



2025 NORTH AMERICAN YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS EQUESTRIAN CANADA SELECTION CRITERIA & PROCEDURES - JUMPING

The North American Youth Championships (NAYC or the Championships) is an international event held annually for individuals between the ages of twelve and twenty-one. Teams are invited from Canada, the twelve Zones in the United States, Mexico and the Caribbean to compete for team and individual medals. NAYC will be held at the **Great Lakes Equestrian Festival, at Flintfield's Horse Park, in Traverse City, Michigan from July 29-August 3, 2025.**

The Championships are designed to mirror the competition format used at the Olympic and Pan American Games. The objective of the national and international Federations is to introduce and prepare competitors for international competitions and Fédération Equestre Internationale (FEI) rules. In addition, the Championships offer Athletes the opportunity and experience of competing as a member of a team.

The purpose of this document is to set out the selection criteria and procedures that will be used by Equestrian Canada (EC) to nominate athlete/horse combinations to compete at the 2025 NAYC.

1. General

- 1.1 Each North American Youth Championships (NAYC) Team will consist of four members and an alternate. The alternate may compete in the Championship as an Individual. The championship features both a Team and an Individual competition. Maximum fence heights will be 1.50m (4'11") with proportional spread between 1.50m and 1.80m (4'11" to 5'9") per FEI Jumping Rules Annex IX, Article 17.
- 1.2 Each North American Junior Championship (NAJC) Team will consist of four members and an alternate. The alternate may compete in the Championship as an Individual. The championship features both a Team and an Individual competition. Maximum fence heights will be 1.40m (4'7") with proportional spread between 1.40m to 1.70m (4'7" to 5'6") per FEI Jumping Rules Annex IX, Article 17.
- 1.3 Each North American Pre-Junior Jumper Championships (NAPJC) Team will consist of four members and an alternate. The alternate may compete in the Championship as an Individual. The championship features both a Team and an Individual competition. Maximum fence heights will be 1.30m with proportional spread between 1.00m and 1.30m (3'3" to 4'3").
- 1.4 Each North American Children's Jumper Championships (NACHC) Team will consist of four members and an alternate. The alternate may compete in the Championship as an Individual. The championship features both a Team and an Individual competition.



Maximum fence heights will be 1.25m (4'2") with proportional spread between 1.00m and 1.30m (3'3" to 4'3") per FEI Jumping Rules Annex XII Chapter IV Article 23.

- 1.5 EC reserves the right to send more than one Team for either division should the number of applications warrant and as long as all individuals on the Team are capable and qualified to attend based on the set criteria.

2. Eligibility

- 2.1 To be eligible for nomination consideration for the 2025 NAYC, the following minimum eligibility requirements listed in this section must be met,

2.2 Athlete

- Be a Canadian citizen (or have landed immigrant status) and in compliance with FEI Article 119 at the time of application until the conclusion of the Championships. The Province of each Horse/Athlete combination will be determined by the Athlete's record with EC.
- Meet the following age requirements:
 - **Young Rider:** The NAYC is open only to Young Riders (ages 16-21) born on or between January 1, 2004 and December 31, 2009.
 - **Junior:** The NAJC is open only to juniors (ages 14-18) born on or between January 1, 2007 and December 31, 2011.
 - **Pre Junior:** The NAPJC is open only to pre-juniors (ages 14-16) born on or between January 1, 2009 and December 31, 2011.
 - **Children:** The NACHC is open only to Children (ages 12-14) Athletes wishing to compete in the NACHC must have been born on or between January 1, 2011 and December 31, 2013.
- Be registered and in good standing with the Provincial/Territorial Sport Organization (PSTO), EC (Platinum Sport Licence Holder) and the FEI at the time of declaration and until the conclusion of the Championships.
- Sign, submit and comply with the EC Participant Agreement and conform to all EC policies regarding team preparation, training and competitions.
- Provide all the information and documents necessary for the declaration, entry and accreditation processes.

2.3 Horse

- At the time of declaration, possess a current valid FEI Document and Registration, and be in good standing with the FEI.
- Be a minimum of seven (7) years old.

2.4 Groom

- Have attained the age of majority in the province, territory or country of residency at the time of the 2025 NAYC.
- Be eligible to travel to the 2025 NAYC.



- Provide all the information and documents necessary for the declaration, entry, and accreditation processes.
- Sign, submit and comply with the EC Participant Agreement and conform to all EC policies regarding team preparation, training and competitions.
- Athletes are responsible for ensuring that their selected groom is qualified, kept informed and is available for the time commitments in the proposed schedule for the 2025 NAYC.

