

UNITED STATES EQUESTRIAN FEDERATION, INC.
ATHLETE SELECTION PROCEDURES
2012 FEI World Championship Endurance Team
Newmarket, GBR
Revised 2/10/2012

I. SELECTION SYSTEM

A. Minimum eligibility requirements for an Athlete to be considered for nomination to the Team:

1. Citizenship - The athlete must be a U.S. citizen and in compliance with FEI General Regulations, 23rd Edition, Article 119, which can be found on the FEI's website, www.fei.org, at the time of application, selection, and until the conclusion of the 2012 FEI World Endurance Championships ("the Event"). Athletes must have a valid U.S. Passport that does not expire until after August 27, 2012.

2. Minimum International Federation (IF) Standards for Participation:

- a. All athletes and horses wishing to compete on the 2012 FEI World Championship Endurance team (the "Team") must earn a FEI Certificate of Capability by June 25, 2012 in accordance with the "Endurance Qualification Criteria World Championship 2012" which can be found on the FEI website www.usef.org (See Attachment H).
- b. The athlete must have been born before January 1, 1999 as per the FEI Rules for Endurance 7th Edition Article 815.1(updated January 1, 2011).
- c. A horse must be a minimum of eight (8) years of age (the age being counted from January 1 of year of birth) as per FEI Rules for Endurance, 7th Edition, Article 815.2.4, (updated January 1, 2011).
- d. The athlete and horse must be registered and in good standing with the FEI at the time of application, selection, and until the conclusion of the Event (see FEI General Regulations 23rd Edition, Article 113, updated January 1, 2012).
- f. The athlete and horse must comply with FEI Rules for the Event.

3. Other Requirements:

- a. The athlete must be a USEF member in good standing at the time of application, selection, and until the conclusion of the Event.
- b. The athlete must be a current member in good standing of the American Endurance Ride Conference (AERC) and of AERC International.
- c. The athlete must be a member of the Endurance Rider Ranking List at the time of application.
- d. The horse must be recorded with USEF pursuant to USEF GR1102 and in good standing under USEF rules at the time of application, selection, and until the conclusion of the Event.
- e. Athletes wishing to be considered for the 2012 FEI World Championship Endurance Team must complete an application (Attachment A) and return it with the appropriate application fee to the United States Equestrian Federation, Inc. (USEF), Attention: Vonita Bowers, USEF Director of Endurance Activities, 4047 Iron Works Parkway, Lexington, Kentucky 40511. Applications and fees postmarked, hand-delivered, faxed, or submitted online on or before March 16, 2012 will be charged \$50 per application. Applications and fees postmarked, hand-delivered, faxed or submitted online after March 16, 2012 and received by USEF on or before March 23, 2012 will be charged an application fee of \$300 per application. **NO APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER MARCH 23, 2012. IF AN APPLICATION IS RECEIVED WITHOUT THE APPLICATION FEE, IT WILL BE ACCEPTED IF THE APPLICABLE FEE IS RECEIVED BY MARCH 30, 2012.**

- f. Horse Loan Agreement: Owners of horses named to the FEI Nominated Entry (see Section I. C. 3.) must sign the USEF Horse Loan Agreement (Attachment B). A horse owner(s)' failure to sign the USEF Horse Loan Agreement may result in the removal of the athlete/horse combination from the FEI Nominated Entry.
- g. The athlete and horse owner(s) must certify, by signing the USEF 2012 FEI World Championship Endurance Team Application (Attachment A), that they have received and read the Athlete Selection Procedures for the 2012 FEI World Championship Endurance Team and the USEF Code of Conduct (Attachment C), and the USEF Release, Assumption of Risk, Waiver and Indemnification (Attachment D), and that they understand those documents, and that they agree to be bound by them.

B. Tryout Events

1. Provided below is the event name, date and location of the Selection Trial and a description of Fitness and Soundness Assessments to be used as part of the selection process

Athlete/horse combinations wishing to be considered for the FEI Nominated Entry (see C. 3. below) must enter the 2012 FEI World Endurance Championship Selection Trial CEI3* 160km scheduled for March 31, 2012 in Mt. Pleasant Texas ("the Selection Trial").

Athletes wishing to have more than one horse compete at the Selection Trial may have the horse ridden by another rider ("Proxy Rider"). Proxy Riders who have not applied for selection for the Event are not eligible for selection. Athletes who have applied for selection for the Event and compete as a Proxy Rider are not eligible for selection with any horse that is not listed on their application.

