries to the FEI for Dressage WEG-D.

## SECTION II ELIGIBILITY FOR SELECTION

- 2.1 All athletes and horses wishing to compete at the WEG-D must in the first instance achieve a Minimum Eligibility Requirement (MER) in accordance with [FEI World Equestrian Games Qualification Procedures](#).
- 2.2 It is the sole responsibility of each Athlete to ensure that the athlete/horse combination has the required MER for the level of the Championship.

## SECTION III RESPONSIBILITIES

- 3.1 It is the sole responsibility of each Athlete to be fully aware and understand the current FEI Rules for Dressage FEI Clean Sport policy and all relevant information with regard to the [World Equestrian Games™ 2018](#).
- 3.2 Athletes must strictly abide by the rules & principles of the following:
  - i. [FEI General Regulations & FEI Sport Rules](#);
  - ii. FEI Code of Conduct for the Welfare of the Horse;
  - iii. HIS & [FEI Equine Anti-Doping Rules and Equine Controlled Medication Rules](#) and the [Human Anti-Doping Rules](#) as set out by the FEI and Sport Ireland;
  - iv. Horse Sport Ireland General Rules;

- v. The Horse Sport Ireland '*Athlete Code of Conduct*' please see **Appendix 1** attached;
  - vi. The Horse Sport Ireland '*Social Media Policy*', please see **Appendix 2** attached;
  - vii. Athletes are ambassadors of equestrian sport, they shall not act in a manner that brings Team Ireland Equestrian into disrepute,
- 3.3 Prompt communications with the Senior Dressage & Para-Dressage High Performance Director, Team Veterinarian(s) and Horse Sport Ireland in relation to the HSI Senior Dressage & Para-Dressage High Performance Programme are required throughout the season;
- 3.4 Athletes must show a commitment to personal fitness and professional behavior;
- 3.5 All Athletes selected will be required to wear the official HSI Team Ireland Equestrian kit while participating at the WEG-D;
- 3.7 One of the goals of the Horse Sport Ireland Dressage & Para-Dressage High Performance Programme is to build a good team spirit within the squad. If an athlete is not contributing to this, the Senior Dressage & Para-Dressage High Performance Director reserves the right to remove that combination from the squad with immediate effect.

#### SECTION IV VETERINARY

- 4.1 The Senior Dressage & Para-Dressage High Performance Director and/or Horse Sport Ireland can request that a horse be made available for inspection by the Team Veterinarian(s) or an appointed Veterinarian at any time. Athletes must comply with this request.
- 4.2 Athletes must notify the Senior Dressage & Para-Dressage High Performance Director of any change in their horse's health status or of any veterinary issues when they first become apparent;
- 4.3 The Senior Dressage & Para-Dressage High Performance Director and/or Horse Sport Ireland can send the Team Veterinarian or an appointed Veterinarian to take a blood and/or urine sample from a horse at any time, for the purposes of testing for prohibited substances, and/or FEI Pre-Arrival Testing and/or as part of an assessment of the horse's well-being;
- 4.4 Athletes (at their own expense), shall make available, upon the request of the Team Veterinarian or an appointed Veterinarian, the veterinary records of horse(s) being considered for selection. In addition, athletes, (at their own expense), shall be responsible for supplying any follow-up diagnostic information requested by the Team Veterinarian for horses being considered for selection. Failure to comply with any request of the Team Veterinarian or an appointed Veterinarian may result in the removal of the athlete/horse combination from selection by the High Performance Director;
- 4.5 Each athlete will be required to keep a medication log book for their horses in which they shall record all products, treatments, foodstuffs and supplements used on or given to their horse from **3 June 2018** until the conclusion of the WEG-D.
- 4.6 The Team Veterinarian will be entitled to view this log book at any time. Athletes are required to submit this log book together with the Medication and Anti-Doping Control Declaration (**Appendix 3**) to the Team Veterinarian for assessment **on or before the FEI Final Definite Entries 3 September 2018 [WEG-D]** in line with Rule 8.12 of the Horse Sport Ireland General Rules.
- 4.7 In the event that treatments and medications are necessary **subsequent** to the submission of the log book, express approval is required from Team Veterinarian and the Senior Dressage & Para-Dressage High Performance Director. This is a **mandatory requirement** to ensure that squad horses are managed appropriately within the pre-competition window and before departure.
- 4.8 For the purposes of section IV, the Senior Dressage & Para-Dressage High Performance Director reserves her right to remove an athlete combination from

selection, where the athlete does not comply with any of the above veterinary requests or the horse is deemed unsound and/or unfit by the Team Veterinarian to travel and compete at the WEG-D. The decision of the Senior Dressage & Para-Dressage High Performance Director on advice from Team Veterinarian is final.

