



# HORSE SPORT IRELAND

## Selection Policy for FEI Quota horses

FEI WBFSH World Breeding Jumping Championships for Young Horses 2021

CH-M-YH-S Lanaken, BEL

23-26<sup>th</sup> September 2021

### Important Notice:

At the time of publication, the FEI WBFSH World Breeding Jumping Championships for Young Horses 2021 is scheduled to go ahead. However, athletes, producers, breeders, owners and all relevant stakeholders should be mindful that the COVID 19 pandemic continues to evolve in Ireland and across Europe. As such, the Championships may be cancelled at late notice, which will lead to disappointment across the equestrian community but also undoubtedly financial loss for stakeholders. Horse Sport Ireland wish to remind stakeholders that where such cancellation occurs that same is not within the control of the IRL NF and it follows that Horse Sport Ireland cannot be held responsible for losses howsoever arising, indirect or otherwise.

The below selection policy is based on the current knowledge of Horse Sport Ireland. Any changes, including changes to the FEI schedule, will be publicised through the HSI website and social media platforms.

## SECTION I TIMELINES

1.1 The selection timelines for the CH-M-YH-S are as follows:

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Week commencing 2 <sup>nd</sup> August 2021 | The Lanaken Chef D'Equipe/ Championship Selector, Comdt. John Ledingham will formally select the combinations in the respective age categories - 5,6,7 year olds – subject to FEI quota allocations available. |
| Week commencing 2 <sup>nd</sup> August 2021 | Selected combinations will be required to complete FEI Registration immediately prior to Definite Entries.   |
| AS per FEI Schedule                         | Horse Sport Ireland will submit the Definite Entries to the FEI.   |

## SECTION II ELIGIBILITY FOR SELECTION

2.1 The FEI quota is intended for those countries that are not mentioned in the list of WBFSH Quotas because those countries do not have a WBFSH Member Association. Only those “non WBFSH countries” can apply for a FEI Quota place.

However, on the basis that not all Countries utilise their allocations, unused FEI quotas are redistributed to National Federations, Ireland will likely benefit from any unused allocations. However, athletes and producers should note that Horse Sport Ireland will not be informed of the unused allocations until mid-August. There is no guarantee that any allocations may be allocated in each of the age categories.

According to the timeline (below), Horse Sport Ireland will be informed about the unused FEI quotas by mid-August (step 3). **Subject to Change – will be updated as quota is known**

For 2020 according to the following generic timeline, it being understood and agreed that the precise dates will be confirmed once the date of the 2020 Championships and the Nominated Entries has been confirmed:

| Steps | Deadline                            | Task  |
|-------|-------------------------------------|---|
| 1     | 16 weeks before the Championship    | FEI and Organiser to receive WBFSH quotas   |
| 2     | 6 weeks before the Championship     | Nominated Entries   |
| 3     | 2 weeks after the nominated entries | Organiser to inform WBFSH and FEI of WBFSH and FEI unused quotas                  |
| 4     | 1 week after Step 3                 | WBFSH to inform Organiser about the re-allocation of unused quotas                |
| 5     | 4 weeks after Step 4                | Definite Entries and unused quotas from FEI and WBFSH to be assigned to Organiser |

- 2.2 On the basis that allocations will most likely granted to Horse Sport Ireland, same will be filled horses campaigned by IRL Registered FEI Athletes.
- 2.3 All horses must be registered in a Studbook, which is a full member of the WBFSH. Only the Studbook in which the horse in question is first registered, is acceptable for participation at the Championships.
- 2.4 According to the published FEI 2020 schedule; NF's who have been given a WBFSH quota, cannot apply for a starting place within the FEI Quota for horses that are registered in the national studbooks of the nation of that NF. Therefore, it is clear that Irish Studbook WBFSH members horses cannot be entered as part of the FEI horse Quota.

### **SECTION III VETERINARY**

- 3.1 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.
- 3.2 Subsequent to selection, athletes must notify the Championship Selector, Comdt. John Ledingham of any change in their horse's health status or of any veterinary issues when they first become apparent.
- 3.3 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;
- 3.4 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.

- 3.5 Each athlete will be required to keep a medication logbook for their horses in which they shall record all products, treatments, foodstuffs and supplements used on or given to their horse from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2021 until the conclusion of the CH-EU- S.
- 3.6 The Team Veterinarian will be entitled to view this logbook at any time. Athletes are required to submit this log book (in strict confidence) 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 [date to be confirmed] in line with Rule 8.12 of the Horse Sport Ireland General Rules.
- 3.7 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 Championship Selector, Comdt. John Ledingham. This is a mandatory requirement to ensure that selected horses are managed appropriately within the pre-competition window and before departure.

#### **SECTION IV SPECIFIC SELECTION CRITERIA**

- 4.1 The primary aim of this criteria is to select athlete and horse combinations who are capable of achieving podium finishes in each of respective age categories at the FEI WBFSH World Breeding Jumping Championships for Young Horses 2021. The selector will be prioritise horses for selection, who are produced and domiciled in Ireland and meet the competition and general measures below.
- 4.2 Subject to IRL receiving FEI quota places: The following criteria shall be used for selection of the age categories:

##### **5 Year Old Category**

- 4.2.1 The FEI quota places will be allocated by the Championship Selector based on the competition and general measures outlined at section 4.4 and 4.5 below.
- 4.2.2 (2) Non-Travelling reserves will be selected in the 5 year old. Such reserves will be listed in ranking order and must be available to travel in the event of selected combination unable to travel.