All athlete/horse combinations named to the Long List (see C. 1. below) will be required to demonstrate continued preparation, soundness and ability by attending one (and ONLY one) Fitness and Soundness Assessment (see C.2. below) two to three weeks prior to the deadline for submission of the FEI Nominated Entry.

2. Provided below is a list of names, dates, locations and a description of how athletes qualify for any "preliminary or qualifying" events or procedures that are prerequisites to attend the trial or events listed above in B.1.(if any): N/A

C. Provided below is a comprehensive, step-by-step description of the method that explains how athletes will go through the selection process to become Team nominees.

1. Selection for Long List - Horses entered in the Selection Trial and finishing in the top 20 positions according to the official FEI results of the competition will be named to the Long List in alphabetical order with the athlete(s) who listed them on their application(s). This includes horses ridden by a Proxy Rider(s) at the Selection Trial.

The Chef d'Equipe may name to the Long List up to three applicant athlete /horse combinations who did not compete in or complete the Selection Trial in addition to those who finish in the top 20 positions at the Selection Trial.

Once athlete/horse combinations are named to the Long List, they will come under the control of the Chef d' Equipe. They shall not compete without the permission of the Chef d'Equipe.

2. Fitness and Soundness Assessments - All athlete/horse combinations named to the Long List will be required to demonstrate continued preparation, soundness, and ability by attending one (and ONLY one) Fitness and Soundness Assessment two to three weeks prior to the deadline for submission of the FEI Nominated Entry. The Fitness and Soundness Assessments will consist of one or more 40-70km workouts. There will be multiple Fitness and Soundness Assessments and the locations will be based upon the geographic distribution of Long List athlete/horse combinations. A list of Fitness and Soundness Assessment dates and locations will be posted on the USEF Website no later than April 16, 2012.

Immediately following the Fitness and Soundness Assessments, owners of horses on the Long List that have been nominated by more than one athlete must declare in writing to Vonita Bowers vbowers@usef.org the athlete with which the horse will remain in consideration. A final date for the declaration will be posted once the FEI Nominated Entry deadline is published.

3. FEI Nominated Entry – By no later than the closing date for the FEI Nominated Entry for the Event, a list of at least six (6) athlete/horse combinations and up to the maximum number of horses and athletes able to be nominated under the FEI rules for the Event will be recommended by the USEF Endurance Selectors (the FEI Nominated Entry), to the USEF Endurance High Performance Committee, the USEF High Performance Working group, and the USEF Executive Committee or its designees. This FEI Nominated Entry will be forwarded to the FEI no later than the deadline for FEI Nominated Entry for the Event.

The Selectors, in consultation with the Chef d'Equipe and the Veterinary Panel will evaluate athlete/horse combinations to be named to the FEI Nominated Entry to determine the prospect of the athlete/horse combination to win an individual or contribute to a Team medal at the Event. In making their recommendations, the Selectors will base their evaluations on the following factors, listed by order of importance: The athlete/horse combination's performance, but not necessarily their placing, at the Selection Trial; the soundness and fitness of the horse at the Selection Trial and the Fitness and Soundness Assessment; the performance of the athlete/horse combination at the Fitness and Soundness Assessment; the physical capacity, health and fitness of the athlete; the competition history of the athlete and horse (individually and as a combination).

In addition to recommending the FEI Nominated Entry, the Selectors may recommend Long List combinations to serve as substitute (see Definitions page 13) athlete/horse combinations for the FEI Nominated Entry. Recommended Substitutes are subject to approval by the USEF Endurance High Performance Committee, the USEF High Performance Working Group, and by the USEF Executive Committee or its designees.

Once the FEI Nominated Entry for the Event has been announced, and prior to its submission to the FEI, Nominated Entry athlete/horse combinations may be substituted with substitute athlete/horse combinations for veterinary or medical reasons, or for breach of the USEF Code of Conduct, or for failure of the Horse Owner(s) to sign the USEF Horse Loan Agreement, or other exceptional circumstances having a direct bearing upon obtaining the best qualified team for the Event. Substitutions under this paragraph are subject to the approval of the Chef d'Equipe and the concurring approval of at least two of the three Selectors, one of whom must be the Eligible Athlete Selector. Any substitutions for veterinary reasons must also have the approval of the majority of the Veterinary Panel. Any substitutions for medical reasons must also be documented by a physician(s) approved by the USEF High Performance Working Group, and the USEF Executive Committee or its designees.

4. Short List – By no later than August 10, 2012, the Selectors will also recommend at least six (6) and up to Ten (10) athlete/horse combinations on the FEI Nominated Entry to a “Short List.” Athlete/horse combinations shall travel to Europe in preparation for the Event. The remainder of the athlete/horse combinations on the FEI Nominated Entry will serve as substitutes for the Short List.

