



TEAM IRELAND PARIS 2024 NOMINATION AND SELECTION POLICY

The Olympic Games take place in Paris, France from the 26th July – 11th August, 2024.

As the recognised National Olympic Committee for Ireland by the International Olympic Committee, the Olympic Federation of Ireland is responsible for the final selection of athletes for Team Ireland at Paris 2024. This document outlines clearly to athletes and all stakeholders the full process of the nomination of athletes by the NF and final selection by the OFI to Team Ireland.

This document is subject to the terms and conditions of the Paris 2024 Qualification Guide as published in Spring 2022 and amended from time to time. All sport specific nomination policies must be read in conjunction with the Paris 2024 IOC and IF Qualification Guide for that sport.

DEFINITIONS AND ACRONYMS

Athlete		means a person who competes in the sport of the NF and is recognised by that NF as eligible for nomination to Team Ireland.
Paris 2024		see 'Games', meaning the Paris 2024 Olympic Games.
Court of Arbitration for Sport	CAS	means the Court of Arbitration for Sport.
Chef de Mission	CDM	means the appointed leader of Team Ireland by the OFI.
Chief Medical Officer	CMO	means the appointed lead doctor of Team Ireland responsible for all medical issues with Team Ireland.
European Olympic Committee	EOC	means the European Olympic Committee.
Games		Means the Paris 2024 Olympic Games.
International Federation	IF	means the International Federation for the Sport.
International Olympic Committee	IOC	means the International Olympic Committee.

IOC Conditions of Participation Form		means the document signed by the Athlete / Support Staff confirming their eligibility to participate at the Games and submitted by the OFI to the IOC.
Long List	LL	means a list of all Athletes / Support Staff who are recognised by an NF as potentially eligible and capable of being nominated for Team Ireland and therefore prospective members of Team Ireland.
Minimum Qualification Standard	MQS	means the minimum performance score set by the relevant IF for a specific sport contained in the Paris 2024 qualification guide for the sport.
National Federation	NF	means the recognised national federation or national governing body of the sport.
National Olympic Committee	NOC	means the national Olympic committee recognized by the IOC. In the case of Ireland this is the OFI.
NF Agreement		means the agreement between the OFI and the NF which governs the process by which Athletes and Support Staff are nominated and selected for the Games.
NF Appeals Process		means the written procedure, submitted by the NF to the OFI, for a Nomination Appeal.
NF Appeals Policy		means the policy submitted by the NF to the OFI which governs how an Athlete can appeal a Nomination decision.
NF Nomination Criteria		means the sport specific criteria submitted by the NF to the OFI which governs how an Athlete will be nominated for selection.
Nominated Athlete		means an athlete nominated by the NF to the OFI Nomination List.
Nomination		means the process by which NFs submit the names of Athletes and Support Staff to the OFI for consideration for selection by the OFI for the Games.
Nomination Appeal		has the meaning given to it in clause 6.1 below.
Nomination Committee		means the committee appointed by the NF for the purpose of selecting Athletes and Support Staff for Nomination to the OFI.
Nomination Date		means the date specified by the OFI by which time the OFI Nomination List must be submitted to the OFI.
Organising Committee		means the Organising Committee of the Games.
OFI Nomination List		means the list of Nominated Athletes and Support Staff to be submitted to the OFI on or before the Nomination Date.

OFI Medical Data Capture Survey		means the survey issued by the OFI Chief Medical Officer to all Athletes and Support Staff.
OFI Selection Committee		means the three-person committee appointed by the OFI Executive Committee for the purposes of selecting Athletes and Support Staff for the Games.
Olympic Federation of Ireland	OFI	means the National Olympic Committee of Ireland.
Pre-Nomination Status		means the intention of the Nomination Committee to either nominate or not nominate an Athlete pending any appeal process.
Provisional Nomination List		means the list of Athletes and Support Staff provisionally nominated on or before the Provisional Nomination Date.
Provisional Nomination Date		means a date at least 14 days prior to the OFI Nomination Date.
Selection Appeal		has the meaning given to it in clause 6.2 below.
Sports Dispute Solutions Ireland	SDSI	means the independent dispute resolution service for sport in Ireland.
SDSI Olympic Tribunal		means the SDSI tribunal on standby for Olympic specific appeals which will be handled within an expedited timeframe.
Support Staff		means the sport specific staff who have been recognised by that NF as eligible for nomination to Team Ireland.
Team Ireland		means all Athletes or Support Staff who are selected or appointed by the OFI for the Games.
Team Leader		means the appointed leader of the specific sport.
Team Member Agreement	TMA	means the OFI's agreement with Athletes or Support Staff which governs an Athlete's or Support Staff's participation in the Games.
World Anti-Doping Agency	WADA	means the World Anti-Doping Agency.

1. NOMINATION & SELECTION PRINCIPLES

The nomination and selection of the athletes to represent Ireland at the Paris 2024 Olympic Games will be conducted in accordance with the following underlying principles:

- 1.1. **Performance** – The NF Nomination Criteria for each sport are designed to identify those athletes most likely to perform to the highest level at the Games. It is understood that in some instances, an NF may set performance standards that are higher than the Minimum Qualification Standards

set by the IF. NFs are encouraged to do this where they feel the Minimum Qualification Standards of the IF are at a lower level than the performance expectations of the sport nationally.

