



**Athlete Selection Policy**  
**FEI European Children on Horses and Junior Dressage Championships, 2020**  
**CH-EU-CH-D/CH-EU-J-D Budapest Region - Pilisjaszfalu (HUN)**  
**9-14 August 2020**

**SECTION I TIMELINES**

The selection timelines for the CH-EU-CH-D/U25-D Pilisjaszfalu (HUN) are as follows:

<b>Monday 13 July 2020 Selection Date</b>	<p>Pursuant to Annex 2, Annex 3 and Annex 5 of the FEI Dressage Rules 2018, each NF may enter one (1) team of not more than four (4) Athletes and four (4) horses for both the Children and Junior age category. Individuals instead of teams: An NF which cannot send a team may enter one (1) or two (2) individual Athletes, each with one (1) Horse.</p> <p><b>Children:</b> For the Children category, individuals may be selected by the Selection Panel as per Section V Competition &amp; General Measures, arising out of their performances throughout the season.</p> <p><b>Junior:</b> For the Junior category, individuals may be selected by the Selection Panel as per Section V Competition &amp; General Measures, arising out of their performances throughout the season.</p> <p><b>Note:</b> All Athletes should note that the <b>number of athletes</b> selected for CH-EU-CH-D/CH-EU-J-D Pilisjaszfalu (HUN) is discretionary on the part of the Selection Panel regardless of FEI requirements taking into account all factors for the Youth Dressage High Performance Programme for 2020.</p>
<b>Monday 13 July 2020</b>	Horse Sport Ireland formally submits the nominated entries (Children and Junior combinations) to the FEI for the CH-EU-CH-D/CH-EU-J-D Pilisjaszfalu (HUN) pursuant to FEI General Regulations Art.116.2.2
<b>28 July 2020</b>	Horse Sport Ireland will submit the Definite Entries to the FEI;
<b>TBC</b>	The IRL European CH-J Dressage squad will depart for Pilisjaszfalu (HUN)

**SECTION II ELIGIBILITY FOR SELECTION**

- 2.1 All athletes and horses wishing to compete at the CH-EU-CH-D/CH-EU-J-D Pilisjaszfalu (HUN) must in the first instance have attained (as a combination) one final percentage score of minimum 65% in a Team or Individual Competition Test at a CDIch/J from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2019 until the date of nominated entries.

- 2.2 It is the sole responsibility of each Children on Horses/Junior Dressage Athlete, their Person Responsible and/or their personal management team to ensure that the athlete/horse combination meets the required level for selection.
- 2.3 Thereafter, Children and Junior Dressage Athletes, their Person Responsible and/or their personal management team should be mindful that the criteria as stated above, is only a **MINIMUM** requirement.
- 2.4 Children may compete as a child from the beginning of the calendar year in which he reaches the age of twelve (12) until the end of the calendar year in which he reaches the age of fourteen (14). A person may compete in CDIs and Championships for Juniors from the beginning of the calendar year in which he reaches the age of fourteen (14) until the end of the year in which he reaches the age of eighteen (18).

### SECTION III RESPONSIBILITES

- 3.1 It is the sole responsibility of all Children and Junior Dressage Athletes, their Person Responsible and/or their personal management team to be fully cognisant of the current [FEI Rules for Dressage](#) and the [FEI Clean Sport policy](#).
- 3.2 Athletes must strictly abide by the principles of the following:
  - i. FEI General Regulations;
  - ii. FEI Code of Conduct for the Welfare of the Horse;
  - iii. [HSI & 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 and Policies;
  - v. The Horse Sport Ireland '*Athlete Code of Conduct*' and act in a manner that does not bring Team Ireland Equestrian into disrepute, please see **Appendix 1** attached;
  - vi. The Horse Sport Ireland '*Social Media Policy*', please see **Appendix 2** attached;
- 3.3 Prompt communications with the Selection Panel, Team Veterinarian and Horse Sport Ireland in relation to the High-Performance Youth Dressage Programme are required throughout the season.
- 3.5 Athletes must show a commitment to personal fitness and professional behaviour.
- 3.6 All Athletes selected will be required to wear the official HSI Team Ireland Equestrian kit while participating at the CH-EU-CH-D /CH-EU-J-D in Pilisjaszfalu (HUN).
- 3.7 One of the goals of the Horse Sport Ireland High Performance Youth Dressage Programme is to build a good team spirit within the squad.

