

British Equestrian Jumping Senior Team Selection Policy 2025 European Championships

1. Introduction

- 1.1. The British Equestrian Jumping squad (the 'Squad') for the 2025 European Championships (the 'Championships') will be selected by the World Class Jumping Performance Manager (the 'Selector'), which is endorsed by British Equestrian (BEF).
- 1.2. References to selection for the Championships in this Policy refer to selection of a Squad of five (5) athlete/horse combinations that will be selected. Additional "Reserve" combinations will also be referred to.

2. Objective

The purpose of this Selection Policy is to select athlete/horse combinations that will maximise the potential to achieve its objectives.

- 2.1. Primary objective: To select athlete/horse combinations to target individual medals.
- 2.2. Secondary objective: To select athlete/horse combinations that will gain Championship experience to maximise qualification at the World Championships in 2026 and future Championships.

3. Confidentiality

- 3.1. It is vital for the integrity of the Selection Policy and out of respect for the athletes, owners, selections, staff and other parties that there is, always, 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 Selection Panel shall be comprised of:

- Independent Chair (non-voting) Sarah Rowell
- Selector (voting) Di Lampard

- 4.2. The Performance Director (or their chosen representative) will attend all selection meetings, normally in person but in exceptional may join the meeting remotely.

- 4.3. Non-Voting Experts present at the European selection meeting:

- Jumping Technical Expert (TE)
- Jumping Team Veterinary Surgeon (Vet)
- World Class Programme (WCP) Lead of Athlete Health
- Data Analysis Expert

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.

Also present:
BEF appointed minute taker

4.4. Observers who may attend the European selection meeting, as approved by the WCP Performance Director:

- CEO of BEF
- UK Sport Representative
- British Elite Athletes Association Representative
- CEO of British Showjumping (BS)

The intent is that these individuals will normally attend in person, in exceptional circumstances they may join the meeting remotely.

- 4.5. 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.
- 4.6. 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.
- 4.7. The WCP Jumping TE may 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.
- 4.8. The Team Vet will attend the selection meeting if required with the sole purpose of reporting on soundness, assessment of known risk factors and recommendations regarding final preparation.
- 4.9. The WCP Athlete Health Lead may 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 and/or anticipated ability to complete the competition and manage the environment.
- 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 Squad. At all times they must 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.

5. Policy formation

- 5.1. The British Equestrian Jumping Senior Team Selection Policy is compiled in consultation with the BS Board Directors, BEF Board Directors, Independent Chair, BS Performance Committee, Selector, athletes, PD, PM and TE.

6. Changes in policy

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

7. Minimum eligibility requirement and availability for consideration for selection

- 7.1. The BS Performance 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, 24th Edition, Article 119](#) at the time of application, selection and until the conclusion of the Championships. Athletes must hold a valid UK passport that does not expire for six (6) months after the conclusion of the Championship.
 - 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, 24th Edition, Articles 113 and 117](#).
 - c. To be able to participate in the Championships all athletes/horses must achieve, as a combination, the minimum eligibility requirements (MER) set out in section [FEI Jumping Rules, 27th Edition, ANNEX VIII](#). This document and the list of qualifying events can be found on the [FEI website](#).
 - d. The athlete must have been born on or before 31 December 2007 ([FEI Rules for Jumping at Championships and Games, 27th Edition, Article 321](#)).
 - e. The horse must be born on or before 31 December 2016 (nine years of age) ([FEI Rules for Jumping at Championships and Games, 27th Edition, Article 321](#)).
 - f. 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 human and equine doping or controlled medication violation, or other breach of ethical conduct and is not in receipt of a lifetime funding ban from UK Sport.
 - g. The athlete is a full member of BS and is not serving any suspension under BS, BEF or any other Member body rules.
 - h. The horse is fully registered with BS and the FEI for 2025.

