

# British Equestrian Jumping Selection Policy

## Paris 2024 Olympic Games

### 1. Introduction

- 1.1. The British Equestrian Jumping squad (the “Squad”) for the Paris 2024 Olympic Games will be selected by the World Class Jumping Performance Manager (the “Selector”), which is endorsed by British Equestrian (BEF), and nominated to the British Olympic Association (BOA) by the BEF for selection to Team GB.
- 1.2. References to selection for the 2024 Olympic Games (the “Games”) in this Policy refer to selection of a Squad of four (4) athlete/horse combinations that will be selected. References to the “Squad” in this Policy are to be construed accordingly. Additional ‘reserve’ combinations will also be referred to.
- 1.3. References to the “Squad” relate to the four (4) athlete/horse combinations who travel to the Games, of which three (3) will compete for the Team Competition as well as the Individual Competition at the Games and will be known as the “Team”. The fourth (4<sup>th</sup>) athlete/horse combination will be the reserve/substitute.

### 2. Objective

The objectives of this Selection Policy are to select athlete and horse combinations that will maximise the potential to:

- 2.1. Primary objective: Win the Team Gold at the Paris 2024 Olympic Games.
- 2.2. Secondary objective: Win Individual medals at the Paris 2024 Olympic Games.

### 3. Confidentiality

- 3.1. It is vitally important for the integrity of the Selection Policy and out of respect for the athletes, owners, selection panel, staff and other parties that there is at all times a high degree of confidentiality relating to information which may have a bearing on selection.
- 3.2. Any member of the Selection Panel, whether voting or non-voting, who breaks this confidentiality may be removed from the Selection Panel. All confidential information, conversations and discussions will be identified as such.

### 4. Selection Panel and Attendees

- 4.1. The Olympic Squad Selection Panel shall be comprised of:

Independent Chair (non-voting)	Sarah Rowell
Selector (voting)	Di Lampard
- 4.2. Non-Voting Experts present at the Olympic selection meeting:  
*(The individual expert's opinion may be sought by the Selector, but they will not have a vote at the point of selection. They may contribute fully to the selection discussions when invited to do so). The intent is that these individuals will normally attend in person, but they may join the meeting remotely.*

Performance Director, or their chosen representative  
Jumping Technical Expert (TE)

Jumping Team Veterinary Surgeon (Vet) (if required by the selectors)  
World Class Programme Lead of Athlete Health (if required by the selectors)  
Data Analysis Expert

Also present:  
BEF-appointed minute taker

- 4.3. Observers who may attend the Olympic selection meeting, as approved by the WCP Performance Director  
*The intent is that these individuals will normally attend in person, in exceptional circumstances they may join the meeting remotely.*

CEO of BEF  
UK Sport Representative  
British Olympic Association (BOA) Representative  
British Elite Athletes Association Representative  
British Showjumping CEO

- 4.4. The Independent Chair will ensure that the process of selection is followed correctly. The Independent Chair will maintain a register of conflicts of interest and the Selector will declare any potential or perceived conflicts as soon as they arise and using the conflict of interest declaration form. If the voting Selector has a conflict of interest, an alternative selector will be nominated prior to the selection meeting.
- 4.5. The Jumping Performance Manager (PM) is the sole Selector. They will, in coordination with the TE, provide relevant evidence and insight including, but not limited to, assessment of anticipated performance and assessment of risk factors.
- 4.6. The WCP Jumping Technical Expert (TE) will attend the selection meeting, as a non-voting expert, with the sole purpose of providing relevant evidence and insight including, but not limited to, assessment of anticipated performance, assessment of risk factors, recommendations regarding final preparation/training for each candidate.
- 4.7. The Team Veterinary Surgeon (Vet) will attend the selection meeting if required, as a non-voting expert, with the sole purpose of reporting on soundness, assessment of known risk factors and recommendations regarding final preparation.
- 4.8. The PD will be responsible for the final nomination by the BEF to the BOA.
- 4.9. Representatives of the BOA and UK Sport will have the right to attend the Paris 2024 Olympic Games selection meetings as observers.
- 4.10. Throughout the Selection process, the Selector will act as an expert and is entitled within this Selection Policy, having regard to the criteria set out below, to use their discretion to select athlete and horse combinations onto the Team. They must at all times use their discretion honestly and with integrity having regard to, and acting in compliance with, any applicable code of conduct or code of ethics in force from time to time.
- 4.11. The WCP Athlete Health Lead will attend the selection meeting if required and will, in any case, provide such information as necessary to enable the Selector to make a rational decision on an athlete's fitness (physical or mental) and/or anticipated ability to complete the competition and manage the environment.