The Selectors, in consultation with the Chef d’Equipe and the Veterinary Panel will evaluate athlete/horse combinations to be named to the Short List to determine the prospect of the athlete/horse combination to win an individual or contribute to a Team medal at the Event. In making their recommendations, the Selectors will base their evaluations on the following factors, listed by order of importance: Athlete/horse combination’s performance, but not necessarily their placing, at the Selection Trial; the soundness and fitness of the horse at the Selection Trial and the Fitness and Soundness Assessment; the performance of the athlete/horse combination at the Fitness and Soundness Assessment; the physical capacity, health and fitness of the athlete; the competition history of the athlete and horse (individually and as a combination).

Once the Short List for the Event has been announced, and prior to the submission of the FEI Definite Entry, Short List athlete/horse combinations may be substituted with substitute athlete/horse combinations for veterinary or medical reasons, or for breach of the USEF Code of Conduct, or for failure of the Horse Owner(s) to sign the USEF Horse Loan Agreement, or other exceptional circumstances having a direct bearing upon obtaining the best qualified team for the Event which is the subject of this selection. Substitutions under this paragraph are subject to the approval of the Chef d’Equipe and the concurring approval of at least two of the three Selectors, one of whom must be the Eligible Athlete Selector. Any substitutions for veterinary reasons must also have the approval of the majority of the Veterinary Panel. Any substitutions for medical reasons must also be documented by a physician(s) approved by the USEF High Performance Working Group and by the USEF Executive Committee or its designees.

5. Definite Entry – After submission of the FEI Nominated Entries, but no later than the closing date for FEI Definite Entries for the Event, the Selectors, in consultation with the Chef d’Equipe and Team Veterinarian, will evaluate the athlete/horse combinations on the Short List and recommend six (6) athlete/horse combinations and up to the maximum number of athletes able to be entered under the FEI rules for the Event with up to the maximum number of horses permitted, according to the FEI rules for the Event (the “Squad”). These recommendations are subject to the approval of the USEF Endurance High Performance Committee, the USEF High Performance Working Group, and by the USEF Executive Committee or its designees.

In addition, the Selectors, in consultation with the Chef d’Equipe and Team Veterinarian, may recommend a ranked list consisting of the athlete/horse combinations remaining on the Nominated Entry to serve as Substitute athlete/horse combinations for the Squad for the Event. The recommendations will also be subject to the approval of the USEF Endurance High Performance Committee, the USEF High Performance Working Group, and by the USEF Executive Committee or its designees.

6. After submission of the Definite Entry to the FEI and up to forty-eight (48) hours before the First Horse Inspection: After the submission of the FEI Definite Entry and until forty-eight (48) hours before the First Horse Inspection, the Selectors, in consultation with the Chef d’Equipe and Team Veterinarian, will evaluate the athlete/horse combinations on the Definite Entry and recommend four (4) athlete/horse combinations to be named to the Team and two (2) individuals and up to the maximum number of athletes able to be entered under the FEI rules for the Event with up to the maximum number of horses permitted, according to the FEI rules for the Event. These

recommendations are subject to the approval of the USEF Endurance High Performance Committee, the USEF High Performance Working Group, and by the USEF Executive Committee or its designees.

7. August 24, 2012 Declaration of Starters – Once at the Event venue, and after the First Horse Inspection, the Chef d' Equipe in consultation with the Team Veterinarian will declare the Team of four (4) athlete/horse combinations and two (2) Individuals that will compete in accordance with FEI General Regulations, 23rd edition, Article 121, (updated 1 January 2012). The Team and individuals will be the same as originally declared unless a substitution is made in accordance with the criteria outlined in IV. B. 5.

8. After the Declaration of Starters and up to two (2) hours before the start of the Competition- After the Declaration of Starters and up to two (2) hours before the start of the Competition, the Team and individuals will be the same as originally declared unless a Substitution is made in accordance with the criteria outlined in IV. B. 6.

D. Provided below are the names of all committees/groups who oversee the selection process, including the name(s) and role(s) of their members.

The USEF Endurance Selectors and USEF Endurance High Performance Committee will oversee the selection process, which process shall be reviewed and approved by the USEF High Performance Working Group and USEF Executive Committee or its designees (see Attachment G for list of USEF committees, their roles, and list of members).