### SECTION IV VETERINARY

- 4.1 The Selection Panel can request that a Horse be made available for inspection by the Team Veterinarian or an appointed Veterinarian at any time. Athletes must comply with this request.
- 4.2 Athletes must notify the Selection Panel of any change in their horse's health status or of any veterinary issues when they first become apparent;
- 4.3 The Selection Panel 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 as part of an assessment of the horse's well-being, either NF testing or FEI Elective Testing.
- 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 horses 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. Athletes, (at their own expense), are to consider any treatment prescribed by the Team Veterinarian, in consultation with the horses regular Private Treating Veterinarian. 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 Selection Panel.
  - 4.5 Each athlete will be required to keep a logbook for their horses in which they must record all products, treatments, supplements used on or given to their horse from selection date **Monday 13 July 2020** until the first vet inspection on **18 August 2020**. The Team Veterinarian will be entitled to view this logbook at any time. Athletes are required to submit this logbook together with the Medication and Anti-Doping Control Declaration (**Appendix 3**) to the Team Veterinarian on or before **3 August 2020** in line with Rule 8.12 of the Horse Sport Ireland General Rules.
  - 4.6 In the event that treatments and medications are necessary subsequent to the submission of the logbook, express approval is required from Team Veterinarian and the Selection Panel. This is a mandatory requirement to ensure that squad horses are managed appropriately within the pre-competition window and before departure.
  - 4.7 For the purposes of section IV, the Selection Panel reserves their 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 by the Team Veterinarian to travel and compete at the CH-EU-CH-D/CH-EU-J-D Pilisjaszfalu (HUN). The decision of the Selection Panel on advice from the Team Veterinarian is final.

## SECTION V SPECIFIC SELECTION CRITERIA

### Children and Junior

- 5.1 Pursuant to Art. J-16.2 of FEI Dressage Rules 2020, 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. Alternatively, An NF which cannot send a team may enter one (1) or two (2) individual Athletes, each with one (1) Horse.
- 5.2 For 2020, the Selection Panel in their absolute sole discretion will only select individuals to compete at the CH-EU-CH-D and CH-EU-J-D. Further, the Selection Panel will decide on the number of athletes who will be entered.
- 5.3 For the CH-EU-CH-D and CH-EU-J-D, individual places shall be selected by the Selection Panel in their sole and absolute discretion, considering the competition and general measures as set out in Art.5.19 – 5.22 to achieve the best possible result at the CH-EU-CH-D/CH-EU-J-D Pilisjaszfalu (HUN).
- 5.4 **Selectors** - All Selectors will be appointed by the Board of Horse Sport Ireland and will operate pursuant to the FEI Youth Dressage Youth European Championships™ 2020 Selection Panel Terms of Reference.
  - 5.4.1 The Selectors as a panel will have the knowledge and experience required to select combinations and will be free from conflicts of interest. Horse Sport

Ireland maintains a register of conflicts of interest and all Selectors will declare any potential or perceived conflicts as soon as they arise.

- 5.4.3 All Selectors will have equal voting rights. Decisions must be reached by a majority and with no abstentions (unless a Selector is required to abstain due to a declared conflict of interest).
- 5.4.4 The Selectors will act throughout as experts and are entitled within this Selection Policy to use their absolute discretion having regard to the criteria set out below. They must at all times use their discretion honestly and with due integrity.
- 5.4.5 The Selection Panel shall comprise of:
  - Dressage High Performance Youth Manager Anne Marie Dunphy
  - Johann Hinneman
  - Debora Pijpers
  - Dressage High Performance Chairman, Joe Reynolds

Hereinafter referred to as (“the Selectors”).

- 5.5 The Horse Sport Ireland Dressage Youth Selection Panel, (the “Selection Panel”) will take the following criteria into account in making their selection decision and have due regard to the relevant statistical performance evidence available.
- 5.6 The following general & competition measures will be taken into consideration by the Selection when assessing combinations:

#### **General Measures**

- 5.7 Without in anyway limiting the discretion of the Selection Panel, the following measures will be considered in the context of the selection of the individual places for the Children and Junior categories.
- 5.8 Further, the below measures will also be considered when selecting (if applicable) athlete/horse combinations that will be named as non-travelling reserves in order. All reserves selected should be available (if necessary) to step into the squad up until the departure date for the Championships.
- 5.9 In assessing the performances of combinations, the Selection Panel will consider the following competition measures:
  - i All competitions national and international in 2019 and 2020 and the scores achieved in each class.
  - ii. In addition to these **TWO FINAL MANDATORY SELECTION TRIALS** will be held **BETWEEN 1-26 JULY**. (DATES AND VENUES TBC) Scores of 66% or higher at the selection trials are considered for the purpose of selection.
  - iii. There will be a further mandatory selection trial wherein athletes will be videoed completing a team test for the purposes of remote assessment by an appointed Foreign Judge.

- iv. The final placing of the Combinations (note that the score and the placing of each Combination will be considered but do not automatically position one Combination above another for selection purposes).
- v. Youth Athletes based outside of Ireland will compete at designated key events as identified by the Dressage High Performance Youth Team Manager due to travel restrictions into Ireland arising from the Coronavirus pandemic.