## 5. Policy formation

- 5.1. The British Equestrian Jumping Selection Policy for the Paris 2024 Olympic Games is compiled in consultation with the BOA, British Showjumping (BS) Board Directors, British Equestrian Board Directors, Independent Chair, BS Performance Committee, Selector, athletes, PD, PM and TE.

## 6. Changes in policy

- 6.1. The Selector will have the right in exceptional circumstances to amend or change the Policy where necessary at any time in order to fulfil the objectives of the Policy. Any changes to the Policy must be approved in writing by the Independent Chair, PD and British Showjumping CEO. The amended Policy in its entirety will be communicated to all athletes (as directed by the Selector) and the section revised will be published on the BS and BEF websites.

## 7. Minimum eligibility requirement and availability for consideration for selection

- 7.1. The BS Administrator will ensure that each athlete available for selection is eligible to represent Great Britain including:

- a. The athlete must be a national of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and in compliance with the Fédération Equestre Internationale (FEI) General Regulations, 24<sup>th</sup> Edition, Article 119 at the time of application, selection and until the conclusion of the Paris 2024 Olympic Games (“the Games”). Athletes must hold a valid UK passport that does not expire for six (6) months after the conclusion of the Games.
- b. The athlete has been granted a license by the National Federation of Great Britain to compete in international events in accordance with FEI General Regulations, 24<sup>th</sup> Edition, Articles 113 and 117.
- c. All athletes will be expected to comply with FEI and BEF Equine Anti-Doping and Controlled Medication Rules, and FEI, BEF and WADA rules on human anti-doping and all athletes must be eligible to compete under any anti-doping code i.e. not serving a competition ban as a result of a proven doping or controlled medication violation, or other breach of ethical conduct and is not in receipt of a lifetime funding ban from UK Sport.
- d. The athlete is a full member of British Showjumping (BS).
- e. The horse is fully registered with BS and the FEI for 2024.
- f. Neither athletes or horses may, for any reason, be ineligible to take part in the Paris 2024 Olympic Games under BEF, BOA, FEI, a BEF Member Body or IOC rules.
- g. All athletes being considered for selection will be deemed to have accepted that they, their horses and support teams may be required to take part in pre-export quarantine if required.
- h. All athletes will be expected to comply with reasonable requests intended to support optimal performance preparation for themselves and their horses, in particular, but not limited to, those specifically aligned to the anticipated environmental conditions, competition format and arrival times and dates.

- 7.2. In addition, as a condition of selection for the 2024 Games, an athlete/horse combination must meet the following criteria:

- a. All athlete and horse combinations must have registered their intent to compete at the Olympic Games before 23:59 hours on 12 of May 2024 in order to be eligible to be considered for selection. The registration of intent form can be found [here](#). By signing the Register of Intent (ROI) the athlete confirms that they have read and agree to abide by the terms set out in this selection policy.
- b. The Performance Director reserves the right to add any athlete/horse combination to the register of intent list at any time prior to the Nominations Selection meeting.

