



HORSE SPORT IRELAND

Selection Policy

**FEI WBFSH World Breeding Eventing Championships for Young Horses 2021
CH-M-YH-CCI2* & CH-M-YH-CCI3* Le Lion D'Angers, FRA, France
21-24 October 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. Please note the FEI schedule for the event in 2021 has not been published, therefore dates are subject to change. Any changes will be publicised through the HSI website and social media platforms.

SECTION I TIMELINES

1.1 The selection timelines for the CH-M-YH-CCI2* & CH-M-YH-CCI3* Le Lion D'Angers, FRA are as follows:

1.1.2	15th September 2021	FEI qualified athletes will be invited to training for a final viewing before selection.
1.1.3	17th September 2021	The Le Lion D'Angers Selection Panel, (the "Selectors") will formally select the three (3) NF combinations for the CHM-YH-CCI2* and twelve (12) NF combinations for the CHM-YH-CCI3*.
1.1.4	20th September 2021 (Subject to change with FEI schedule)	Horse Sport Ireland formally submits the nominated entries (6 combinations) for the CH-M-YH-CCI2* and up to 24 combinations for the CH-M-YH-CCI3* to the FEI, to include a certificate of capability, pursuant to Article 521 of the FEI Eventing Rules, 2019.
1.1.5	11th October 2021 (Subject to change)	Horse Sport Ireland will submit the Definite Entries to the

	with FEI schedule)	FEI.
1.1.6	13th October 2021 Kit Day	Selected combinations for both the CH-M-YH-CCI2* & CHM-YH-CCI3* will be invited to official squad training.

SECTION II ELIGIBILITY FOR SELECTION

- 2.1 An FEI maximum of (3) three 6 year olds and (12) twelve 7 year old horses will be selected to represent the Irish WBFSH Studbooks at the [FEI WBFSH World Breeding Eventing Championships for Young Horses 2021](#). For the avoidance of doubt, the Irish WBFSH Studbooks are the Irish Sport Horse Studbook (ISH) and the Warmblood Studbook of Ireland (WSI).
- 2.2 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. The quota for each country is for horses registered in a Studbook which is originally recognised in that country. In Ireland's case, these studbooks are the Irish Sport Horse Studbook (ISH) and the Warmblood Studbook of Ireland (WSI).
- 2.3 All athletes wishing to compete at the **CH-M-YH-CCI2* & CH-M-YH-CCI3*** Le Lion D'Angers, FRA, (FRA) must in the first instance achieve a Minimum Eligibility Requirement (MER) in accordance with Article 521 of the FEI Eventing Rules. See FEI Criteria Document <https://inside.fei.org/fei/disc/eventing/main-events/world-young-horses-2021>
- 2.4 It is the sole responsibility of each Eventing Athlete to ensure that as a combination they have the required MER for the level of the Championship. In this case the MER for the **CH-M-YHCCI2* & CH-M-YH-CCI3*** Le Lion D'Angers, FRA pursuant to Art.521 is as follows:
- 2.2.1 All qualifying events must be achieved as a combination.
- 2.2.2 The FEI deadline for obtaining the minimum eligibility requirements is 3 weeks before the 1st Dressage day of the Championship and must be obtained in the calendar year in question or the preceding calendar year.

	Minimum qualifying events to achieve
Young Horse Championship 6 years old	1 x CCI 2*S with zero obstacle penalties on XC and max 4 penalties on obstacles (max one rail down) in the Jumping test
Young Horse Championship 7 years old	1 x CCI2*L + 1 x CCI 3*S, both with zero obstacle penalties on XC and max 4 penalties on obstacles (max one rail down) in the Jumping test

- 2.5 Thereafter, Eventing Athletes, should be mindful that the MER as stated above, is only a **MINIMUM** requirement.
- 2.6 Selectors will prioritise IRL athlete combinations who are capable of achieving a medal at the CH-M-YH-CCI2* & CH-M-YH-CCI3* competing with any of the two Irish WBFSH breed codes.

Thereafter, the quota will be filled, where places allow, by IRL athlete combinations competing with non-IRL WBFSH breed codes and/or non-DAFM approved Pedigree Studbooks, where applicable.