2.5 Horse Owner

- Be eligible to travel to the 2025 NAYC.
- At minimum one Horse Owner must be listed as an owner in the FEI Document.
- Provide all the information and documents necessary for the declaration, entry, and accreditation processes.
- Sign, submit and comply with the EC Participant Agreement and conform to all EC policies regarding team preparation, training and competitions.
- For individuals acting in a coaching capacity at NAYC, must hold a current EC Licensed Coach Status or equivalent.
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2.6 Athlete Companion

- Be eligible to travel to the 2025 NAYC.
- Provide all the information and documents necessary for the declaration, entry, and accreditation processes.
- Sign, submit and comply with the EC Participant Agreement and conform to all EC policies regarding team preparation, training and competitions.
- For individuals acting in a coaching capacity at NAYC, must hold a current EC Licensed Coach Status or equivalent.

3. Declaration and Accreditation Procedures

Declaration

- 3.1 **Deadline Date:** Declarations for the 2025 NAYC must be submitted on or before **March 28, 2025**. Applications and documentation received after the stated deadline dates may be considered at the sole discretion of the Selectors.
- 3.2 **Purpose:** The declaration date allows sufficient time for the Accreditation Process to be completed for athletes, grooms, owners, and athlete companions.
- 3.3 **Process:** Athletes wishing to be considered for selection to a NAYC Team MUST submit the following to EC (the Selectors):
- Online profile (new/updated) and declaration through the EC Major Games and Championships Portal
 - <https://licence.equestrian.ca/gamesdb/login.aspx>



- Signed Statement of Interest (Appendix 1)
- Competition Schedule (Appendix 2)
- Athlete Profile (Appendix 3)

At the time of declaration, the athlete will provide:

- 3.4 **Horses:** The name, FEI Document number, FEI Document expiry date and blanket size for each declared horse.
- 3.5 **Horse Owners:** The name, unique e-mail address, and phone number for up to two (2) declared owners per horse, in priority order for accreditation purposes; at least one owner must be listed in the FEI Document. In the case of syndicate ownership groups, declared athlete/horse owners do not need to be individually listed in the FEI Document, but must be individually declared in priority order for accreditation purposes.
- 3.6 **Grooms:** The name, unique e-mail address, and phone number for a minimum of one (1) up to a maximum of four (4) declared grooms in priority order.
- 3.7 **Athlete Companions:** The name, unique e-mail address, and phone number for a minimum of one (1) up to a maximum of four (4) declared athlete companions in priority order. Athlete Companions can be any type of individual ex. coach, parent, guest, etc. Individuals acting in a coaching capacity at NAYC, must hold a current EC Licensed Coach Status or equivalent.

Accreditation

3.8 **Number of Accredited Persons:**

- Athlete (1)
 - Groom (1)
 - Horse Owner (maximum 2 per horse)
 - Athlete Companion (1)
- 3.9 **Process:** The accreditation process for the 2025 NAYC will be coordinated by EC through the USEF. To help facilitate this process, athletes are required to provide unique e-mail addresses and phone numbers for all potential grooms and owners, at the time of declaration in the EC Major Games and Championships Portal. Any subsequent changes to accreditation details ie. new owners, grooms, etc. must be reported to the EC Discipline Coordinator immediately in writing.

Withdrawal

- 3.10 **Withdrawal:** Declared athletes who subsequently choose to withdraw from the nomination process (either themselves or their horse) prior to the naming of the team and alternates, must advise the EC Discipline Coordinator of their decision in writing.



4. Principles for Selection

EC will select the most competitive athlete/horse combination(s) to best represent Canada at the 2025 NAYC. The Selectors will base their selections of the Athletes and their Horse(s) for each Youth event on the following factors:

4.1 Young Rider:

1. Overall performance in 1.45m (4'9") or higher competitions with emphasis on the following:
 - The ability to compete without incurring jumping/or time penalties at 1.45m (4'9") or higher, as well as a record of having done so on a consistent basis.
 - Previous international and national experience, including the demonstrated ability of Horse and Athlete to succeed in either FEI or national show jumping competitions within the past 2 years.
 - A record of successfully jumping over a variety of types of courses and in particular over courses that included a water jump of 12 feet.
2. The fitness and soundness of the Horse.
3. The Athlete's health and fitness level including the Athlete's ability to perform under pressure.

4.2 Junior:

1. Overall performance in 1.40m (4'7") or higher competitions with emphasis on the following:
 - Ability to compete without incurring jumping and/or time penalties at 1.40m (4'7") or higher, as well as a record of having done so on a consistent basis.
 - Previous international and national experience, including the demonstrated ability of the Horse and Athlete to succeed in either FEI or national show jumping competitions within the past 2 years.
 - A record of successfully jumping over a variety of types of courses and in particular over courses that included a water jump of 12 feet.
2. The fitness and soundness of the Horse.
3. The Athlete's health and fitness level including the Athlete's ability to perform under pressure.