E. Other Considerations

1. Equine Drug Testing – All applicant horses are subject to drug testing. Blood and/or urine samples may be collected at any time throughout the selection period, which is defined as commencing on March 16, 2012. Samples collected from horses will be tested for the presence of all substances forbidden and/or controlled by the FEI. If a prohibited substance is detected, its presence will be reported to Vonita Bowers, USEF Endurance High Performance Director. If a substance is detected for which the FEI has established quantitative restrictions, the amount of this substance will be quantified and reported to Vonita Bowers, USEF Endurance High Performance Director. Any horse whose sample contains a prohibited substance or a restricted substance in a concentration greater than the applicable FEI limits for any FEI prohibited and/or quantitated substance may result in the elimination of that athlete/horse combination from the Selection Process by the Selectors upon the recommendation of the Veterinary Panel and with the approval of the USEF Endurance High Performance Committee, USEF High Performance Working Group, and the USEF Executive Committee or its designees. This provision does not abrogate the enforcement of applicable doping rules at FEI and/or USEF competitions.

2. Soundness - Horses that are candidates for selection for the Event may be examined at any time during the selection process (which is defined as commencing on March 16, 2012) for soundness by a member of the Veterinary Panel or alternate member of the Veterinary Panel, as appointed by the USEF Executive Committee, upon the recommendation of the USEF Endurance High Performance Committee and USEF High Performance Working Group.

All nominated horses that compete at the Selection Trial will be examined for soundness by a majority of the Veterinary Panel on Sunday April 1, 2012 following the Selection Trial. Horses found to be unsound by a majority of the Veterinary Panel may result in the elimination of the

athlete/horse combination with the unanimous approval of the Selectors and the concurring approval of the Chef d'Equipe.

All horses will be examined before, during and after the Fitness and Soundness Assessments by a majority of the Veterinary Panel. Horses found to be unsound by a majority of the Veterinary Panel may result in the elimination of the athlete/horse combination with the unanimous approval of the Selectors and the concurring approval of the Chef d'Equipe.

Further, horses that are candidates for selection for the Event may be examined by the Veterinary Panel at any time after the Fitness and Soundness Assessments and prior to traveling to the Event. Horses found to be unsound by a majority of the Veterinary Panel may result in the elimination of the athlete/horse combination with the unanimous approval of the Selectors and the concurring approval of the Chef d'Equipe.

3. Veterinary Panel Request – Applicants, *at their own expense*, must make available, upon the request of any member of the Veterinary Panel, the veterinary records of horses considered for selection. In addition, applicants, *at their own expense*, are responsible for supplying any follow-up diagnostic information requested by any member of the Veterinary Panel for horses considered for selection. Applicants, *at their own expense*, shall complete any treatment prescribed by any member of the Veterinary Panel, after consultation with the horse's regular veterinarian, if such a consultation is requested by the athlete, for horses considered for selection. Failure to comply with any request of any member of the Veterinary Panel may result in the removal of the athlete/horse combination from the selection process by the Selectors upon the recommendation of a majority of the Veterinary Panel and with the approval of the USEF Endurance High Performance Committee, the USEF High Performance Working Group, and the USEF Executive Committee or its designees.

4. Veterinary Treatment – Once the Short List is announced, by no later than the date for FEI Nominated Entries and prior to the departure of horses to the 2012 FEI World Endurance Championship venue for purposes of competing in the Event, all Short List athletes will be required to obtain written permission from two of the three members of the Veterinary Panel, one of whom will be the evaluating veterinarian, prior to their selected horses being treated by any person other than a member of the Veterinary Panel. This permission must be obtained by using an official USEF Endurance Veterinary Treatment Request Form (See Attachment E).

Failure to adhere to this policy and /or directives outlined on the USEF Veterinary Treatment Request Form may result in the removal of the athlete/horse combination from the selection process by the Selectors upon the recommendation of a majority of the Veterinary Panel and with the approval of the USEF Endurance High Performance Committee, the USEF High Performance Working Group, and the USEF Executive Committee or its designees. Failure to adhere to the directives of the Veterinary Panel as detailed on the USEF Endurance Veterinary Treatment Request Form may result in the removal of the athlete/horse combination from the selection process by the Selectors upon the recommendation of a majority of the Veterinary Panel and with the approval of the USEF Endurance High Performance Committee, the USEF High Performance Working Group, and the USEF Executive Committee or its designees.

5. Medical Request – In the Event of illness or injury, applicants may be required to submit to a medical examination by physicians(s) approved by the USEF Executive Committee (USEF physician(s)) at any time during the selection process for the purposes of determining the applicant's ability to compete at the Event. Failure to submit to such examination may result in the removal of the applicant from the selection process by the Selectors upon the recommendation of the USEF

physician(s) and with the approval of the USEF Endurance High Performance Committee, the USEF High Performance Working Group, and the USEF Executive Committee or its designees. Following the examination should the USEF physician(s) find the applicant to be unfit to compete the applicant will be removed from the selection process with the approval of the USEF Endurance High Performance Committee, the USEF High Performance Working Group, and the USEF Executive Committee or its designees.