- 1.2. **Quota Places** – The decision to accept quota places will be made jointly by the NF and the OFI. In line with principle 1 ‘Performance’, a decision may be made not to accept all quota slots if Athletes do not meet the performance standards set by the NF. The official acceptance or rejection of an allocated quota place in writing is the sole responsibility of the OFI.
- 1.3. **Transparency, Clarity and Communication**– The nomination and selection policy of each NF must be clear and well communicated within a reasonable timeframe to all Athletes and coaches to ensure that all stakeholders understand it.
- 1.4. **Objective decision making** – Where possible decisions of Nomination Committees should be based on objective, measurable criteria. Where subjective criteria need to be included such as within teams or pairings, the process for this must be clearly explained to all stakeholders and the rationale for final decisions outlined in the Nomination meeting notes.
- 1.5. **Fairness** – The Nomination process must be fair and operated without bias or prejudice.
- 1.6. **Age** – The OFI does not set a minimum or maximum age requirement. The age requirement will be in accordance with IF rules for each sport [see sport specific criteria/eligibility].
- 1.7. **Universality / Re-allocation place acceptance** – In sports where universality places are awarded or re-allocation places offered, the following criteria will apply:
 - (i) the decision to apply for such an athlete or team quota slot, will be jointly determined by the NF & OFI.
 - (ii) The OFI will only consider nominations for awarded individual universality or re-allocation quota slots on the basis of the athlete meeting either (a) or (b) from the following criteria:
 - (a) The athlete has achieved a minimum performance standard as per the sport specific criteria agreed with the NF.
 - (b) The athlete has not had the opportunity to qualify through the normal qualification system due to injury, pregnancy, nationality dispute etc.
 - (iii) The OFI will only consider nominations for awarded team universality or re-allocation quota slots if the team has achieved a minimum performance standard as per the sport specific criteria agreed with the NF (each NF Nomination Policy will clearly state what they consider a Team).
- 1.8. **NF and OFI Approval** – All Nomination Policies must be approved in writing by the relevant NF Board and the OFI prior to publication.

2. NOMINATION AND SELECTION PROCESS

The nomination and selection of athletes to the 2024 Irish Olympic Team will result from a graduated process of checks and balances to ensure the agreed criteria are applied correctly and to provide extra assurance to Athletes that their selection is confirmed by a robust process. The subsequent steps in the process are as follows (the timelines are sport specific and clearly documented within the relevant sport sections):

Step 1: The Irish Qualification period closes.

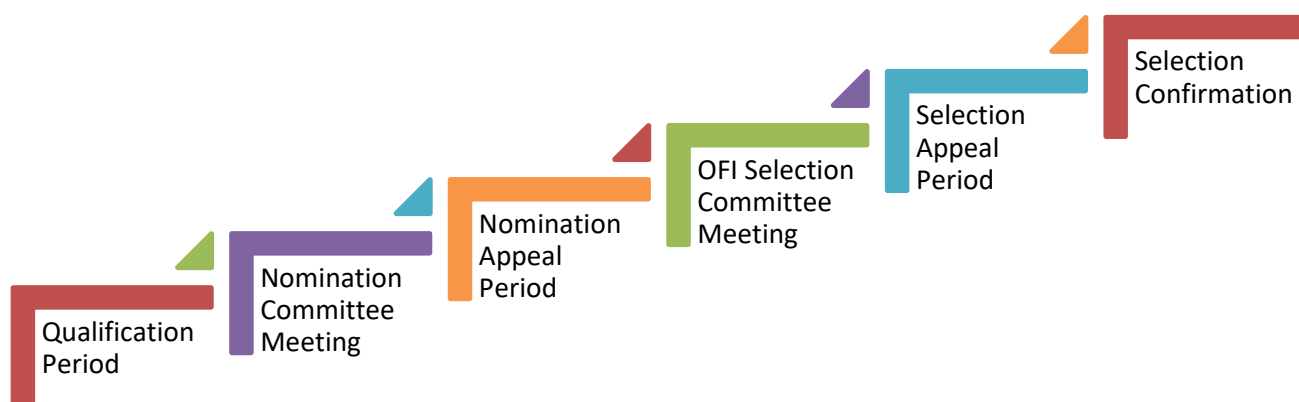
Step 2: The Nomination Committee convenes and applies the agreed NF Nomination Criteria for the sport. Athletes are informed of their Pre-Nomination Status.

Step 3: Sport specific appeal period including internal NF Appeals Process and external SDSI appeal process if required.

Step 4: Formal nomination of Athletes by the Chair of the Nomination Committee to the OFI. All appeals must be concluded before this can happen.

Step 5: The OFI Selection Committee convenes to ratify the NF Nomination after confirming that the NF Nomination Criteria have been applied correctly.

Step 6: Athletes are informed of their selection by the Chef de Mission. Should the OFI Selection Committee not select a Nominated Athlete, the Athlete has the right to use the Selection Appeal Process.



3. NOMINATION AND SELECTION TIMELINES

The timelines for nomination and selection are sport specific and laid out in subsequent sections of this document. The close of the Irish qualification period for specific sports is final and will supersede the closing date for Athletes to achieve qualifying performances as per the Paris 2024 Qualification Guide.

4. NOMINATION COMMITTEE PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICES

- 4.1. Nomination Committees should be made up of a minimum of three voting members, save where the NF seeks permission from the OFI to have less than three voting members. In such circumstances the NF shall set out the reasons justifying why the Nomination Committee should comprise less than three voting members, and the OFI shall have sole discretion to decide whether to grant such permission. There may be more than three voting members but an odd number is recommended to avoid a dead-lock.
- 4.2. All relevant information and paperwork should be circulated to the Nomination Committee Members in advance of the meeting to allow sufficient time for review to enable informed decision making to occur at the meeting.
- 4.3. An independent non-voting chairperson should be appointed. Ideally this person should have proven chairing skills and experience of high performance selection.
- 4.4. Detailed meeting notes must be recorded giving clear rationale for decisions on nomination or non-nomination and retained by the chairperson of the Nomination Committee.