- i. Neither athlete nor horse may, for any reason, be ineligible to take part in the Championships under BEF, FEI, or any BEF Member Body rules.
- 7.2. In addition, to be considered for selection for the Championships, an athlete/horse combination must have registered their intent to compete (ROI).
- a. All athlete and horse combinations must have registered their intent to compete at the Championships before 23:59 hours on [TBC] to be considered for selection. The [ROI form can be found here](#). By signing the ROI form, the athlete confirms that they have read and agree to abide by the terms set out in this selection policy.
 - i) The PD reserves the right to add any athlete/horse combination to the ROI list at any time prior to the start to the nomination Selection meeting.
 - b. Athletes will be obliged to adhere and to abide by the [BEF Team Charter](#) and the [BS Code of Conduct](#).
 - c. All athletes being considered for selection will be deemed to have accepted that they, their horses, and support teams will take part in pre-export quarantine, if required.
 - d. 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.

2) Qualification period

- a. The qualification period for Teams and Individuals will be in accordance with the FEI qualification guidelines ([FEI Jumping Rules at Championships and Games, 27th Edition, ANNEX VIII](#)).

3) Squad size

- a. A Squad of five (5) athlete/horse combinations will travel to the Championships, a team of four (4). The fifth will be a reserve/substitute or an individual competing [TBC when the schedule ruling is released]. 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.
- b. 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. Reserve horses may be required to travel with the Squad horses in case there is requirement for a substitution.

4) Selection criteria

- a. The Selector will consider the criteria set out below and use their absolute discretion to select combinations onto the Squad in order to achieve the Objectives of this Policy. 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.
- b. The athlete/horse combination's results. Due regard will be given to:
 - (a) Results in 2024/25 FEI CSIO5* Nations Cup competitions & respective Grand Prix classes.
 - (b) 5* Grand Prix classes will normally take priority over 4* Nations Cup competitions and respective Grand Prix classes.
 - (c) Results at other CS15* and CSIO4*/CS14* competitions will be taken into consideration, along with CS13* MER Grand Prix's.
 - (d) The combination's likelihood to develop into a contributor to maximise the probability of achieving the Objectives.
 - (e) The standing of the competition.
 - (f) The quality and competitiveness of the starters (competitiveness of the field).
 - (g) Consideration of the reasons and justification behind any incomplete competitions from 1 January 2024 up to and including the Championship entries date (dependant on the definite entry date) due to elimination, withdrawal and/or retirement.
 - (h) The rate of progression of the combination.
 - (i) Results on other horses at 5* level.
 - (j) Proven ability to produce peak performances/double clear rounds on a given day.
 - (k) Proven ability to produce peak performance under high pressure conditions.
 - (l) The commitment of the athlete to preparing optimally for the Championship, 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.
 - (m) The fitness and health of the horse and ability to compete to full potential.
 - (n) The fitness and health of the athlete and ability to compete to full potential.
 - (o) The willingness of the athlete, their Home Team and others that may be assisting the athlete during the Championship, to contribute to the objectives of this Selection Policy.
 - (p) The conduct of the athlete and their Home Team that may have a positive or negative impact on the team environment both on and off the field of play.

(q) The owner/s commitment to make their horse/s available as reserve both non travelling and travelling to the Championship.

(r) The Selector, in collaboration with the PD, or a nominated representative of the PD (as agreed with the CEO of BS and the PD and Technical Expert), may at their absolute discretion, ask athletes and horses to participate in specific training, tests or competitions, where they deem this appropriate to selection decisions being made. The Selector will inform the athletes concerned of the details of these requirements.

11. Selection process

11.1. The Nominated Entries selection meeting will be held on or around 18 May 2025. The Nominated Entry list will comprise of ten (10) athlete/horse combinations. The selector may also select several Reserve athlete/horse combinations for the nominated entry list, which may or may not be set out in rank order of preference.

11.2. The nominated entry list and Certificates of Capability will be submitted to the FEI [TBC].

11.3. The Selector will hold the Definite Entries selection meeting on or around the 17 June 2025. The selector will select the Squad of five (5) athlete/horse combinations to travel to the Championships. The selectors may also select several Reserve athlete/horse combinations for the squad, which may or may not be set out in order of preference.

11.4. The Selector will inform the athletes of the decision. Athletes will be required to maintain complete confidentiality until they are formally notified are subject to the requirements of the Team Announcement.