4.3 Pre-Junior:

1. Overall performance in 1.30m (4'3") or higher competitions with emphasis on the following:
 - Ability to compete without incurring jumping and/or time penalties at 1.30m or higher, as well as a record of having done so on a consistent basis.
 - Previous international and national experience, including the demonstrated ability of the Horse and Athlete to succeed in either FEI or national show jumping competitions within the past 2 years.
 - A record of successfully jumping over a variety of types of courses and ideally over courses that included a Liverpool.
2. The fitness and soundness of the Horse.



3. The Athlete's health and fitness level, including the Athlete's ability to perform under pressure.

4.4 Children's:

1. Overall performance in 1.25m (4'2") or higher competitions with emphasis on the following:
 - Ability to compete without incurring jumping and/or time penalties at 1.25m (4'2") or higher, as well as a record of having done so on a consistent basis.
 - Previous international and national experience, including the demonstrated ability of the Horse and Athlete to succeed in either FEI or national show jumping competitions within the past 2 years.
 - A record of successfully jumping over a variety of types of courses and ideally over courses that included a Liverpool.
2. The fitness and soundness of the Horse.
3. The Athlete's health and fitness level, including the Athlete's ability to perform under pressure.

5. Selection and Substitutions

- 5.1 If an applicant's best ranked Horse is no longer available, the applicant may request to be considered for selection on another Horse. The request will be reviewed by the Selectors.
- 5.2 Horse/Athlete combinations for the Children, Pre-Junior, Junior and Young Rider Teams will be named by the Definite Entry deadline outlined in the FEI schedule.
- 5.3 Athletes, once selected by the Selectors, must continue to comply with all policies and rules of EC to remain eligible to represent EC at the NAYC Competition.
- 5.4 A Parent and/or Guardian is required to attend the NAYC with the Athlete if the Athlete is a minor (under 18 years).
- 5.5 Additional releases and contracts may need to be executed by the Athlete, Parent/Guardian and Horse Owner(s) following selection.
- 5.6 Any required changes to the individuals on a Team and alternate will be allowed provided the particular combination to be substituted was named in the nominated entries **of Tuesday, July 1st, 2025**. Selectors shall have the final decision on all substitutions.
- 5.7 After the Definite Entry Deadline, **of Tuesday, July 8th, 2025**, substitutions will only be allowed in the event of an accident or illness of a competitor and/or Horse on the production of a certificate from a licensed physician and/or Veterinarian.
- 5.8 Appeals:
 1. Athletes participating in the selection process for the 2025 NAYC have the right to appeal against a selection decision but only on the grounds that the Youth Advisor and



Equestrian Canada has failed to comply with the correct procedures outlined in this selection document or has made a decision that no rational body of selectors could reasonably reach. An appeal must be made in writing to the Manager for the discipline within 72 hours of the relevant rider being informed of the decision. Appeals must be accompanied by an administration fee of \$500.00 (CAD).

2. Athletes hereby adopt the EC Appeal Policy as the mechanism to resolve disputes between all declared riders and EC. Nevertheless, in recognition of the short timelines required for the decision process, both parties may agree to forgo the above EC policy process and as an option adopt the Sport Dispute Resolution Centre of Canada (SDRCC) appeal process as a time-efficient alternative process. In such an instance, the administration fee will be applied to the fee required for appeal to SDRCC.

6. Expenses

- 6.1 Each Athlete selected to Team Canada for the NAYC will be responsible and invoiced through the competition organizer for the below expenses.
 - Entry and Stabling Fees
 - Tack stalls (cost for team tack stalls will be split, individual tack stalls- if available- will be charged in full to the Athlete)
Note: Historically, these expenses have amounted to approximately **\$1,500-\$2,000** per competitor.
- 6.2 Selected athletes are responsible for all personal and groom expenses, salaries, hotel and transportation costs. In addition, cost of shipping your Horse(s) to the Championships. This includes any documents, vaccinations, border crossing/related fees.
- 6.3 Equine travel must be approved before departure to the Championships by the Selectors.

7. Equine and Human Doping Control

- 7.1 Should the soundness of a selected Horse come into question prior to departure for the Championships, the Horse may be required to be jogged for soundness in front of an individual designated by the Selectors. All and any “jogs” will be announced in advance and will be run under FEI drug rules.
- 7.2 Candidates shall present for the jog at the Championships a sound Horse that is well groomed, braided and in a bridle.
- 7.3 Candidates when presenting their Horse for the jog at the Championships shall be properly attired (boots, breeches, helmet and EC polo- if provided).
- 7.4 The Selectors reserve the right to eliminate from consideration for selection any declared Horse it believes will not successfully pass the NAYC veterinary inspection.