II. DISCRETIONARY SELECTION

A. Rationale for utilizing discretionary selection: The option of discretionary selection is used to field the best team possible to represent the United States of America at the Event.

B. Discretionary criteria and explain how it will be used:
See Section I. C.

C. Discretionary Selection Committee:

1. Names of the committee(s) that will be responsible for discretionary selection.

- * USEF Endurance High Performance Selectors
- * USEF Endurance High Performance Committee
- * USEF High Performance Working Group
- * USEF Executive Committee
- * USEF Endurance Veterinary Panel

2. Complete list of the members of the committee(s), their titles and their NGB role that qualifies them to serve in this capacity.

See Attachment G for list of USEF committees, their roles, and list of members. A list of USEF Veterinary Panel members will be posted on the USEF website www.usef.org. Three Individuals (the "Selectors") will be appointed by the USEF Executive Committee upon the recommendation of the USEF Endurance High Performance Committee and the USEF High Performance Working Group. Selectors are subject to the USEF Code of Conduct and Code of Ethics and Conflict of Interest Policy of the USEF. These Selectors are members of the Endurance community who are knowledgeable and experienced in Endurance at the international level, and are senior members in good standing with USEF, including one Endurance Athlete Representative as defined by the USOC (see Definitions on page 13) but who is not an applicant for the 2012 FEI World Championship Endurance Team (the "Athlete Representative Selector"). In making their decision, the Selectors will consult with the USEF Chef d'Equipe and the majority of a panel of three veterinarians recommended by the USEF Endurance High Performance Committee and the USEF High Performance Working Group and approved by the USEF Executive Committee. A list of the Selectors will be posted on the USEF website www.usef.org.

A minimum of one Substitute Selector will also be named. A Substitute Selector will take the place of a Selector who has a conflict of interest or a substantial appearance of a conflict of interest. There will be a minimum of 20% Eligible Athlete representation on the panel of Selectors.

III. REMOVAL OF ATHLETES

A. Prior to acceptance of Definite Entry by the FEI, USEF has jurisdiction over potential nominees: An athlete who is nominated to the Long List, FEI Nominated Entry, Squad, Team or Individual by USEF may be removed for any of the following reasons, as determined by USEF and in

accordance with these procedures.

- Voluntary withdrawal. The athlete must submit a written letter to the USEF CEO.
- Injury or illness as certified by a USEF approved physician (or medical staff). If an athlete refuses verification of their illness or injury by a USEF approved physician (or medical staff), their injury will be assumed to be disabling and they may be removed.
- Violation of the USEF Code of Conduct (Attachment C).
- Failure of an owner to sign the Horse Loan Agreement (Attachment B).
- Injury or illness of the horse as determined by a majority of the veterinary panel. If an athlete and/or horse owner(s) refuses to have the horse examined by the veterinary panel, the injury or illness will be assumed to be disabling and the horse may be removed.
- Exceptional circumstances having a direct bearing upon obtaining the best qualified team for the Event, but only with the approval of the Chef d' Equipe and with the unanimous approval of the Selectors.
- Detection of a prohibited substance in the horse.
- Failure to adhere to all WADA, FEI, USEF and USADA anti-doping protocols, policies and procedures including participation in out of competition testing as required by WADA, FEI, USEF and USADA Rules.
- Failure to comply with any request of any member of the Veterinary Panel.
- Failure to obtain written permission from one of the members of the Veterinary Panel prior to the horse receiving veterinary treatment by any veterinarian not on the Veterinary Panel.

B. After the submission of the Definite Entry to the FEI:

An athlete nominated by the USEF to the Squad, Team, or as an Individual may be removed from the FEI Definite Entry or Team at any time for the following reasons:

- Violation of WADA, FEI, USEF and USADA anti-doping protocol, policies and procedures. In such instances, the adjudication process will be managed through the United States Anti-Doping Agency.
- Injury or illness as certified by a USEF approved physician (or medical staff).
- Injury or illness of the horse as determined by a majority of the Veterinary Panel.
- Violation of the USEF Code of Conduct.

In these procedures, the removal of an athlete is closely related to the process by which he would be substituted. Therefore, the reasons for which an athlete may be removed are thoroughly addressed in Section IV. Substitution of Athlete/Horse Combinations.