11.5. The BEF, in consultation with BS, will announce the Squad for the "Championships".

11.6. Key Dates:

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| • ROI Deadline | 02 May 2025 |
| • Nominated Entries selection meeting | 18 May 2025 |
| • Definite Entries selection meeting | 17 June 2025 |
| • MER Deadline | [TBC] |
| • Nominated Entries and Certificate of Capability Deadline | [TBC] |
| • Definite Entries Deadline | [TBC] |

12. Team, running order and substitution

12.1. The PM, in consultation with the TE, Team Vet and PD, will decide the four (4) 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 horse's 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.

12.2. The PM may subsequently make amendments to the Team (substitution) 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, this decision is final and will not be contestable.

- 12.3. Additionally, if there is a need to deselect an athlete/horse combination from the squad or the Team for any reason, it will be made by the PM, in consultation with the PD, BS CEO, and Team Vet, in accordance with the deselection process detailed in clause 14 of this policy, this decision is final and will not be contestable

13. Withdrawal

- 13.1. Athletes have the right to withdraw, themselves or a horse, from the selection process at any time after completing an ROI. To withdraw, athletes should confirm in writing (e.g. email/text/WhatsApp) to the PM that they no longer wish to be considered for selection.

14. De-selection

- 14.1. Between the conclusion of the Nominated Entries Selection Meeting and the submission of the Nominated Entries, the final decision as to whether to de-select, whatever the reasoning, will be made by the Selector in consultation with the PD, BS CEO, and Team Vet.
- 14.2. Between the submission of the Nominated Entries and the submission of the Definite Entries, the final decision as to whether to de-select, whatever the reasoning, will be made by the Selectors in consultation with the PD, BS CEO and Team Vet.
- 14.3. After the submission of the Definite Entries, and prior to departure to the Championships, de-selection and replacement decisions for the Squad will be made by the Selector in consultation with the TE, PD and BS CEO.
- 14.4. Once departure to the Championships has commenced, all selection and de-selection decisions will be made in accordance with para 12 and 14.5 of this policy.
- 14.5. 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 14.6 below).
- 14.6. 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 BEF Team Charter, Athlete Agreement, BEF Rules, BS Code of Conduct. Failure to do so may result in the athlete and horse combination being de-selected.
 - 14.6.1. 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 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.
 - 14.6.2. The Athlete will be notified of any review of their selection under section 14.6.1 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.

- 14.6.3. 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.
- 14.7. 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.
- 14.8. At any time after the conclusion of the Nominations selection meeting, in the case of an athlete being considered medically unfit to compete, a recommendation will be made by the PM to the PD and BS CEO following an examination by a World Class Programme-approved Human Sports Science and Medicine (SSM) Practitioner and in consultation with the PD. This may involve the athlete being asked to 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'.
- 14.9. At any time after the conclusion of the Nominations selection meeting, 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 PD and BS CEO following an examination by a World Class Programme approved veterinarian and in consultation with the PD.
- 14.10. 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 14.6.2 and 14.6.3.

15. General

- 15.1. Cancellation/postponement: In the event of cancellation of the Championships, 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 wherever possible.
- 15.2. Force majeure: In the event of exceptional circumstances beyond the BEF or BS 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, and CEOs of the BEF and BS, either to change the Selection Policy or procedure, which might include withdrawing the British Team from competition.
- 15.3. Communication (publication): the Selection Policy will be placed on the BEF and BS websites and copies will be available on request from the BEF/BS offices.
- 15.4. Enquiries: enquiries about the Selection Policy can be made either in writing or by telephone to the BEF/BS offices or the PM.
- 15.5. Point of contact: the PM is the key point of contact relating to this Selection Policy.

16. Appeals process and procedures

- 16.1. 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 competent Selector could reasonably reach, excluding those decisions which are specifically non-appealable as in 14.10.
- 16.2. An appeal must be made by submitting notice in writing to the CEO Officer of the BEF in accordance with the BEF Selection Appeal Rules (the 'Appeal Process') within two (2) working days of the relevant athlete being informed of the Selector's decision.
- 16.3. A copy of the Appeal must also be submitted to the CEO of BS. The CEO 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.
- 16.4. 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 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](#).