- 4.5. NF Nomination Criteria must be applied in full fairly and consistently.
- 4.6. Where there is any actual or potential conflict of interest or loyalty e.g. where a member of the Nomination Committee is a personal coach of an athlete, this potential conflict must be declared before the convening of the meeting and this person should be replaced on the Nomination Committee by another suitably qualified member.
- 4.7. The communication of an Athlete's Pre-Nomination Status must be communicated respectfully. The Nomination Committee Chairperson and Performance Director should give careful consideration to how the information is communicated to all Long List Athletes. Formal communication should be in writing.

5. OFI SELECTION COMMITTEE PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICES

- 5.1. The OFI Selection Committee shall be made up of three members appointed by the OFI Executive Committee comprising the following members:
 - (i) OFI Chief Executive Officer (Chair);
 - (ii) Paris 2024 Chef de Mission ; and
 - (iii) OFI Executive Committee member. This member will be appointed in advance of each selection meeting and will be selected from those members who do not have any association with the sport being selected.
- 5.2. Detailed meeting notes must be recorded giving clear rationale for decisions on selection or non-selection and retained by the chairperson of the OFI Selection Committee.
- 5.3. Any perceived or known conflict of interest or loyalty will be declared by an OFI Selection Committee Member in advance and subsequent action will be taken to protect the integrity of the selection process.

6. APPEALS

In accordance with the NF Agreement, there will be two types of appeal, namely Nomination Appeals and Selections Appeals. No party to a Selection Appeal or a Nomination Appeal may institute or maintain proceedings in any Court or Tribunal other than as specified in the NF Agreement.

- 6.1. Nomination Appeals
 - (i) Any Athlete on the Long List may appeal against their nomination or non-nomination by the NF to the Provisional Nomination List in accordance with the procedures set out in the NF Appeals Process (the "Nomination Appeal").
 - (ii) The final right of any Nomination Appeal shall be to an SDSI Olympic Tribunal.
 - (iii) The decision of the SDSI Olympic Tribunal shall be final and binding on the parties.
 - (iv) Where the OFI is not a party to a Nomination Appeal, the NF consents to the circulation of the decision of the SDSI Olympic Tribunal and any other documents (in respect of that Nomination Appeal) to the OFI and to any other party specified by the OFI.
 - (v) The OFI and/or their legal representative reserves the right to observe the SDSI Olympic Tribunal Nomination Appeal.
 - (vi) The NF shall not nominate any athlete while any internal appeals process is ongoing and shall confirm same in the athlete nomination form.
- 6.2. Selection Appeals
 - (i) Any Nominated Athlete may appeal against their selection or non-selection by the OFI to the SDSI Olympic Tribunal in accordance with clause 6.2(ii) below ("Selection Appeal"). This appeal to the OFI selection decision shall only be available to Nominated Athletes on the following grounds:

- (a) That the selection decision was affected by actual bias; or
- (b) There was no basis upon which the OFI's decision could be reasonably made.
- (ii) The procedure for a Selection Appeal shall be as follows:
 - (a) Within 48 hours of receiving the OFI's notice of their non-selection, the Athlete must file and serve (on the respective CEOs of the OFI and NF) a Notice of Appeal with the SDSI Olympic Tribunal setting out clearly the grounds upon which they dispute their non-selection.
 - (b) Thereafter the SDSI Procedural Rules shall apply.
 - (c) Any party to a Selection Appeal decision of the SDSI Olympic Tribunal may appeal such a decision to CAS in accordance with its rules.
- (iii) Throughout any Selection Appeals process, all parties must use their best endeavours, acting in good faith, to resolve the dispute through communication and any communications made for the purposes of this process may be made on a without prejudice basis and kept confidential between the parties.

7. NOTES TO THE NOMINATION AND SELECTION POLICY

The following will apply for all sports unless otherwise indicated in sport specific sections below:

- 7.1. The Board of Directors of the Olympic Federation of Ireland will be the final decision making body in ratifying the position of all athletes and support staff on the 2024 Irish Olympic Team.
- 7.2. The individuals named on the NF Nomination Committees in this document are correct at the time of publication. The NFs retain the right to amend the composition of any Nomination Committee without further notice to athletes.
- 7.3. The NF Nomination Criteria are subject to change, should there be any material amendment to the Paris 2024 Qualification Guide by either the IOC, Paris 2024 or the relevant International Federation for the sport. Any amendment to the NF Nomination Criteria by a National Federation can only be undertaken following written approval from the OFI. Any amendment must be clearly communicated to all Long List Athletes.
- 7.4. The OFI reserves the right to make amendments to this document. Any amendments will be clearly communicated to all NFs and highlighted in the published document.