An athlete removed from the Team or Squad pursuant to this provision has the right to a hearing under the USEF's Bylaws, Article 703 and USEF General Rules, Chapter 6, GR 605 or USOC Bylaw, Section 9.

IV. SUBSTITUTION OF ATHLETE/HORSE COMBINATIONS

A. Following is the process by which the substitute pool of Athlete/horse combinations will be identified: The list of athletes on the FEI Nominated Entry will comprise the pool of substitute athlete/horse combinations.

B. Substitute athlete/horse combination(s) will be selected, should a vacancy occur according to the following method:

1. Prior to acceptance of the FEI Nominated Entry by the FEI:

After the FEI Nominated Entry for the Event has been announced and prior to the submission of the FEI Nominated Entries, FEI Nominated Entry athlete/horse combinations may be substituted with substitute athlete/horse combinations for veterinary or medical reasons, or for breach of the USEF Code of Conduct, or for failure of the Horse Owner(s) to sign the USEF Horse Loan Agreement, or other exceptional circumstances having a direct bearing upon obtaining the best qualified team for the Event, but only with the approval of the Chef d'Equipe and with the concurring approval of at least two of the three Selectors, one of whom shall be the Eligible Athlete Selector.

Any substitutions for veterinary reasons must also have the approval of the majority of the Veterinary Panel.

Any substitutions for medical reasons must also be documented by a physician(s) approved by the USEF High Performance Working Group and the USEF Executive Committee.

2. After submission of the FEI Nominated Entry and prior to acceptance of the FEI Definite Entry:

After the FEI Nominated Entry has been submitted and prior to the acceptance of the FEI Definite Entry, athlete/ horse combinations on the FEI Nominated Entry may only be substituted with substitute athlete/horse combinations that are also included on the FEI Nominated Entry. During this time period, substitutions may only be made for veterinary or medical reasons, or for breach of the USEF Code of Conduct, or other exceptional circumstances having a direct bearing upon obtaining the best qualified team for the Event, but only with the approval of the Chef d' Equipe and the concurring approval of at least two (2) of the three (3) Selectors, one of whom is the Eligible Athlete Selector, the USEF Endurance High Performance Committee or its designees, USEF High performance Working Group or its designees, and the USEF Executive Committee or its designees.

Any substitutions for veterinary reasons must also have the approval of the majority of the Veterinary Panel.

Any substitutions for medical reasons must also be documented by a physician(s) approved by the USEF High Performance Working Group and the USEF Executive Committee.

3. After acceptance of Definite Entries by the FEI and up to forty-eight (48) hours before the First Horse Inspection:

After acceptance of the FEI Definite Entry and up to forty-eight (48) hours before the First Horse Inspection, Squad members may only be substituted with substitute athlete/horse combinations in accordance with of the FEI Regulations Rules for Endurance, 7th Edition, Article 819.3.1 (updated January 1, 2011) and according to the following criteria. Squad members may only be substituted with substitute athlete/horse combinations if permitted by the Organizing Committee for veterinary or medical reasons, or for breach of the USEF Code of Conduct, or other exceptional circumstances having a direct bearing upon obtaining the best qualified team for the Event, based upon the approval of the Chef d'Equipe and with the concurring approval of at least two (2) of the three (3) Selectors, one of whom shall be the Active Athlete Selector. Any substitutions for veterinary reasons must also be approved by a majority of the Veterinary Panel. Any substitutions for medical reasons must also be documented by a physician(s) approved by the USEF Executive Committee.

4. Within 48 hours of the First Horse Inspection:

Within forty-eight hours of the First Inspection, Team members may only be replaced with Individual athlete/horse combinations or substitute athlete/horse combinations and the Individual athlete/horse combinations may only be substituted with a Team member or substitute athlete/horse combinations if permitted by the Organizing Committee for veterinary or medical reasons, or for breach of the USEF Code of Conduct, voluntary withdrawal from the Team, or other exceptional circumstances having a direct bearing upon obtaining the best qualified team for the Event, based upon the approval of the Chef d'Equipe and with the concurring approval of at least two (2) of the three (3) Selectors, one of whom shall be the Active Athlete Selector. Any substitutions for veterinary reasons must also be approved by a majority of the Veterinary Panel. Any substitutions for medical reasons must also be documented by a physician(s) approved by the USEF Executive Committee.