- c. To be able to participate in the Games, all athletes/horses must achieve, as a combination, the minimum eligibility requirements (MER) set out in section C of the Fédération Équestre Internationale (FEI) Qualification System – Games of the XXXIII Olympiad – Paris 2024 for Jumping, updated 1 October, 2023. This document and the list of qualifying events can be found on the FEI website: <https://inside.fei.org/fei/games/olympic/paris-2024>.
- d. The athlete must have been born on or before 31 December 2006 (FEI Regulations for Equestrian Events at the Olympic Games, 25<sup>th</sup> Edition, Effective for the Olympic Games Paris 2024, Article 606.1.2).
- e. The horse must be born on or before 31 December 2015 (nine years of age) (FEI Regulations for Equestrian Events at the Olympic Games, 25<sup>th</sup> Edition, Effective for the Olympic Games Paris 2024, 25<sup>th</sup> Edition, Article 606.2.1).
- f. Horses entered for the Equestrian Events at the Olympic Games must have been registered with the FEI as property of owners of the same nationality as the athlete (GBR) by 15 January 2024 (FEI Regulations for Equestrian Events at the Olympic Games, 25<sup>th</sup> Edition, Effective for the Olympic Games Paris 2024, Article 606.2.2.1). Horses with multinational ownership must be registered with the FEI by 15 January 2024 under the name of the nation for which the horse will compete during the Games (FEI Regulations for Equestrian Events at the Olympic Games, 25<sup>th</sup> Edition, Article 606.2.2.2).
- g. No commercial prefix or suffix will be included with the name of a horse on any Olympic participation/entry list, start list or results. The FEI will reserve the right to amend any horse's name accordingly (FEI Regulations for Equestrian Events at the Olympic Games, 25<sup>th</sup> Edition, Effective for the Olympic Games Paris 2024, Article 606.2.5).
- h. Athletes will be obliged to sign the BOA Team Member Agreement and to abide by the British Equestrian Team Charter.

## 8. Qualification period

- 8.1. The qualification period for Teams and Individuals will be in accordance with the FEI qualification guidelines (FEI Regulations for Equestrian Events at the Olympic Games, 25<sup>th</sup> Edition, effective for the Olympic Games Paris 2024), and are available at: [https://inside.fei.org/system/files/FEI%20Olympic%20Regulations%20Paris%202024%20Equestrian Approved%20at%20FEI%20GA%202022 Clean 07June23.pdf](https://inside.fei.org/system/files/FEI%20Olympic%20Regulations%20Paris%202024%20Equestrian%20Approved%20at%20FEI%20GA%202022%20Clean%2007June23.pdf)

## 9. Squad size

- 9.1. A Squad of four (4) athlete/horse combinations will be selected, of which three (3) will make up the Team and will compete in the Team Competition and Individual Competition. The fourth Squad member will be the Team Reserve/Substitute. All Squad members will be expected to comply with quarantine (if required) and preparation requirements. Failure to do so could result in the athlete/horse combination being removed from the Squad list.
- 9.2. The Selector will also select a number of reserve combinations (the exact number will be decided in consultation with the PD/TE/Team Vet) who must come from the Nominated Entry list. The Selector retains the option to place the reserve list in rank order. Reserves will be expected to comply with all quarantine (if required) and preparation requirements. Failure to do so could result in the athlete/horse combination being removed from the reserve list. A number of reserve horses may be expected to travel to the Paris region with the Squad horses in case there is requirement for a substitution.

## 10. Selection criteria

10.1. The Selector will take into account the criteria set out below and use their absolute discretion to select combinations onto the Squad. The Selector must at all times use their discretion honestly and with due integrity. All of the criteria listed below will be assessed in no particular order and with no particular weighting.