8. ELIGIBILITY FOR NOMINATION AND SELECTION

The following will apply for all sports in addition to any NF and/or IF specific eligibility criteria which are detailed in the relevant section. To be eligible for nomination and subsequent selection Athletes must:

- 8.1. Be on the Long List.
- 8.2. Hold a valid Irish Passport.
- 8.3. Comply with the provisions of the Olympic Charter currently in force.
- 8.4. Have completed the Team Ireland Paris 2024 Team Member Agreement.
- 8.5. Have completed the IOC Conditions of Participation Form (if available at time of nomination).
- 8.6. Have achieved the Minimum Qualification Standard and any additional performance standard set by the NF.
- 8.7. Have completed the on-line anti-doping course through Sport Ireland or Sport Northern Ireland AND a Sport Ireland or Sport Northern Ireland approved anti-doping workshop within 12 months prior to the Nomination Date.
- 8.8. Is not currently serving a period of ineligibility or period of provisional suspension in relation to an anti-doping rule violation.
- 8.9. Have completed the IOC Preventing Competition Manipulation online course.
- 8.10. Have completed the OFI Medical Data Capture Survey (if available at time of nomination).
- 8.11. Have demonstrated to the satisfaction of their NF that they are fit to perform at a sufficiently competitive level at the Games.
- 8.12. Has not acted in such a manner so as to bring himself/herself, the NF, the sport, the IF, the OFI, the IOC or the EOC into current disrepute. For the avoidance of doubt: the evaluation of this requirement is at the sole discretion of the NF Nomination Committee for the purposes of


Nomination and at the sole discretion of the OFI Selection Committee for the purposes of selection: the public disrepute referred to within this clause includes potential and/or actual disrepute; an example of such public disrepute may include (but is not limited to) an athlete being charged with or convicted of a criminal offence; and

- 8.13. Have completed any other requirements requested by the OFI.

SPORTS NOMINATION CRITERIA



EQUESTRIAN – DRESSAGE

Sport National Federation	HORSE SPORT IRELAND
International Federation	<p>Fédération Equestre Internationale HM King Hussein, I Building Chemin de la Joliette 8 1006 Lausanne Switzerland</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div>
Team Leader	Anne-Marie Dunphy– Dressage High Performance Director (“the DHPD”)
Nomination Committee	Not applicable
Qualification Slot	<p><u>Quota places are allocated to the NOC</u></p> <p>The Dressage discipline has not secured an automatic qualification according to the Olympic QUALIFICATION SYSTEM for the XXXIII Olympiad in Paris 2024. Consequently, the discipline's participation relies entirely on the availability of reallocation slots as outlined in section F, should such slots become accessible.</p>
1. Eligibility Criteria	<p>As per section 8 of this document. Additional eligibility criteria specific to the sport: Athletes and horses to be considered to represent Ireland at the 2024 Olympic Games must comply with the following: -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.1 Citizenship: The athlete must be an Irish citizen and have a valid Irish Passport that does not expire until after 8th February 2025 1.2 All athletes and horses to be considered to compete on the 2024 Olympic Games IRL Dressage Athletes must earn a FEI Certificate of Capability between January 1, 2023 to date of nominated entries to FEI inclusive, in accordance with the FEI Regulations for Equestrian Events at the Olympic Games Article 632 and Annex C of the FEI Regulations for Equestrian Events at the Olympic Games, 25th Edition, effective for the Olympic Games Paris 2024. The rules and a list of qualifying events can be found on the FEI website. 1.3 Athletes participating in the Paris 2024 Olympic Games Dressage Competitions must be born on or before 31st December 2006 (eighteen (18) years of age in the year of the Olympics Games), as per the FEI Regulations for Equestrian Events at the Olympic Games, 25th Edition, Article 606.1.2.

	<p>1.4 Horses participating in the Paris 2024 Olympic Games Dressage Competitions must be born on or before 31st December 2015 (nine (9) years of age in the year of the Olympics Games), as per the FEI Regulations for Equestrian Events at the Olympic Games, 24th Edition, Article 606.2.1.</p> <p>1.5 Qualified horses must meet the ownership conditions as laid down in Article 606.2.2.1 of the FEI Regulations for Equestrian Events at the Olympic Games, 25th Edition, Effective for the Olympic Games Paris 2024. Qualified Horses must be registered before 15th January 2024 in the name of an IRL citizen holding an IRL passport or body corporate registered in Ireland.</p> <p>1.6 The athlete and horse must be registered with the FEI at the time of application, selection, and until the conclusion of the Olympic Games.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In addition to the criteria for eligibility for nomination for selection, there are minimum eligibility requirements as set out in the <u>FEI Regulations for Equestrian Events at the Olympic Games 25th Edition, Effective for the Olympic Games Paris 2024</u> which the athlete and horse, as a combination, need to meet in order to be considered for nomination by the Dressage High-Performance Director (“the DHPD”).
<p>Universality / Re-allocation</p>	<p>Universality / re-allocation places will only be considered in accordance with the Olympic QUALIFICATION SYSTEM for the XXXIII Olympiad in Paris 2024.</p>
<p>Notes to Nomination Criteria</p>	<p>As per section 7 of this document.</p> <p>Additional notes specific to the Sport:</p> <p>This criterion sets out the Horse Sport Ireland process for selecting athletes and horses to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) be considered eligible for nomination for selection. b) be nominated for selection and; c) be selected to the Irish team (“Irish Team”) for Dressage at the 2024 Olympic Games in Paris, FRA (where a composite quota allocation arises) d) be selected as the IRL NF dressage individual (where a individual quota allocation arises) <p>Please note that either team or individual quota allocations will be granted, but not both. These allocations are subject to potential reallocation in accordance with the Olympic QUALIFICATION SYSTEM for the XXXIII Olympiad in Paris 2024</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The DHPD is the expert technical who exclusively nominates an athlete /horse combination for selection. - The actual selection of any athlete/horse combination will be made by the Olympic Federation of Ireland (“the OFI”). <p>Nomination for Selection</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Nominations for selection for the Irish Dressage Team or Individual (whichever arises) will be made to the OFI as expediently as possible on conclusion of the NGB Appeal Process, where initiated. b) The OFI is the body which has the power to select an athlete for the 2024 Olympic Games in Paris, FRA. c) The OFI agrees to notify Horse Sport Ireland of its selection or its refusal to select any nominated athlete as soon as reasonably practicable after the OFI receives the DHPD nominations.