5. Declaration of Starters:

Once at the Event venue, and after the first horse inspection, the Chef d'Equipe will declare the Team of four (4) athlete/horse combinations as well as the two (2) Individual athlete/horse combinations that will compete. In making this final declaration, the factors enumerated above for the evaluation and declaration for the Event shall be followed. The Team and Individual declared will be the same as those originally announced except that substitutions may be made in accordance with the following criteria. Any substitutions must be approved by the Chef d'Equipe and with the majority vote of the combined membership of the USEF High Performance Endurance Committee and the Selectors physically present at the competition site. All substitutions must also have the approval, by majority vote, of the designated members of the USEF High Performance Working Group and the Executive Committee physically present at the competition site. Any substitutions for veterinary reasons must also be approved by a majority of the members of the Veterinary Panel physically present at the competition site. Any substitutions for medical reasons must also be documented by a physician(s) approved by the USEF Executive Committee.

6. After the Declaration of Starters but before the Start of the Event:

Once the Team and Individuals have been declared substitutions may be permitted according to the following criteria:

Substitutes in Case of Accident or Illness: In case of an accident or illness of a competitor or a horse, where such accident or illness makes it impossible for that competitor or horse to take part in the competition, occurring between the declaration of starters and the start of the competition; substitutions can be made up to 2 hours before the start of the competition. The following conditions must be met; 1) a certificate of the condition from an officially recognized physician for the Athlete, and from a veterinary surgeon/Team Veterinarian for the horse, and 2) permission of the President of the Ground Jury. A competitor or horse, either or both, can only be replaced by another competitor or horse or by competitor/horse combination taken from those who have been duly entered as members of Teams or as Individuals and whose horses have successfully passed the First Horse Inspection” FEI Rules for Endurance 7th Edition, Articles 819.3.2 and 819.3.3 effective January 1, 2009 (updated January 1, 2011).

Any substitutions must be approved by the Chef d'Equipe and with the majority vote of the combined membership of the USEF High Performance Endurance Committee and the Selectors physically present at the competition site. All substitutions must also have the approval, by majority vote, of the designated members of the USEF High Performance Working Group and the USEF Executive Committee physically present at the competition site. Any substitutions for veterinary reasons must also be approved by a majority of the members of the Veterinary Panel physically present at the competition site. Any substitutions for medical reasons must also be documented by a physician(s)

approved by the USEF Executive Committee.

C. Group or committee that will be responsible for making athlete substitution determinations:

- 1. Group or committee who determines the substitute pool:** USEF Selectors, USEF Veterinary Panel, USEF Endurance High Performance Committee, USEF High Performance Working Group, USEF Executive Committee or its designees.
- 2. Group or committee who determines a substitute to the Team:**
 - a. Prior to acceptance of nominations by the FEI:**
USEF Selectors, USEF Veterinary Panel, USEF Endurance High Performance Committee, USEF High Performance Working Group, USEF Executive Committee or its designees.
 - b. After acceptance of nominations by the FEI:**
See IV. C. 2. a. above.
 - c. During the Event:**
Members of the groups and committees listed in IV. C. 2. a. above who are physically present.

V. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS – USEF will retain all supporting documents, including evaluation forms and data from the selection process for six months past the date of the Closing Ceremonies of the 2012 FEI World Endurance Championship.

VI. REQUIRED DOCUMENTS – The following documents are required to be properly executed as a condition of nomination in the 2012 FEI World Endurance Championship and are included as attachments:

- Application (Attachment A)
- Horse Loan Agreement (Attachment B)
- USEF Code of Conduct (Attachment C)
- USEF Release, Assumption of Risk, Waiver and Indemnification (Attachment D)

Applicants and horse owners will be required to certify that they have received and read a copy of the Application, USEF Code of Conduct, USEF Release, Assumption of Risk, Waiver and Indemnification, and Horse Loan Agreement, and that they understand the documents.

In addition, all persons participating in any decision made pursuant to the Selection Procedures including but not limited to Selectors, members of the Veterinary Panel, Physicians, members of the USEF Endurance High Performance Committee, the USEF High Performance Working Group, and the USEF Executive Committee or its designees will be required to abide by the USEF Code of Ethics and Conflict of Interest Policies.

Reference is made to the attached USEF Code of Ethics and Conflict of Interest Policies for a full and accurate statement of the requirements of that policy. In particular, however, no Individual may participate in a particular phase of the selection process if, after full disclosure, the Individual is found by the applicable committee to have a disqualifying conflict of interest in the particular phase of the selection process in question per the USEF Code of Ethics and Conflict of Interest Policy.

VII. ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS

Applicants are required to read the USEF Athlete Agreement (Attachment F) and are requested to sign it.