The NAYC is a drug-free competition. During the NAYC, FEI rules will be in effect, and all Horses shall be subject to drug testing. Blood and/or urine samples may be collected at any time. Samples will be



tested for the presence of all forbidden and/or controlled substances using FEI guidelines. If any substance is detected for which the FEI has established quantitative restrictions, the amount of this substance will be quantified. At the NAYC any Horse testing above the current FEI limits for any FEI prohibited and/or quantitative substance shall be eliminated from the competition.

In accordance with the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) and Sport Canada regulations for Athletes representing their province or country at international events, all Athletes may be subjected to announced and unannounced drug testing according to the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport (CCES) and Equestrian Canada Rules and Policies.

8. Removal of Athletes

An Athlete may be removed from the Team or as a Substitute for any of the following reasons:

- 8.1 Voluntary withdrawal. In such a case, an Athlete wishing to withdraw is asked to inform EC of their decision in writing.
- 8.2 Violation of EC's Code of Conduct.
- 8.3 Failure to adhere to all WADA, CCES, FEI and EC anti-doping protocols (Equine), policies and procedures.
- 8.4 Injury or illness of their Horse, as certified by a Veterinarian agreed upon by the Owner(s) and Selectors.
- 8.5 Injury or illness of Athlete, as certified by a physician.



NORTH AMERICAN YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS CHECK LIST

Declaration - Due March 28, 2025

- ☐ Online Declaration
 - Submit using EC Major Games and Championships Portal (new/edit your profile)
 - <https://licence.equestrian.ca/gamesdb/login.aspx>
- ☐ Appendix 1 – Statement of Interest
- ☐ Appendix 2 – Competition Schedule
- ☐ Appendix 3 - Athlete Profile

Registration/Licences – Due March 28, 2025

- ☐ EC Platinum Sport Licence (Athlete)
- ☐ FEI Athlete Registration
- ☐ FEI Horse Registration
- ☐ EC Licensed Coach Status (Canadian individuals coaching athletes at NAYC) or equivalent

TUE Application (if applicable) – Due March 28, 2025

- ☐ TUE Application
 - Submit via CCES
 - <https://www.cces.ca/medical-exemptions>

Accreditation – Due June 11, 2025

- ☐ EC Fostering Healthy Equestrian Environments online course
- ☐ EC Concussion Awareness online course
- ☐ EC Online Screening Disclosure Agreement
- ☐ Criminal Record Check
- ☐ Vulnerable Sector Check
- ☐ EC Non-Disclosure Agreement
- ☐ EC Athlete/Participant Agreement
- ☐ EC International Travel Waiver
- ☐ EC Minor Consent Letter (if applicable)
- ☐ EC Medical Information Form
- ☐ CCES True Sport Clean online course
- ☐ Athlete Release of Liability & Waiver
- ☐ Groom/Athlete Companion/Team Personnel Release of Liability & Waiver
- ☐ Owner Release of Liability & Waiver



APPENDIX 1

NORTH AMERICAN YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS

STATEMENT OF INTEREST

I, _____ (*print name*) do hereby declare my interest in being considered for selection to the Canadian Team for NAYC in the following category:

☐ Children's Team ☐ Pre-Junior Team ☐ Junior Team ☐ Young Rider Team

I acknowledge that I have (please include your initial beside each statement):

- ☐ Created or updated my profile **AND** submitted my official declaration to the EC Major Games and Championships Portal. <https://licence.equestrian.ca/gamesdb/login.aspx>
- ☐ Read the NAYC Criteria in its entirety and fully understand my financial obligations as detailed in Section 6 (Expenses) if I am selected, and the anti-doping requirements for human and equine.
- ☐ Confirmed with each owner(s) their willingness for the declared Horse(s) to participate in the NAYC under the conditions established if I am selected.
- ☐ Understood that Equestrian Canada (the Selectors) will choose the team at their sole discretion.

Signature of athlete:

Date:

Signature of parent/guardian (if a minor)

Submit to
jumping@equestrian.ca
by March 28, 2025



APPENDIX 2

NORTH AMERICAN YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS

COMPETITION SCHEDULE

May Show Schedule

June Show Schedule

July Show Schedule

Submit to
jumping@equestrian.ca
by March 28, 2025



APPENDIX 3

NORTH AMERICAN YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS

ATHLETE PROFILE

If necessary, please feel free to use additional sheets to provide further information

Athlete Information	
Athlete Name:	
Hometown:	
Horse(s)'s Name(s):	
Coach/Trainer's Name:	
Grooms Name (must be 18 or older at time of event)	
Personal Accomplishments (Education, Equestrian and Other):	
Horse(s)'s Accomplishments and/or Unique Traits:	
Interests Outside of Horses:	

Submit to
jumping@equestrian.ca
by March 28, 2025