<p>2. Responsibilities</p>	<p>2.1. It is each athlete’s responsibility to be fully cognisant of the current FEI Rules for Dressage and the FEI Clean Sport policy.</p> <p>2.2 Athletes must strictly abide by the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) FEI General Regulations, Sport Rules and the FEI Regulations for Equestrian Events Paris Olympic Games. b) FEI Code of Conduct for the Welfare of the Horse. c) 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. d) Horse Sport Ireland General Rules. e) The Horse Sport Ireland Athlete Code of Conduct. f) Prompt communications with the Dressage High-Performance Director, Team Veterinarian, Horse Sport Ireland in relation to the HSI High Performance Programme and OFI/IOC Olympic Advance Data Capture requirements. g) Athletes must always show a commitment to personal fitness and professional behaviour. h) All Athletes selected will be required to wear the official Team Ireland kit while participating at the 2024 Paris Olympic Games. i) Athlete must be prompt in their communications with the Olympic Federation of Ireland in respect of submitting details for purposes of Advanced Data Capture to ensure appropriate accreditation.
<p>3. Veterinary</p>	<p>3.1 The Dressage High-Performance Director and/or Horse Sport Ireland can request that a horse be inspected by the Team Veterinarian at any time, either during the season before nomination or after nomination and selection by the OFI. Athletes must comply with this request. Athletes must notify the Dressage High-Performance Director of any change in their horse’s health status or of any veterinary issues when they first become apparent.</p> <p>3.2 The Dressage High-Performance Director and/or Horse Sport Ireland can send the Team Veterinarian and/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.</p> <p>3.3 Athletes (at their own expense) shall make available, upon the request of the Team Veterinarian, the veterinary records of horses being considered for nomination. 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 nomination.</p> <p>3.4 Each athlete will be required to keep a logbook for their horses in which they must record all products and treatments used on or given to their horse from 1st January 2024 until the completion of the 2024 Paris Olympic Games. The Team Veterinarian must be provided this Logbook before the nomination date and at regular intervals post nomination. The Logbook must be submitted with a signed declaration.</p> <p>3.5 Athletes should note that horses nominated for the Olympic Games will be subjected to FEI Pre-Arrival Testing (PAT). The PAT service will be available from the 26th of June for full screening. The Dressage High-Performance Director reserves the 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 or LCH Paris or any of the designate FEI Laboratories. The results will be disclosed to the Team Veterinarian, the NF, Dressage High-Performance Director, the athlete and the Horse owner.</p>
<p>4. Nomination Criteria</p>	<p>Core Objective:</p> <p>This nomination policy combines both competition and general criteria in order for the Dressage High Performance Director to select the IRL Dressage Team or Individual (whichever applies based on reallocation) to compete at the 2024 Olympic Games in Paris. The Dressage</p>

High Performance Director's primary objective is to nominate the appropriate 'mix of combinations' to give Ireland the best chance of a Top 12 finish at the 2024 Olympic Games, or a top 15 finish for the Individual allocation (whichever applies).

4.1 In assessing the performances of Combinations, the DHPD will consider the following competition & general measures:

A) Competition Measures

- I. The results by the athlete and horse combination at CDI3*, CDI4* and
- II. CDI5*, CDIO* - NC, CDI-W level in 2023 and 2024. With emphasis on the Grand Prix, the Grand Prix Special, the Short Grand Prix, followed by some consideration of those in the Short Grand Prix and the Freestyle.
- III. Consistency of scores over 68% will be favoured. However, the High-Performance Director reserves the right to consider scores below 68% if there are compelling reasons to do so.
- IV. The star level of the shows and the star level, calibre of the of judges, with relevance to the ground jury of the Olympic Games.
- V. The performance trajectory in 2023 and 2024. The trend in average scores achieved throughout 2023 and 2024 will be analysed to assess the progression and performance of athlete-horse combinations.
- VI. The overall quality of the start lists (determined by FEI rankings of the other athletes and their current form).
- VII. The experience of the athlete and horse as a combination, previous Championship experience and their ability to cope with the pressures and challenges of the Olympic Games (Dressage).
- VIII. DHPD may nominate a final mandatory selection event to determine current form and fitness
- IX. Degree of commitment to the Horse Sport Ireland Dressage High Performance Programme.