- a. The results achieved by the athlete/horse combination, during the qualification period. When considering results, due regard will be given to the following, in no particular order:
  - Double clear rounds in 2023 and 2024 FEI CSIO5\* Nations Cup competitions and respective Grand Prix classes.
  - Double clear rounds in 5\* Nations Cup competitions, and 5\* Grand Prix classes will take priority over 4\* Nations Cup competitions and respective Grand Prix classes.
  - CSIO5\* Grand Prix classes at GCT competitions will take priority over 4\* CSI and below
  - The combination's likelihood of contributing to achieving the Objectives of the policy.
  - The standing of the competition.
  - The quality and competitiveness of the starters.
  - Consideration of the reasons and justification behind any incomplete competitions due to elimination, withdrawal and/or retirement during the period up to and including the Olympic Qualifying Period.
  - The type of surface and conditions.
  - The rate of progression of the combination. Athlete's results on other horses at 5\* level.
  - Proven ability to produce peak performance in high pressure situations. The commitment of the athlete to prepare optimally for the Paris 2024 Olympic Games, as outlined by PD/PM, Team Vet and Human Health team for each combination's specific requirements in order to produce optimal results in the environment.
- b. Proven ability to produce peak performances on a given day and in conditions similar to the Olympic Games.
  - The fitness and health of the horse and ability to compete to full potential. All horses under consideration may be required to be examined by the Team Vet (or another appointed veterinary surgeon if necessary). Athletes are obliged to notify the Team Vet of any change in their horses' health status or veterinary management immediately. Athletes are expected to facilitate open communication between their own veterinary surgeon and the Team Vet to ensure that the selectors can make rational decisions and so that specific support can be instigated where required. The selection process may include the taking of bloods for pre-Games testing including pre-arrival testing.
- c. The fitness and health of the athlete and ability to compete to full potential. An athlete must declare to the PM or WCP Lead of Athlete Health any current or ongoing physical or mental reason that may impair their ability to perform at their peak on any given day in Paris. This information will be held in the strictest confidence.
- d. The World Class Programme Chief Medical Officer/WCP Lead of Athlete Health may also pass judgement on an athlete's capacity to compete optimally from a medical perspective. However, it is noted that this is done confidentially and without any detail of the issue without an athlete's explicit consent.

- e. The willingness of the athlete, their Home Team and others that may be assisting the athlete in the build up to and during the Games, to contribute to the Objectives of this Selection Policy, [British Equestrian Team Charter](#) and the BOA Team Member Agreement.
  - f. Conduct of the athlete and people associated with the athlete (including without limitation owners, partners, coaches and grooms) that may have an impact on creating a positive team environment both on and off the field of play.
  - g. Demonstration of behaviour that indicates a commitment to a positive team environment both on and off the field of play.
  - h. The owner/s commitment to make their horse/s available as reserve both non travelling and travelling to the Olympic Games.
- 10.2. The Selector, in collaboration with the PD, or a nominated representative of the PD (as agreed with the CEO of BS and the PD), may at their absolute discretion, ask athletes and horses to participate in specific training, tests or competitions, where they deem this appropriate for selection decisions to be made. The Selector will inform the athletes concerned of the details of these requirements. Participation will be compulsory except under exceptional circumstances agreed with the PM.

## 11. Selection process

- 11.1. The Nominated Entries selection meeting will be held on or around 21 of May 2024. The nominated entry list will comprise of twelve (12) athlete/horse combinations, to include three (3) reserve athlete/horse combinations. The nominated entry list and Certificates of Capability will be submitted to the FEI by 25 June 2024.
- 11.2. The Selector will select the Squad of four (4) athlete/horse combinations to travel to the Paris 2024 Olympic Games (which may or may not be set out in order of preference of three (3) Team members and one (1) travelling reserve), plus reserves (which may or may not be set out in order of preference), on or around 11 of June 2024. For the avoidance of doubt, the Selector reserves the right to nominate the four (4) athlete/horse combinations to travel to the Games on a 'no order' basis, which shall mean that – notwithstanding that one combination will necessarily need to be nominated as a reserve for sport entry purposes – the decision as to which three (3) athlete/horse combinations will actually be selected to compete may be deferred until arrival at the Olympic Games and up to two (2) hours before the start of the Team Qualifier, as set out in clause 12 below.
- 11.3. The PM/Selector will inform the athletes of the decision. Athletes will be required to maintain complete confidentiality until they are formally notified of the BOA's ratification of their selection by the PD or PM and are subject to the requirements of a BOA Team Announcement.
- 11.4. The BOA in consultation with the PD will announce the Squad for the Paris 2024 Olympic Games in June 2024 unless circumstances dictate otherwise.
- 11.5. The three (3) athlete/horse combinations that will compete for the Team and Individual medals will be announced in line with the FEI Regulations for Equestrian Events at the Olympic Games, 25<sup>th</sup> Edition.