- 4.9 Athletes should note that horses eligible for the World Equestrian Games will be subjected to [FEI Pre-Arrival Testing \(PAT\)](#). The PAT service will be available from 14 July 2018 until 23 August for full screening, thereafter elective screening until 5 September. The Dressage & Para-Dressage High Performance Director reserves her right to select horses for PAT. The Team Veterinarian can submit samples that will be tested for substances listed on the FEI Equine Prohibited Substances List. Samples are to be sent to the FEI Central Laboratory, LGC in Newmarket, the same laboratory appointed to analyze A samples taken at the World Equestrian Games. This is a confidential process whereby the results will only be disclosed to the Senior Dressage & Para-Dressage High Performance Director & Team Veterinarian.

## SECTION V SPECIFIC SELECTION CRITERIA

### Dressage WEG-D

- 5.1 The primary aim of this criteria is to select athlete and horse combinations to represent Ireland who will deliver the best possible team and/or individual result, and Olympic qualification at the World Equestrian Games, Tryon USA in the equestrian discipline of Dressage.
- 5.2 The Senior Dressage & Para-Dressage High Performance Director will take the following criteria into account in making her selection decision and have due regard to the relevant statistical performance evidence available.
- 5.3 The results by the horse and athlete combination at the relevant shows in 2017 & 2018 with emphasis on Grand Prix and Grand Prix Special classes followed by consideration of those in the Kur. Scores obtained in 2017 will be given greater weight by the Dressage & Para-Dressage High Performance Director than scores obtained in 2018.
- 5.4 Further consideration will be given to:
- i. Consistency of scores over 68%;
  - ii. The star level of the shows and the star level of the panels of judges;
  - iii. The trend in average GP and GPS scores in 2017 & 2018;
  - iv. Scores in 2017 & 2017 – scores in 2018 will be given greater weight than scores obtained in 2017;
  - v. The overall quality of the start list (determined by FEI rankings of the other athletes and their current form);
  - vi. The athlete/horse combination's experience and ability to cope with the pressures and challenges of the 2018 WEG-D will come into consideration.
  - vii. Commitment to the HSI High Performance Dressage & Para-Dressage Programme;
- 5.5 The following events will be deemed nominated key events for the purposes of selection for the WEG-D. All combinations eligible for selection will be expected to (unless expressly excused by the Dressage & Para-Dressage High Performance Director) to compete at a minimum of two of the nominated key events below:

Lier 4*	28 February – 4 March 2018
Saumur 3*	3-6 May 2018
Windsor 4*	9-13 May 2018
Compeign 3* CDIO NC	17-20 May 2018
Aachen 3* and 5*	29-31 May 2018 & 17-22 July 2018
Roosendaal 4*	31 May – 3 June 2018
Rotterdam CDIO5* NC	21 – 24 June 2018
Fritzens 4*	29 June – 1 July 2018
Hartpury 3*	3-8 July 2018
Hickstead CDIO3* NC	26-29 July 2018
Nice 3*	2-8 August 2018
Cappeln 4*	9-12 August 2018

5.6 In assessing the performance of Dressage combinations, the Senior Dressage & Para-Dressage High Performance Director may give consideration to the following general measures. These general measures include, but are not limited to:

- i. An athlete's form on other horses may also be taken in to consideration;
- ii. the suitability of the Combination with regard to the likely characteristics of the arenas in Tryon, (USA) and for the unexpected conditions of the WEG-D (taking into account the objective of the team and individual competition);
- iii. the ability of the Athlete and his/her support team to operate and perform in a FEI championship environment which is highly regulated & pressurised;
- iv. the ability of the Athlete and/or support team to contribute towards an effective team and winning orientated environment;
- v. the overall balance of the Combinations that have been selected;
- vi. the ability and experience of the Combination to compete successfully at the highest level of international competition;
- vii. demonstrated experience and/ or success at Championship level; the ability, or potential ability, of a Horse and/or Athlete to perform under the stress and pressure of a FEI Championships;
- viii. the ability of the Athlete, and/or their personal management team to prepare their Horse to peak condition for a major campaign, such as the FEI Championship;
- ix. consistency of performance and the likelihood of a suitable performance to contribute towards a team medal outcome may be a consideration;
- x. exceptional ability of a Combination (and the potential to achieve an individual medal) may be a consideration and may, in the Senior Dressage & Para-Dressage High Performance Director's sole discretion, place a Combination with less experience or consistency ahead of another Combination;

5.7 The Senior Dressage & Para-Dressage High Performance Director will consider section 5.4 (vii) in the following guise:

- i. Success individually, and as a Team Ireland Member;
  - ii. Personal bests at targeted competitions;
  - iii. Taking ownership of their performances;
  - iv. Being willing to make change and develop;
  - v. Commitment to team and to drive best team culture;
  - vi. Have personal coaches, individual performance plans, personal fitness structures and horse management programmes in place;
- 5.8 The soundness of the horse to meet the challenges of competing and travelling to the WEG-D Tryon, and (USA) will be a significant factor in any selection decision. Athletes must keep the Senior Dressage & Para-Dressage High Performance Director fully briefed on any health or soundness issues the horse may have both historically and throughout the selection period. From the date of selection, all squad members must immediately inform the Senior Dressage & Para-Dressage High Performance Director and Team Veterinarian(s) of any illness or injury (however minor). Where it becomes apparent that a squad horse is unsound, and/or that there was a non-disclosure relating to soundness, the Senior Dressage & Para-Dressage High Performance Director reserves the right to remove that combination from the squad with immediate effect. The decision of the Senior Dressage & Para-Dressage High Performance Director on advice from the Team Veterinarian is final.
- 5.9 Prior and subsequent to selection, the Senior Dressage & Para-Dressage High Performance Director may undertake regular evaluations as to the combinations standard of fitness, their progress in training, their preparedness for the event and their form. Any advices provided by the Team Veterinarian and medical professionals may be utilised by the Senior Dressage & Para-Dressage High Performance Director, where required. However, such evaluations shall be discretionary on the part of the Senior Dressage & Para-Dressage High Performance Director.
- 5.10 Furthermore, the Senior Dressage & Para-Dressage High Performance Director shall have the authority to remove a selected horse/athlete combination from the squad or as a reserve, where the selected horse and/or athlete has not maintained their fitness, standard of performance, or any other performance related matter in which the HPD considers important, which is not a standard comparable to that exhibited so as to gain selection to represent Ireland at the WEG-D Tryon, (USA).

## SECTION VI FORCE MAJEURE

- 6.1 In considering the performances of athletes at events or other attendances in line with this policy, the Senior Dressage & Para-Dressage High Performance Director may, at her discretion, give weight to extenuating circumstances.
- 6.2 For the purposes of section 6.1 above, extenuating circumstances means an inability to compete, or perform at an optimum level arising from:
- i. Injury or illness;
  - ii. Bereavement or personal misfortune, and/or;
  - iii. Any other factors reasonably considered by the Senior Dressage & Para-Dressage High Performance Director to constitute extenuating circumstances;
- 6.3 Athletes unable to compete at camps, events, trials or other attendances required under this policy must advise the Senior Dressage & Para-Dressage High Performance Director by email of this fact and the reasons thereof as soon as practicable after the extenuating circumstances arise.
- 6.4 In the case of injury or illness, athletes may be required to undergo a medical examination by a doctor or doctor (s) nominated by Horse Sport Ireland. The Senior Dressage & Para-Dressage High Performance Director reserves her right to remove an athlete where the designated medical officer deems the athlete unfit to compete, at the level which resulted in their selection for WEG-D.

- 6.5 A decision in each case of extenuating circumstances will be made by the Senior Dressage & Para-Dressage High Performance Director on a case by case basis.

#### **SECTION VII REMOVAL OF ATHLETES**

- 7.1 An athlete shall be removed from squad selection (individual or team) non- travelling reserve selection, FEI Nominated Entries and/or FEI Final Entries by the Senior Dressage & Para-Dressage High Performance Director pursuant clause 3.7, 4.6, 5.8, 5.10 & 6.4 above;
- 7.2 An athlete may be removed from squad shortlisting & selection (individual or team), non- travelling reserve selection, FEI Nominated Entries and/or FEI Final Entries for any of the following reasons, as determined by Horse Sport Ireland Sport Panel;
- i. Notification of an adverse analytical finding following on from testing pursuant to the FEI & HSI Equine Anti-Doping Rules and Equine Controlled Medication Rules & FEI & Sport Ireland Human Anti-Doping Protocols;
  - ii. Violation of the FEI & HSI Equine Anti-Doping Rules and Equine Controlled Medication Rules & FEI & Sport Ireland Human Anti-Doping Protocols;
  - iii. Violation of the FEI Hypersensitivity Protocol;
  - iv. Violation or alleged violation of the FEI Sport Rules and Regulations, HSI General Rules and/or Policies;
  - v. Violation or alleged violation of the HSI Code of Conduct;
  - vi. Any action which could damage the reputation of the Sport or the Country;
- 7.3 The Senior Dressage & Para-Dressage High Performance Director reserves the right to refer any matter outlined in 7.2 above to the Horse Sport Ireland Sport Panel for determination.
- 7.4 A decision of the Horse Sport Ireland Sport Panel is final and binding.