(B) General Considerations

- i. The soundness of the horse to meet the challenges of competing and travelling to the Olympic Games 2024 will be a significant factor in any nomination decision. Athletes must keep the Team Veterinarian fully briefed on any health or soundness issues the horse may have both historically and throughout the season.
- ii. Athletes are required to disclose any illness or injury (however minor) to the DHPD and Team Veterinarian. Where it becomes apparent that a nominated horse is unsound or unfit to travel or that there was a non-disclosure relating to soundness, the DHPD reserves the right to remove that combination from nomination and selection with immediate effect.
- iii. The health and fitness of the athlete in general to meet the challenges of competing and travelling to the Olympic Games 2024 will be a factor in any nomination decision.
- iv. Further consideration will be given to the following general measures:
 - a. Past performances and present form of the athlete and horse as a combination and an athlete or horse's historic form.
 - b. The suitability of the Combination with regard to the likely characteristics of the arenas in Paris, and for the unexpected conditions of the Olympic Games Paris (taking into account the objective of the team competition);

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> c. the ability of the Athlete and his/her support personnel to operate and perform in an Olympic environment which is highly regulated and pressurised; d. the ability of the Athlete and/or support team to contribute towards an effective team and winning orientated environment; e. the overall composition of the team; f. the ability and experience of the Combination to compete successfully at the highest level of international competition; g. demonstrated experience and/ or success at Championship level; h. the ability, or potential ability, of a Horse and/or Athlete to perform under the stress and pressure of an Olympic Games. i. the ability of the Athlete to prepare their Horse to peak condition for a major campaign, such as the Olympic Games. j. consistency of performance and the likelihood of a suitable performance to contribute towards the performance objective as noted above; k. exceptional ability of a Combination (and the potential to achieve the stated objective) may be a consideration and may, in the DHPD's sole discretion, place a Combination with less experience or consistency ahead of another Combination. l. degree of commitment to the Horse Sport Ireland High Performance (HP) Programme.
5. Force Majeure	<p>5.1 In considering the performances of athletes at events or other attendances in line with the above criteria, the DHPD may, at her discretion, give weight to extenuating circumstances.</p> <p>5.2 For the purposes of section 5.1 above, extenuating circumstances means an inability to compete, or perform, or contribute at an optimum level arising from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Injury or illness; ii. Bereavement or personal misfortune, and/or; iii. Any other factors reasonably considered by the DHPD to constitute extenuating circumstances; <p>5.3 Athletes unable to compete at events other attendances must advise the DHPD by email of this fact and the reasons thereof as soon as practicable after the extenuating circumstances arise.</p>
6. Removal of Athletes and/or Horses	<p>Applicable Timeframes Subsequent to Nomination by Dressage High Performance Director</p> <p>6.1 An athlete and horse as a combination, or separately, may be removed from nomination to OFI by the DHPD for any reason, including in particular the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Violation or alleged violation of the Sport Ireland and FEI (Human) Anti-Doping protocol, policies and procedure. b) Violation or alleged violation of FEI Equine Anti-Doping Rules. c) An adverse analytical finding following on from testing pursuant to Sport Ireland, FEI Clean Sport protocol, (Human & Equine), Horse Sport Ireland National Equine Anti-Doping Programme policies and procedures. d) Violation or alleged violation of the FEI Sport Rules and Regulations and HSI General Rules. e) Violation or alleged violation of the HSI Code of Conduct. f) Violation or alleged violation of the FEI Code of Conduct for the Welfare of the Horse. g) Any action which could damage the reputation of the Sport or the Country. h) Nominated horse produces an adverse analytical finding following on from an assessment and/or Pre- Arrival Testing. i) The Team Veterinarian determines the nominated horse unsound to travel and compete at the Olympic Games Paris.

	<p>j) Where an athlete falls ill or sustains an injury subsequent to nomination by the Dressage High-Performance Director and is certified by the HSI Medical Officer or his/she designate as unfit to be nominated to the OFI for selection.</p> <p>Subsequent to OFI Selection</p> <p>6.2 An athlete and horse as a combination, or separately, may be removed from selection by the DHPD and the OFI for any of the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Violation or alleged violation of the Sport Ireland and FEI (Human) Anti-Doping protocol, policies and procedure. b) Violation or alleged violation of FEI Equine Anti-Doping Rules. c) An adverse analytical finding following on from testing pursuant to Sport Ireland, FEI Clean Sport protocol, (Human & Equine), Horse Sport Ireland National Equine Anti-Doping Programme policies and procedures. d) Violation or alleged violation of the FEI Sport Rules and Regulations and HSI General Rules. e) Violation or alleged violation of the HSI Code of Conduct. f) Violation or alleged violation of the FEI Code of Conduct for the Welfare of the Horse. g) Any action which could damage the reputation of the Sport or the Country. h) The selected horse produces an adverse analytical finding following on from an assessment and/or Pre- Arrival Testing. i) The HSI Team Veterinarian determines the OFI selected horse unsound, unfit, unwell to travel and compete at the Summer Olympic Games. j) Where an athlete falls ill or sustains an injury subsequent to selection by the Olympic Federation of Ireland, such athlete will be subject to the “Fitness to Compete” undertaken by the OFI. The decision of the Olympic Federation of Ireland is final.
<p>7. Reserves (P) Athletes</p>	<p>7.1 In the event a nominated or selected Horse is removed due to the reasons outlined in Article 6 above, the DHPD in conjunction with the OFI reserves the right to retain the nominated/selected athlete that had been nominated/selected with the removed horse but substitute the horse with another horse campaigned by that athlete, provided same is included on the relevant long list (nominated entries) for the Olympic Games. The DHPD reserves the right to elect this mechanism ahead of deferring to the P Athlete/Horse list in the first instance.</p> <p>7.2 In the event an Athlete and Horse as a combination, or separately, is removed due to reasons outlined in Article 6 above, and the DHPD does not wish to utilise section 7.1 above or 7.1 is not applicable, the DHPD reserves the right to nominate any other Athlete/Horse Combinations listed on the long list (nominated entries). For the avoidance of doubt, the P Athlete/Horse (Alternate) does not automatically move up to a Team place subsequent to nomination or selection unless expressly decided upon by the DHPD. Please see the FEI Regulations for Equestrian Events at the Olympic Games 25th Edition, Effective for the Olympic Games Paris 2024.</p>
<p>8. Disclaimers</p>	<p>8.1 These procedures are based on FEI General Regulations, FEI Regulations for Equestrian Events at the Olympic Games, applicable FEI Sport Rules and the 2024 OFI Agreement for Selection of the Athletes for the Sport – Equestrian, as presently known and understood. The nomination criteria are based on the latest information available to Horse Sport Ireland. However, nominations are always subject to unforeseen, intervening circumstances, and may not have accounted for every possible contingency.</p> <p>8.2 As such, this criteria can be amended by Horse Sport Ireland. Horse Sport Ireland reserves the right to amend or change the criteria where necessary at any time in order to fulfil the objective of the criteria. In the event that Horse Sport Ireland is of</p>