5.10 In assessing the performance of combinations, the Selection Panel will give consideration to general measures. These general measures include, but are not limited to:

1. the suitability of the Combination with regard to the likely characteristics of the arenas at Pilisjaszfalu and for the unexpected conditions of the CH-EU-CH-D/CH-EU-J-D (taking into account the objective of the team and individual competition);
2. the ability of the Athlete and his/her support team to operate and perform in a FEI championship environment which is highly regulated & pressurized;
3. the ability of the Athlete and/or support team to contribute towards an effective team and winning orientated environment;
4. the overall balance of the Combinations that have been selected;
5. the ability and experience of the Combination to compete successfully at the highest level of international competition;
6. 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;
7. the ability of the Athlete, their personal responsible and/or their personal management team to prepare their horse to peak condition for a major campaign, such as the FEI Championship;
8. consistency of performance and the likelihood of a suitable performance to contribute towards a team medal outcome may be a consideration;
9. exceptional ability of a Combination (and the potential to achieve an individual medal) may be a consideration and may, in the Dressage High Performance Manager's sole discretion, place a Combination with less experience or consistency ahead of another Combination;
10. Strong commitment to the Horse Sport Ireland Youth Dressage High Performance Programme;

5.11 The soundness of the Horse to meet the challenges of competing and travelling to the CH-EU-CH-D/CH-EU-J-D Pilisjaszfalu (HUN) will be a significant factor in any selection decision. Athletes must keep the Selection Panel fully briefed on any health or soundness issues the horse may have both historically and throughout the selection period. From **13 July 2020** all selected squad members must immediately inform the Selection Panel and Team Veterinarian 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 Selection Panel reserves the right to remove that combination from the squad with immediate effect. The decision of the Selection Panel on advice from the Team Veterinarian is final.

- 5.12 Prior and subsequent to selection, the Selection Panel may undertake regular evaluations as to the combination's standard of fitness, their progress in training, their preparedness for the competition and their form (as a combination and on other horses). Any advices provided by the Team Veterinarian, support personnel may be utilised by the Selection Panel, where required. However, such evaluations shall be discretionary on the part of the Selection Panel.
- 5.13 Furthermore, the Selection Panel will have the authority to remove a selected horse/athlete combination from the squad or as a reserve, where the selected and/or athlete has not maintained their fitness, standard of performance, form or any other performance related matter in which the Selection Panel considers important, which is not a standard comparable to that exhibited so as to gain selection to represent Ireland at the CH-EU-CH-D/CH-EU-J-D Pilisjaszfalu (HUN).
- 5.14 Athletes/personal management teams should note that the Selection Panel reserves the right not to accept an athlete combination where the athlete combination has not maintained form. The Selection Panel will consider form of such athlete combinations who have secured a place up to and including the date of selection for the Championships. The Youth Dressage Team Manager will apply the general measures criteria to such athlete combinations.
- 5.15 High Performance Squad training will be held at various times and dates throughout the season. Once the squad has been selected after 13 July 2020 training will commence for selected squad athletes.

## **SECTION VI FORCE MAJEURE**

- 6.1 In considering the performances of athletes at events or other attendances in line with this policy, the Selection Panel may, in their 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 Youth Dressage High Team Performance Team Manager to constitute extenuating circumstances;
- 6.3 Athletes unable to compete at events, trials or other attendances required under this policy must advise the Selection Panel 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 Selection Panel reserves their 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 the CH-EU-CH-D/CH-EU-J/D.
- 6.5 A decision in each case of extenuating circumstances will be made by the Selection Panel 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 Selection Panel pursuant clause 3.7, 4.7, 5.24, 5.26 & 6.4 above;

7.2 An athlete may be removed from squad 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 decision of the Selection Panel is final and binding.

## **SECTION VIII DISCLAIMERS**

8.1 These procedures are based on FEI General Regulations, applicable FEI Sport Rules. Dressage Ireland Rules as presently known and understood. However, Horse Sport Ireland enjoys exclusive jurisdiction over this Selection Policy. This athlete selection policy is 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 in line with Government advices due to Coronavirus and 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.

Any queries with regard to the above athlete selection policy can be directed to the Selection Panel , Anne Marie Dunphy [annemarietunphy@gmail.com](mailto:annemarietunphy@gmail.com) or Susann Killilea Dressage HP Administrator [skillilea@horsesportireland.ie](mailto:skillilea@horsesportireland.ie) /ENDS

### **Appendices Schedule**

<b>Appendix 1</b>	<b>Athlete Code of Conduct</b>
<b>Appendix 2</b>	<b>HSI Social Media Policy</b>
<b>Appendix 3</b>	<b>HSI Medication &amp; Anti-Doping Declaration &amp; Logbook</b>

**Close of nominations for EC date TBC (normally 4 weeks before EC)**

**Selection Policy updated 17<sup>th</sup> June 2020**