- 2.6.1 Where combinations are selected with non-IRL WBFSH breed codes but with DAFM approved Pedigree Studbook Equines, such combinations may be eligible for funding where available.
- 2.6.2 Where combinations are selected with Equines with any other non-IRL WBFSH /non DAFM approved book, such combinations will not be eligible for funding.
- 2.7 Eligible horses must be ridden by FEI Licenced Irish riders.
- 2.8 Eligible horses will be selected irrespective of their country of birth.
- 2.9 The following breeding criteria will be applicable for the IRL WBFSH books:
 - 2.9.1 All horses registered in the Irish Sport Horse Studbook with the breed code ISH, and with sire and dam recorded on their passport
 - 2.9.2 All horses registered in the Warmblood Studbook of Ireland with the breed name Irish Warmblood, and with sire and dam recorded on their passport, are eligible for selection.

SECTION III RESPONSIBILITES

- 3.1 It is the sole responsibility of Eventing Athletes to be fully cognisant of the current FEI Rules for Eventing 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. FEI & HSI 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, where applicable;
 - v. The Horse Sport Ireland 'Athlete Code of Conduct' and act in a manner that does not bring Horse Sport Ireland into disrepute, please see appendix 1 attached;
 - vi. HSI Social Media Policy, appendix 2;
- 3.3 Prompt communications with the Selectors, appointed Veterinarian and Horse Sport Ireland in relation to the Le Lion D'Angers Programme are required throughout the season.
- 3.4 Athletes must show a commitment to personal fitness and professional behaviour.
- 3.5 All Athletes selected will be required to wear the official Horse Sport Ireland & applicable Studbook designated kit while participating at the **CH-M-YH-CCI2*** & **CH-M-YH-CCI3*** Le Lion D'Angers, FRA.
- 3.6 All FEI qualified athletes wishing to be considered for selection are required to complete an expression of interest and return same to the Le Lion D'Angers Programme Administrator by 16th August 2021.

SECTION IV VETERINARY

- 4.1 The Selectors and/or Horse Sport Ireland can request that a horse be made available for inspection by the appointed Veterinarian or an appointed Veterinarian at any time. Athletes must comply with this request.
- 4.2 Athletes must notify the Selectors of any change in their horse's health status or of any veterinary issues when they first become apparent.

- 4.3 The Selectors and/or Horse Sport Ireland can send the 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.
- 4.4 Athletes (at their own expense), shall make available, upon the request of the 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 appointed Veterinarian for horses being considered for selection. Athletes, (at their own expense), are to consider any treatment prescribed by the appointed Veterinarian, in consultation with the horse's regular Private Treating Veterinarian. Failure to comply with any request of the appointed Veterinarian may result in the removal of the athlete/horse combination from selection by the Selectors.
- 4.5 Each selected athlete will be required to keep a log book **[Appendix 3]** for their horses in which they must record all feeds, products, treatments, supplements used on or given to their horse from 17th September 2021 until the first vet inspection on 20th October 2021. The appointed Veterinarian will be entitled to view this log book at any time. Athletes are required to submit this log book to the Team Veterinarian on or before departure in line with Rule 8.12 of the Horse Sport Ireland General Rules.
- 4.6 For the purposes of section IV, the Le Lion D'Angers Selectors reserve 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 appointed Veterinarian and/or Physiotherapist to travel and compete at the **CH-M-YH-CCI2* & CH-M-YH-CCI3*** Le Lion D'Angers, FRA. The decision of the Selectors on advice from the appointed Veterinarian and/or physiotherapist is final. A HSI veterinarian and or Physiotherapist may be present on the final viewing day on 15th September to examine horses prior to selection.