### 11.6. Key Dates:

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| • Nominated Entries selection meeting                      | 21 May 2024  |
| • Definite Entries selection meeting                       | 11 June 2024 |
| • MER Deadline   | 24 June 2024 |
| • Nominated Entries and Certificate of Capability Deadline | 25 June 2024 |
| • Final Sport Entries Deadline                             | 8 July 2024  |



## **12. Post selection**

### **12.1. Squad, Team and running order:**

The PM, in consultation with the TE, Team Vet and PD, will decide the three (3) Team members and the proposed running order. If not already informed before travel, the PM will inform the Squad accordingly after assessment of the condition of the horses post-travel and the health of the athlete to compete to their maximum potential. The decision regarding the Team and Team running order will be made with absolute discretion, honesty and integrity to the Objectives of this Selection Policy. This decision will not be contestable, it will be final. The PM may subsequently make amendments to the Team and the order at any time up to two (2) hours before the start of the Team Qualifier, if deemed necessary to do so and/or up to two (2) hours before the start of the Individual Qualifier, if deemed necessary to do so. These decisions will be made with absolute discretion, honesty and integrity and will not be contestable, it will be final subject to being ratified and approved by the BOA and in accordance with the late athlete replacement policy.

## **13. De-selection**

- 13.1. Between the announcement of the Squad and the date of Final Sport Entries on 8 July 2024, the final decision as to whether to de-select, whatever the reasoning, will be made by the Selector in consultation with the BS CEO, PD and Team Vet.
- 13.2. After the Final Sport Entries on 8 July 2024, and prior to departure to the Games, de-selection and replacement decisions for the Squad will be made by the Selector in consultation with the BS CEO and PD, this decision will be then ratified and approved by the BOA.
- 13.3. Once departure to the Games has commenced, all selection and de-selection decisions will be made in accordance with para 12.1 of this policy.
- 13.4. De-selection will normally only occur in exceptional circumstances (such as injury or illness to athlete or horse, or a performance issue that indicate a combination is unlikely to contribute to the objectives of the policy, or as detailed in 13.5 below). At all times such decisions will be in accordance with the IOC Late Athlete Replacement Policy (to be published).
- 13.5. Selected and Reserve athletes must continue to meet the eligibility requirements and adhere to all reasonable training, preparation, quarantine, media, and team meeting requirements, as well as the requirements outlined in the British Equestrian Team Charter, Athlete Agreement, BEF Rules, BS Code of Conduct and the BOA Team Members Agreement. Failure to do so may result in the athlete and horse combination being de-selected.
  - 13.5.1. In the event that an athlete ceases to meet the eligibility requirements, or any breaches or alleged breaches of these agreements, rules and policies are under investigation by BS, BEF or any other statutory authority, the CEOs of BS and BEF along with the PD will consult with the BOA to collectively determine and agree whether de-selection is the appropriate course of action, regardless of whether the relevant process has been concluded or any other risk management or disciplinary sanctions have been imposed at that point.
  - 13.5.2. The Athlete will be notified of any review of their selection under section 13.5.1 and will be given the opportunity to make written representations within 72 hours of notification. The de-selection decision, together with any athlete submission, will be subject to final review by the Independent Chair. The outcome of this process shall be final and not open to appeal.
  - 13.5.3. Any de-selection decision made within 72 hours in advance of the team travelling from the UK to the point of competition will be deemed final and not subject to further review.