##### **6 Year Old Category**

- 4.2.3 The FEI quota places will be allocated by the Championship Selector based on the competition and general measures outlined at section 4.4 and 4.5 below.
- 4.2.4 (2) Non-Travelling reserves will be selected in the 6 year old category. Such reserves will be listed in ranking order and must be available to travel in the event of selected combination unable to travel.

##### **7 Year Old Category**

- 4.2.5 The FEI quota places will be allocated by the Championship Selector based on the competition and general measures outlined at section 4.4 and 4.5 below.
- 4.2.6 (2) Non-Travelling reserves will be selected in the 6 year old category. Such reserves will be listed in ranking order and must be available to travel in the event of combination unable to travel.
- 4.4 In assessing the performance of combinations, the Championship Selector will give consideration to the performances in 2021 at the following events:

- 4.4.1 Showjumping Ireland national events inclusive of relevant age classes, with the following identified events considered as viewing events:

In preparation for a results-based selection process the following venues will host these additional classes with the prize fund sponsored by Connolly's RED MILLS.

- 4th July Barnadown
- 14<sup>th</sup> July Tipperary Equestrian Centre

- 4.4.2 FEI designated events in Ireland and abroad inclusive of relevant age classes;  
4.4.3 All relevant competitions approved by other National Federations;

- 4.5 In assessing the performance of combinations, the Championship Selector will give consideration to the following general measures. These measures include, but are not limited to:

- 4.5.1 An athlete's form on other horses may also be taken into consideration.
- 4.5.2 the suitability of the Combination with regard to the likely characteristics of the arenas in Lanaken and for the unexpected conditions of the CH-EU- S (taking into account the objective of the of this Policy)
- 4.5.3 the ability of the Athlete and his/her support team to operate and perform in a FEI championship environment which is highly regulated & pressurised.
- 4.5.4 the ability of the Athlete and/or support team to contribute towards an effective team and winning orientated environment;
- 4.5.5 the overall balance of the Combinations that have been selected;
- 4.5.6 the ability and experience of the Combination to compete successfully at a high level of international competition;
- 4.5.7 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 World Championships;
- 4.5.8 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;
- 4.5.9 Overall form of the combinations under similar conditions (e.g. similar time allowed, water fences, light fence material, width of oxers) to those that will be met at Lanaken;
- 4.5.10 consistency of performance and the likelihood of a suitable performance to contribute towards a team medal outcome may be a consideration;

- 4.6 The Championship Selector will consider section 4.5.7 in the following guise:

- i. Success individually;
- ii. Personal bests at targeted competitions;
- iii. Taking ownership of their performances;
- iv. Being willing to make change and develop;
- v. Commitment to excellent horsemanship;
- vi. Have personal coaches, individual performance plans, personal fitness structures and horse management programmes in place;

- 4.6 The soundness of the horse to meet the challenges of competing and travelling to the CH-EU- S will be a significant factor in any selection decision. Athletes must keep the Championship Selector fully briefed on any health or soundness issues the horse may have both historically and throughout the Season. From the date of selection, all squad members must immediately inform the Championship Selector 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 Championship Selector reserves the right to remove that combination from selection with immediate effect. The decision of the Championship Selector advice from the Team Veterinarian is final.
- 4.7 Prior and subsequent to selection, the Championship Selector may undertake regular evaluations as to the combination's 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 Championship Selector, where required. However, such evaluations shall be discretionary on the part of the Selector.
- 4.8 Furthermore, the Championship Selector shall have the authority to remove a selected horse/athlete combination from Selection, 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 CH-EU- S.
- 4.9 The Championship Selector's decision in respect of selected combinations is final and binding.

## **SECTION VI FORCE MAJEURE**

- 5.1 In considering the performances of athletes at events or other attendances in line with this policy, the Championship Selector may, at his discretion, give weight to extenuating circumstances.
- 5.2 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 Championship Selector to constitute extenuating circumstances.
- 5.3 Athletes unable to compete at camps, events, trials or other attendances required under this policy must advise the Championship Selector by email of this fact and the reasons thereof as soon as practicable after the extenuating circumstances arise.
- 5.4 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 Championship Selector reserves his 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 CH-EU- S.
- 5.5 A decision in each case of extenuating circumstances will be made by the Championship Selector on a case by case basis.
- 5.6 Post Selection, Athlete substitutions will normally not be allowed except on medical or veterinary grounds, but all substitution decisions will be at the discretion of the Championship Selector. In the case of a bona fide sale, where an Athlete substitution is requested, the Championship Selector reserves all rights in respect of granting the substitution request.

## **SECTION VI REMOVAL OF ATHLETES**

- 6.1 An athlete shall be removed from squad selection (individual or team) non- travelling reserve selection, FEI Nominated Entries and FEI Final Entries by the Championship Selector pursuant clause 4.6, 5.6, 5.8 & 6.4 above;
- 6.2 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 and Jumping Programme Participation Agreement.
  - vi. Any action which could damage the reputation of the Sport or the Country;
- 6.3 Pursuant to Section 7 above, the Championship Selector's decision is final and binding.

## **SECTION VII DISCLAIMERS**

- 7.1 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.
- 7.2 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.

ENDS.