SECTION V SPECIFIC SELECTION CRITERIA

5.1 SELECTORS

- 5.1.1 All Selectors will be appointed by the Board of Horse Sport Ireland.
- 5.1.2 The Selectors as a panel will have the knowledge and experience required to select CH-M-YHCCI2* & CH-M-YH-CCI3* combinations and will be free from conflicts of interest. Horse Sport Ireland will maintain a register of conflicts of interest and all Selectors will declare any potential or perceived conflicts as soon as they arise.
- 5.1.3 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).
- 5.1.4 The Selectors will act throughout as experts and are entitled within this Selection Policy to use their absolute discretion, (save where a combination is successful pursuant to clause 5.2.7, to select athlete/horse combinations for the CH-M-YH-CCI2* & CH-M-YH-CCI3* having regard to the criteria set out below. They must at all times use their discretion honestly and with due integrity.
- 5.1.5 The Le Lion D'Angers Selection Panel shall comprise of:
- Selector – Lt. Col. Tom Freyne (Chairman)
Selector – Janet Murray
Selector – Rodney Powell
- Hereinafter referred to as (the "Selectors").
- 5.1.6 The specific aim of this Policy is:-
- a) To select combinations capable of achieving a medal at the CH-M-YH-CCI2* & CH-M-YH-CCI3* 2021

- b) To select the best horses to represent the WBFSH member Studbooks in Ireland
- c) To develop potential Championship team horses for the future.

5.2 CRITERIA

- 5.2.1 Pursuant to Art.116 of the 2021 FEI General Regulations and the FEI Eventing Rules, Athletes are invited by the Organising Committee through their NF. The following are the maximum number of horses per NF (including host NF):

Maximum number of horse per athlete:	3 for the CH- 2* & 12 for the CH-3*
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2 horses per athlete for the entire event: whether 2 in the CH- 2* if not limited by excessive number of entries whether 2 in the CH- 3* if not limited by excessive number of entries whether 1 in the CH- 2*+ 1 in the CH- 3*, please see FEI Memo

<https://inside.fei.org/fei/disc/eventing/main-events/world-young-horses-2021>

CH-M-YH-CCI2* - 6 year old category

- 5.2.2 In order to retain a squad place for the CH-M-YH-CCI2* the following competition and general measures will be considered by the Selectors.
- 5.2.3 In addition to the MER for CH-M-YH-CCI2*, the Selectors have set a minimum dressage score of **65%** to be achieved at international events in order to be considered for selection.
- 5.2.7 For 2021, Athletes have an opportunity to **'win'** an automatic squad place for the CH-M-YHCCI2* where the combination win (1st place) in a CCI2*S at an International Horse Trials in Ireland or the UK. In the event no IRL combination wins a 2*S event, the squad place will revert to the discretion of the Selectors.

CH-M-YH-CCI3* - 7 year old category

- 5.2.8 In order to retain a squad place for the CH-M-YH-CCI3* the following competition and general measures will be considered by the Selectors.
- 5.2.9 In addition to the MER for CH-M-YH-CCI3*, the Selectors have set a minimum dressage score of **63%** to be achieved at international events in order to be considered for selection.

Competition & General Measures applicable for the 6 & 7 year olds.

- 5.3.1 The Selectors will select combinations based on their performances at any national Eventing Ireland or BE events or international events throughout the 2021 season, such selections will be made by the Selectors in their absolute discretion to achieve the best possible result at the CH-M-YH-CCI2* & CH-M-YH-CCI3* Le Lion D'Angers, FRA.

- 5.3.2 In assessing the performances of combinations, the Selectors will consider the following **Competition Measures:**

- i. The final score (across all three phases of the competition);
- ii. The scores achieved in each individual phase; and
- iii. The final placing of the Combination (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)

5.3.3 In assessing the performance of combinations, the Selectors will give consideration to **General Measures**. These general measures include, but are not limited to:

- i. Past performances and present form of the athlete and horse combination, with particular emphasis on international results.
- ii. the suitability of the Combination with regard to the likely characteristics of the cross country course and the arenas at Le Lion D'Angers, FRA and for the unexpected conditions of the CH-M-YH-CCI2* & CH-M-YH-CCI3* (taking into account the objective of securing podium finishes for the IRL WBFSH Studbooks;
- 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 young horse competition;
- vii. demonstrated experience and/ or success at Championship level and the ability, or potential ability, of an Athlete to perform under the stress and pressure of a FEI Championships;
- viii. the ability of the Athlete to prepare their Horse to **peak condition** for a major campaign, such as the FEI WBFSH World Breeding Eventing Championships for Young Horses 2021;
- ix. consistency of performance and the likelihood of a suitable performance to contribute towards a 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 Selectors discretion, place a Combination with less experience or consistency ahead of another Combination;
- xi. Strong commitment to the Le Lion D'Angers Programme;
- xii. The athlete must be in good standing with the FEI, EI and HSI.