#### **SECTION VIII DISCLAIMERS**

- 8.1 These procedures are based on FEI General Regulations and applicable FEI Sport Rules as presently known and understood. The selection criteria are based on the latest information available to HSI. However, the selections are always subject to unforeseen, intervening circumstances, and realistically may not have accounted for every possible contingency.
- 8.2 As such, this policy can be amended at any time by Horse Sport Ireland. Horse Sport Ireland reserves the right to amend or change the Selection Policy where necessary at any time in order to fulfil the objective of the Selection Policy. In the event, that Horse Sport Ireland is of the opinion that such an amendment is necessary as a result of any change in any of the above stated rules, regulations and agreements, to give effect to the policy following discovery of a drafting error or oversight or for any other reason determined to be in the best interests of Horse Sport Ireland. Horse Sport Ireland shall not be responsible or liable in any way to anyone as a result of any such amendment.

#### **SECTION IX APPEALS**

- 9.1 An eligible athlete who fails to be selected for a team/squad place pursuant to the process and criteria set out in this policy, may appeal against omission from the team/squad selection as set out in this section.
- 9.2 The sole grounds of any appeal are that:

- i. the athlete’s omission from selection for the team place was as a result of a failure by the Senior Dressage & Para-Dressage High Performance Director to properly apply the selection criteria set out in this policy; and/or that
  - ii. there was no material on which the selection decision could reasonably be based;
  - iii. there has been a failure to adhere to the procedure set out in the applicable Selection Policy;
- 9.3 Any appeal under section IX will be dealt with by Just Sport Ireland. <http://justsport.ie/>, JSI is an independent dispute resolution service for Irish Sport.
- 9.4 Appeals will be heard by Just Sport Ireland and otherwise proceed in accordance with the time limits set out below and in accordance Just Sport Ireland Arbitration Rules for final and binding arbitration. The Just Sport Ireland Rules, **please see [Appendix 4]**.
- 9.5 Notice of Appeal:  
Any eligible athlete wishing to appeal against their omission from the selection must lodge a Notice of Appeal Form (Appendix A, JSI Rules), and comply with the requirements as set out in Rule 14 and Rule 57 of Just Sport Ireland Arbitration Rules. Athletes must submit the completed form within **72 hours of receipt** by them of the selection decision via phone call from the High Performance Director. Athletes should note that the time limit as set out in JSI Rule 14.2 (b) does not apply in this instance.
- 9.6 Statement of Appeal:  
Within 48 hours after lodging the JSI Notice of Appeal Form, the appellant (the athlete making the appeal) must file a Statement of Appeal as set out in Rule 14.2 (f) & (g) of JSI Arbitration Rules, Appendix B. Athletes should note that the time limit of (7) days as set out in JSI Rule 14.2 (f) does not apply in this instance.
- 9.7 Reply  
Within 48 hours from receipt of the Statement of Appeal, the Respondent (High Performance Director) shall file a “Reply Form” in accordance with the provisions of Rule 14.3 (a) & (b) and Rule 57 of the JSI Arbitration Rules. Athletes should note that the time limit of (14) days as set out in JSI Rule 14.2 (a) does not apply in this instance.

Ends.

**Approved by the Board of Horse Sport Ireland 15 May 2015**

#### Appendices Schedule

<b>Appendix 1</b>	Athlete Code of Conduct
<b>Appendix 2</b>	HSI Social Media Policy
<b>Appendix 3</b>	HSI Medication and Anti Doping Control Logbook & Declaration
<b>Appendix 4</b>	Just Sport Ireland Rules
	FEI World Equestrian Games 2018 Qualification Procedures

#### Key Timelines

3 June 2018	Eligible Athletes to commencing medication and foodstuffs recording within the designated HSI Medication and Anti-Doping Control Declaration (Appendix 3)
17 – 19 July 2018	Pre-Export Testing (Health Certificates) to be completed and sent to BOSE Laboratory Germany for analysis. *** Cut-off date 19 July 2018
3 Sept 2018	WEG-D selected athletes to submit the Medication and Anti-Doping Control Declaration (Appendix 3) to the Team Veterinarian.

3 Sept 2018	Horse Sport Ireland will submit the Definite Entries to the FEI.
4 Sept 2018	Squad Horses travel to Liege, BEL for charter flight to Greenville-Spartanberg, international airport, USA.
	Horse arrive - GSP 14:20 and travel by truck to Tryon Equestrian Centre, USA
	Horses enter Post Arrival Quarantine (PAQ) – Tryon USA. ** Please refer to <a href="#">Equestrian Freight Manual</a>