	<p>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.</p>
<p>9. Nomination Appeal Process</p>	<p>Please see Horse Sport Ireland Appeal Procedure for the Olympic Games Paris (all Disciplines). The following appeals procedure applies in respect of any appeal made by an athlete or owner where:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) The Athlete or their horse have not been nominated to the FEI Nominated Entries list (10th June 2024) by the respective High-Performance Director. (ii) The Athlete or their horse have not been nominated for selection to the Irish team (“Irish Team”) for Dressage by the respective High-Performance Director. (iii) The Athlete or their horse have been designated the P athlete (the alternate), for the Dressage Team. (iv) The Athlete or their horse has been removed from nomination subsequent to being nominated but before selection by the OFI (v) The Athlete or their horse have not been accepted by the OFI and deemed a Selected Combination. <p>In the case of an athlete who has not been nominated (by the Discipline High Performance Director) for selection, the appeal must be exercised within the timelines below and prior to the selection of athletes by the OFI.</p> <p><u>NGB Nomination Appeal - Limitation of Appeal</u></p> <p>Any appeal is limited to grounds of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) bias, and/or (b) failure to adhere to the relevant Nomination Policy document <p><u>NGB Nomination Appeal - Notice of Appeal</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Appeal must be delivered within 24 hours of the time of publication of the selection of nominees by the HPD on the HSI website, if relating to nomination. This will take place at some time on 4th June. 2. If the appeal relates to removal from nomination, all applicable timeframes may be truncated and they will be told to the Athlete when they are informed of the removal of them or their horse. 3. The Appellant must lodge a Notice of Appeal setting out one or both of the limited grounds of appeal together with any supporting documentation. 4. The Notice of Appeal must be emailed to the Sport Governance Executive, Paul Hayes at phayes@horsesportireland.ie 5. An administrative fee of €100.00 must be paid with the Notice of Appeal either electronically to Horse Sport Ireland Bank Account (IBAN & BIC) made payable to ‘Horse Sport Ireland’ or by an agreed process with Horse Sport Ireland. This fee will be refunded to the Appellant if the Appeal is successful. <p><u>NGB Nomination Appeal - Leave to Appeal</u></p>

1. The Sport Governance Executive shall review the Notice of Appeal and any attached documents in order to determine whether leave to appeal should be granted to the Appellant.
2. The Sport Governance Executive shall have regard to:
 - (a) whether the Notice of Appeal was served in time and;
 - (b) whether an eligible ground of appeal has been raised in the Notice of Appeal in determining whether leave to appeal should be granted
3. When the Sport Governance Executive determines that an Appellant has or has not met the criteria for leave to appeal, then they shall communicate the decision to grant or refuse leave to appeal to the Appellant and to the CEO of Horse Sport Ireland within **one (1) day** of receipt of the Notice of Appeal.
4. Within **(1) one day** of receipt of a decision to grant leave to appeal the Sport Governance Executive shall:
 - (a) appoint one panel member from the Independent Appeal Committee, (this panel will comprise of two independent individuals),
 - (b) deliver to the Panel Member and the Appellant the appeal documents and
 - (c) notify the Appellant of the composition of the Panel Member appointed.
5. The Appellant shall raise any objection to the appointed Panel Member setting out the reasons for such objection **within (1) one day** of receipt of the notice of the composition. If there is any objection to the Panel Member appointed the Sport Governance Executive shall determine if the objection is upheld or not. If there is a reasonable perception of bias or actual bias then the objection will be upheld and the Panel Member will be asked to stand aside. If the objection upheld, then the Sport Governance Executive shall appoint a new Panel Member to adjudicate the matter.
6. All appeals will be limited to documentary evidence only and hearings for the purposes of submissions and argument will take place virtually by way of video link hosted by Microsoft Teams or Zoom Conferencing.
7. The Panel Member shall have discretion to extend or truncate the timeline for the appeal hearing where it deems fit.
8. Within **(1) one day** of the Panel Member being appointed (and not be objected to), the Appellant shall deliver its witness statements and written submissions to the Panel Member and the Sport Governance Executive.
 - (a) Within one day of receipt the Sport Governance Executive shall submit any responding witness statements and written submissions to the Panel Member and the Appellant.
 - (b) where it appears that the interests of a Third Party may be affected by any decision of the NGB Nomination Appeal, the Panel Member may notify the Third party and invite the Third Party to make submissions and produce additional documents. The Panel Member shall permit such time as it deems reasonable for delivery of such submissions and documents but this shall not exceed two days.