5.3.4 **FEI Points**

Athletes should note that the FEI will rank combinations based on their performances in international competition and these can be used by the FEI to allocate places in the two competitions, if oversubscribed. It is not possible to determine what the cut off point will be but it is essential for combinations to have FEI points i.e. placings at international level. This year there will be three places for Ireland in the six year old competition and twelve in the seven year old competition.

The definite entry date is as per FEI schedule 2021 (not yet published).

FEI Points are awarded as Follows:

CIC2S: 11 , 9 , 8 , 7 , 6 , 5 , 4 , 3 , 2 , 1

CIC3S: 21 , 19 , 18 , 17 , 16 , 15 , 14 , 13 , 12 , 11 & so on down in increments of 1

CCI2L: as for CIC** above

CCI3L: 41 , 38 , 36 , 34 , 32, 30 , 28 , 26 , 24 , 22 & so on down in increments of 2

Prospective candidates should note that while the Selectors will have a mind to the point's level of each combination with a view to them getting into their class it will not be the case that combinations will be selected based exclusively on FEI or EI points.

- 5.3.5 Athletes should note that where a squad place is secured as stated above, this place is wholly dependent on the athlete/horse combination maintaining fitness, form and soundness.
- 5.3.6 The soundness of the horse to meet the challenges of competing and travelling to the **CH-MYH-CCI2* & CH-M-YH-CCI3*** Le Lion D'Angers, FRA will be a significant factor in any selection decision. Athletes must keep the Selectors fully briefed on any health or soundness issues the horse may have both historically and throughout the selection period. From 20th September 2021 all selected squad members must immediately inform the Selectors 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, Selectors reserve the right to remove that combination from the squad with immediate effect. The decision of the Selectors on advice from the appointed Veterinarian is final.
- 5.237 Prior and subsequent to selection, the Selectors may undertake regular evaluations as to the combinations standard of fitness, their progress in training, their preparedness for the event and their form over three disciplines (as a combination and on other horses). Any advices provided by the appointed Veterinarian, Programme Coaches, and support professionals may be utilised by the Selectors where required. However, such evaluations shall be discretionary on the part of the Selectors.
- 5.3.8 Furthermore, the Selectors 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, form over three disciplines or any other performance related matter in which the Selectors considers important, which is not a standard comparable to that exhibited so as to gain selection to represent Ireland at the **CHM-YH-CCI2* & CH-M-YH-CCI3*** Le Lion D'Angers, FRA.
- 5.3.9 FEI qualified combinations will be invited to a training day on 15th September 2021 for the purposes of a final viewing day before selection. If necessary FEI qualified combinations based in the UK may be required to attend a final viewing day before selection. This viewing take will take place in the UK. Once selected, combinations will be invited to an official squad training day where the designated squad kit will be provided and a press call will take place. All selected combinations are required to attend unless expressly excused by the Selectors.

SECTION VI FORCE MAJEURE

- 6.1 In considering the performances of athletes at events or other attendances in line with this policy, the Selectors 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 Selectors to constitute extenuating circumstances;
- 6.3 Athletes unable to compete at events, trials or other attendances required under this policy must advise the Selectors 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 Selectors reserve 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-YH-CCI2* & CH-EU-YH-CCI3***.

- 6.5 A decision in each case of extenuating circumstances will be made by the Selectors on a case by case basis.

SECTION VII REMOVAL OF ATHLETES

- 7.1 An athlete shall be removed from squad selection, non-travelling reserve selection, FEI Nominated Entries and/or FEI Final Entries by the Selectors pursuant clauses 4.4, 5.2.18, 5.2.20, & 6.4 above;
- 7.2 An athlete may be removed from squad selection (individual or team),
- 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 of the FEI Sport Rules and Regulations and HSI General Rules;
 - 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;
- 7.4 The decision of the Selectors 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. 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 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