- 13.6. Athletes and horses are expected to maintain fitness and performance. Once an athlete/horse combination has been selected, they must maintain their form and fitness in a suitable training and competition programme, to be agreed with the PM. Failure to follow this programme or to discuss proposed amendments with the PM, could lead to the athlete/horse combination being de-selected.
- 13.7. At any time after announcement of the Squad, in the case of an athlete being considered medically unfit to compete, a recommendation will be made by the PM to the relevant decision-making body (Selectors or BOA) following an examination by a World Class Programme-approved Human SSM Practitioner and in consultation with the PD. This may involve the athlete being asked to ride certain dressage movements or jump selected fences on their selected horse. Being unfit to compete is best described as “not being able to ride their horse in a manner which allows the athlete to produce the standard of performance at which they were selected”.
- 13.8. At any time after the announcement of the Squad, in the case of a horse being considered unfit, due to veterinary reasons, to compete or unable to compete to the performance standard anticipated, a recommendation will be made by the PM to the relevant decision-making body (Selectors or BOA) following an examination by a World Class Programme approved veterinarian and in consultation with the PD.
- 13.9. De-selection of a Squad member may occur at any time in line with the terms set out in this policy. The decision to deselect an athlete is not open to appeal; however, a written representation is permissible up until 72 hours prior to team travel, in accordance with clauses 13.5.2 and 13.5.3.

#### **14. General**

- 14.1. Cancellation/postponement: In the event of cancellation of the Paris 2024 Olympic Games, the relevant parties will be notified straightaway. In the event of postponement, a situation might arise where a new and/or different Squad needs to be selected, in which case all parties will be notified and normal procedure for selection will be followed.
- 14.2. Force majeure: In the event of exceptional circumstances beyond the BEF, BS or BOA’s control, e.g., disease outbreak in horses or humans, war or terrorism, or the withdrawal of World Class Programme funding, the BEF and BS Boards reserve the right to make the decision, following consultation with the PD, BOA and Chief Executives of the BEF and BS, either to change the Selection Policy or procedure, which might include withdrawing the British Team from competition.
- 14.3. Communication (publication): The Selection Policy will be placed on the BS and BEF websites and copies will be available on request from the BS/BEF offices.
- 14.4. Enquiries: Enquiries about the Selection Policy can be made either in writing or by telephone to the BS/BEF offices or the PM.
- 14.5. Point of contact: The PM is the key point of contact relating to this Selection Policy.

#### **15. Appeals process and procedures**

- 15.1. Athletes have the right to appeal against a selection decision of the Selector, but only on the grounds that the Selector has failed to comply with this Policy or has made a decision that no rational body of competent Selectors could reasonably reach.
- 15.2. An appeal must be made by submitting notice in writing to the Chief Executive Officer of the BEF in accordance with the BEF Selection Appeal Rules (the “Appeal Process”) within 48 hours, or two working days, of the relevant athlete being informed of the Selector’s decision.
- 15.3. A copy of the Appeal must also be submitted to the Chief Executive Officer of BS. The Chief Executive Officer of BS shall, on receipt of the notice of appeal, seek to bring together all parties for a without prejudice discussion that may, if all are agreed, take the form of facilitated



mediation.

- 15.4. For the avoidance of doubt the Appeal Process shall continue to run during the course of such discussion. However, in the event that both parties notify the BEF (within 24 hours, or one working day, of receipt of the notice of appeal) that such discussion/mediation has resolved the Appeal, the Appeal Process shall be stayed. The Appeal Process is set out on the BEF website: [Annex H - 2 - BEF Olympic and Paralympic Games Selection Appeal Rules.pdf \(britishequestrian.org.uk\)](#)