(c) The Panel Member shall conduct such hearing as referred to at Paragraph 6 herein within **(1) one day** of receipt of the last set of submissions permitted to them.

9. The decision of the Panel Member is limited to determining whether either or both of the grounds for appeal have been substantiated.
10. The Panel Member shall have the flexibility to conduct the appeal in any manner it deems fit, subject to the appeal being conducted fairly.
11. The Panel Member may, at its sole discretion, disregard any non-material failure by a party to adhere to these Procedures and may give such further directions as may be appropriate.
12. If any party fails to comply with the Panel Member's direction or other communication issued by the Panel Member, the appeal may proceed in the absence of that party's compliance at the discretion of the Panel member.
13. The Panel Member shall either uphold or reject the appeal. The Panel Member cannot substitute their decision for the decision of the High-Performance Director. Where the appeal is upheld, then the Panel Member shall remit the matter back to the High-Performance Director with directions.
14. Each party shall be responsible for their own costs and expenses, including legal costs for the appeal hearing. The Panel Member has no power to make an award of legal costs against a party.
15. The Panel Member shall email a written reasoned decision to the parties copying the sport Governance Executive within one day of the conclusion of the appeal hearing.
16. The decision of the Panel Member shall be binding on the parties and any affected third party who is a stakeholder within Horse Sport Ireland, subject to a right to challenge such decision before the Sports Dispute Solutions Ireland (SDSI) in accordance with the SDSI arbitration rules and procedures.
17. Any arbitral challenge to the decision of the appointed Panel Member will be heard by Sport Dispute Solutions Ireland and otherwise proceed in accordance with the time limits set out below and in accordance with SDSI Arbitration Rules for final and binding arbitration.
18. Any eligible athlete wishing to appeal to SDSI must lodge a Notice of Appeal Form in line with the supplementary procedures for Paris 2024 Athlete Nomination and Selection Appeals, SDSI. Athletes must submit the completed form within **12 hours** of receipt by them of the decision arising from the Horse Sport Ireland NGB Nomination Appeal Process.
19. The timelines that follow will be dictated by the SDSI supplementary procedures for Paris 2024 Athlete Nomination and Selection Appeals.

Timeline

The Horse Sport Ireland Olympic nomination process timelines are as follows:

- i. **Tuesday 4th June 2024**

Team:

The Dressage High-Performance Director selects the nominated entries, being a maximum of nine (9) Athletes and horse combinations; plus, three (3) P Alternate Athletes and 3 Reserve Horse combinations. This list will be published on the HSI website.

The Dressage High-Performance Director nominates the three Athlete/Horse Combinations, and one P Alternate Athlete/Horse Combination, plus two Reserve Athlete/Horse Combination (who will travel to the designated Horse Sport Ireland Dressage holding camp); however, the P Athlete and reserve athlete will not be in order of preference. All combinations will be recommended to the Olympic Federation of Ireland to represent Ireland at the 2024 Olympic Games in Paris subject to Section 9 above. The DHPD will contact athletes by telephone call.

Individual

The Dressage High-Performance Director selects the nominated entries, being a maximum of three (3) times the number of qualified Athletes and horse combinations. This list will be published on the HSI website.

The Dressage High-Performance Director nominates the qualified Athlete/Horse Combination(s), and Reserve Athlete/Horse Combinations (who will travel to the designated Horse Sport Ireland Dressage holding camp); however, such additional reserves will not necessarily be in order of preference. All combinations will be recommended to the Olympic Federation of Ireland to represent Ireland at the 2024 Olympic Games in Paris subject to Section 9 above. The DHPD will contact athletes by telephone call.

- Athletes who do not achieve nomination (FEI Nominated Entries), i.e., athletes who do not achieve the list of 12 have an opportunity to appeal this decision in advance of delivery of the formal nominated entries to the FEI. Please see Section 9 above.
- Athletes who are not nominated (team of three) have an opportunity to appeal this decision subject to the timelines as set out in Section 9 above.
- Athletes who are not nominated as an individual (where applicable) subject to reallocation.
- Athletes who are nominated (as the P athlete) have an opportunity to appeal this decision subject to the timelines as set out in Section 9 above.

ii. **Monday 24th June 2024**

Team

Pursuant Article 607 of the Olympic Regulations, Horse Sport Ireland formally submits the long list (nominated) entries to the FEI, to include a Certificate of Capability (MER Deadline) for the 2024 Olympic Games in Paris. Pursuant to the FEI Olympic Regulations a maximum nine (9) Athletes and horse combinations; plus, three (3) P Alternate Athletes and 3 Reserve Horse combinations will be submitted.

Individual

Pursuant Article 607 of the Olympic Regulations, Horse Sport Ireland formally submits the long list (nominated) entries to the FEI, to include a Certificate of Capability (MER Deadline) for the 2024 Olympic Games in Paris. Pursuant to the FEI Olympic Regulations a maximum of three (3) times the number of Qualified Athletes and horse combinations will be submitted.

No further athletes can be added, substituted or otherwise to the nominated entry list after the 24th of June 2024.

iii. **Tuesday 25th June**

The Olympic Federation of Ireland confirms receipt of the nomination of Athlete & Horse Combinations as submitted. Thereafter, the OFI will either issue Team Ireland Agreements for execution or indicate its refusal to select nominated athlete/horse combinations.

iv. **Friday 8th July 2024** The closing date for Paris 2024 Official Final Entries (Paris Sport Entry deadline) to the FEI.

v. **Sunday 28th July 2024** First horse inspection for Dressage.