VIII. PUBLICITY/DISTRIBUTION OF PROCEDURES – The USEF Executive Committee approved

Selection Procedures (complete and unaltered) will be posted/published by USEF in the following locations:

- A. NGB website: www.usef.org
These procedures will be posted as soon as possible, but not more than 5 business days following notice of approval by the USEF Executive Committee
- B. NGB Official Publication: "Equestrian" magazine
- C. Other: The Procedure and Application Packet will also be available by mail upon request.

IX. DATE OF ENTRIES – The FEI Nominated Entry will be submitted to the FEI no later than the close of Nominated Entries. The FEI Definite Entry will be submitted to the FEI no later than the close of Definite Entries. The date for FEI Nominated Entry and the Date for the FEI Definite Entry will be posted on the USEF website www.USEF.org as soon as they are published by the FEI.

X. ANTI-DOPING REQUIREMENTS – Athletes must adhere to all IOC, WADA, FEI, USEF and USADA protocols, policies and procedures. This includes participation in out of competition testing as required by IOC, WADA, FEI, USEF, and USADA.

XI. DEVELOPMENT OF SELECTION PROCEDURES – The following committees/groups were responsible for creating these Selection Procedures: USEF Endurance Eligible Athletes Committee, USEF Endurance High Performance Committee, USEF High Performance Working Group, USEF Executive Committee. See Attachment G for list of USEF committees, their roles, and list of members.

XII. USEF BYLAWS AND GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES – The USEF Bylaws and Grievance Procedures can be found on the USEF's website www.usef.org.

XIII. INTERNATIONAL DISCLAIMER – These procedures are based on the FEI rules and regulations as presently known and understood. Any change in the Selection Procedures caused by a change in FEI rules and regulations will be distributed to the affected athletes immediately. The selection criteria are based on the latest information available to USEF. However, the selections are always subject to unforeseen, intervening circumstances, and realistically may not have accounted for every possible contingency.

XIV. ATHLETE OMBUDSMAN – Athletes who have questions regarding their opportunity to compete that are not answered by USEF may contact the USOC Athlete Ombudsman: John W. Ruger by:

- Toll free telephone at (888) ATHLETE
- E-mail at john.ruger@usoc.org
- www.888Athlete.org

XV. FUNDING DISCLAIMER - Selection to the 2012 FEI World Championship Endurance Team does not guarantee that funds will be available to send a Team.

XVI. DISCLAIMER – Please see Attachment D – USEF Release, Assumption of Risk, Waiver and Indemnification.

Any questions regarding these Selection Procedures should be addressed to Vonita Bowers, Director of Endurance High Performance, United States Equestrian Federation, 4047 Iron Works Parkway, Lexington, KY 40511 Phone (859)-825-6001, Email: vbowers@usef.org

XVII. NGB SIGNATURES – I certify that I have read, understand and incorporated our IF standards/criteria into our Selection Procedures and that the information provided herein regarding Athlete Selection Procedures represents the method approved by the United States Equestrian Federation.

DEFINITIONS

ENDURANCE RIDER RANKING LIST- a list maintained by the USEF which ranks athletes according to their performance at designated trials. Points from the best two performances at designated Ranking Trials within the past 24 months are used to rank the athletes from highest number of points earned to lowest.

ENDURANCE ATHLETE REPRESENTATIVE – an athlete will be considered an Endurance Athlete Representative as defined by the USEF in Part IV-Athletes, Bylaw 401 as eligible for membership on a “designated committee” if he/she:

1. is a USEF Senior Active Member and within the ten (10) years preceding the election or appointment has represented the United States in a World Championship recognized by the FEI for which a competitive selection process was administered by the Federation; or
2. within the two (2) years preceding the election or appointment has demonstrated that he/she is actively engaged in athletic competition by holding a position on the Endurance National Training List on the closing date of applications for a Team selection for a World Championship recognized by the FEI.

FITNESS – whether the horse competed at a high level more frequently than is consistent with delivering a peak performance at the event for which selection is being made. Whether the horse demonstrated in training the modicum of preparation necessary for preparedness for the rigors of the event for which selection is being made.

INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE - a competitive record over the past two-three years that indicates that the athlete/horse combination has successfully met the challenges of FEI international events, demonstrating an ability to perform under pressure consistently.

PROXY RIDER- an athlete who competes a horse for another athlete.

SUBSTITUTE – replacing an athlete/horse combination after the FEI Definite Entries have been submitted.

MANAGEABILITY – on course the horse responds to the aids (directions) of the athlete as a result of his training. In the vet gate the horse demonstrates composure, obedience and confidence in himself and his handler.

SPEED - evidence that in the international record of the athlete/horse combination that the athlete/horse combination shows the ability to complete the 2012 FEI World Endurance Championship competition distances at the speed demanded.