



2025 FEI NORTH AMERICAN YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS (NAYC) DRESSAGE SELECTION CRITERIA

1. EQUESTRIAN CANADA CRITERIA

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 in dressage at the 2025 North American Youth Championships (2025 NAYC).

2. TIME AND PLACE OF COMPETITION

The 2025 NAYC will be held at the Great Lakes Equestrian Festival at Flintfields Horse Park in Traverse City, Michigan, USA from **July 29 – August 3, 2025**.

3. SELECTION PROCESS

Refer to s. 14 and Attachment A of these criteria for the ranking system used in selection. In the event of a conflict between these criteria and Attachment A these criteria shall prevail.

4. DECLARATION PROCESS

- 4.1 All athletes must declare their interest in being considered for selection for the 2025 NAYC.
- It is the responsibility of declared athletes, parents, grooms, coaches, athlete companions and owners of declared horses to ensure that they know and understand the Selection/Nomination Procedures, Rules, Policies, and Regulations. As 2025 NAYC declarations are based on the FEI accreditation process, it is vitally important that you have read and understood the following: **[FEI CHAMPIONSHIPS AND ACCREDITATIONS](#)**.

The Canadian 2025 NAYC Dressage Team declaration fee is \$300 CDN per athlete and it must be paid at the time of declaration.

Declarations (including profiles for those named on the declaration)

MUST be made through the EC Games Portal:

- o **New users** (excluding Athletes): <https://licence.equestrian.ca/gamesdb/register?user=new>
- o **Existing users**: <https://licence.equestrian.ca/gamesdb/login.aspx>

for help with the EC Games Portal, please reference the guide on the landing page



Athletes must complete the statement of interest form as well as the athlete profile/bio found [here](#) at the time of their declaration.

➤ **Declaration Deadline: Friday March 28, 2025.**

The declaration date is intended to provide sufficient time for the athletes, grooms, owners, and athlete companions to meet the deadlines set forth by Equestrian Canada, USDF/USEF, and the FEI

On Monday June 9, 2025, anyone named in an accredited role on the declaration, who has missing, incomplete or expired information will NOT be eligible to attend the NAYC in any accredited capacity – this includes athletes, coaches, grooms, horse owners, athlete companions (parents), etc.

No alteration of athlete/horse combinations will be permitted after the declaration closing date of **Friday March 28, 2025**

- 4.2 Athletes must provide proof of Canadian citizenship with their declaration, see section 12.2.
- 4.3 A Parent and/or Guardian is required to attend the 2025 NAYC with the athlete if the athlete is a minor (under 18 years)
- 4.4 **Coaches:** Coaches MUST hold a current EC Licensed Coach status or equivalent, if not a Canadian Coach**, at the time of declaration. To be eligible to coach at 2025 NAYC the coach license must be valid until at least **August 5, 2025**
Canadian coaches who are actively participating in NCCP education at any context for the 2025 season may submit a request to the EC Coach Licencing department for an exemption in the 2025 calendar year for the education requirement to attain an EC Licenced Coach status, all other EC Coach Licence requirements must still be met.

All accredited coaches will need to complete the Fostering Healthy Equestrian Environments education and are bound by the EC Code of Conduct and the EC Discipline, Complaints and Appeals policy and safe sport polices for the period of the 2025 NAYC.

USA coaches, at the time of declaration, must provide proof of a valid USDF instructor certification of 2nd level or above with an expiry date of **August 5, 2025, or later.

Foreign coaches must provide proof of a valid coach/instructor's certification/accreditation at the EC licensed coaching level with an expiry date of **August 5, 2025, or later at the time of declaration. Foreign coaches must provide proof of liability insurance for coaching in North an expiry date of **August 5, 2025**, or later. Foreign coaches are encouraged to also have their standard first aid training or equivalent.

Coaches not meeting these requirements will not be permitted to attend as a coach or offer coaching services (even if attending in a non-accredited capacity – meaning member of the public)

- 4.5 **Grooms:** Grooms must have attained the age of majority in the province, territory, or country of residency at the time of declaration for the 2025 NAYC. Athletes are responsible for ensuring that



their groom is kept informed, and available for the time commitments in the proposed schedule for 2025 NAYC.

Please note only one groom is permitted.

Additional grooms may be submitted with your declaration, these additional grooms are considered alternates should your primary groom be unable to attend 2025 NAYC. All alternate grooms MUST complete all the required safe sport documents and courses to be eligible to step into the groom accreditation role for 2025 NAYC.

EC reserves the right to deem a groom ineligible for an international Team competition. Should a groom not perform their assigned duties and obligations, or exhibit inappropriate behavior detrimental to the Team, then EC has the authority to remove such groom from the Team.

- 4.6 Failure to meet any deadline or requirement, by the athlete or anyone named on the declaration (i.e. groom, owner(s), athlete companion etc.), will result in the athlete's declaration being deemed incomplete and the individual(s) may not be eligible for consideration.
- 4.7 EC is not responsible for any late, lost, delayed, incomplete or misdirected communication submitted.
- 4.8 Any intentional misrepresentation of information will eliminate the applicant from being considered.

5. SAFE SPORT REQUIREMENTS

- 5.1 Anyone eligible for 2025 NAYC accreditation (see s.20 Accreditation) must agree to, and abide by, the safe sport practices outlined at <https://www.equestrian.ca/about/safe-sport>

In order to meet the safe sport requirements, individuals must fulfill all elements of the EC's Ecampus 2025 NAYC certification, and any additional 2025 NAYC requirements that may come from USEF/USDF, the Organizing Committee, and/or the FEI.

Note: Individuals will need to have an EC sport licence number and a unique email address that allows the EC safe sport course to be individually assigned in Ecampus. This process will start after declarations close. Course elements can be completed in any order.

- 5.2 **Please be advised:** Enhanced police checks (E-PIC) and Vulnerable sector searches (VSS) for those born prior to March 1, 1986, can take weeks or months to complete by your local police department, therefore, EC strongly recommends starting the process as soon your 2025 NAYC certification courses have been assigned in the Ecampus.

6 APPEALS

- 6.1 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 High Performance Advisory Group (HPAG) (*A list of HPAG members can be found at <https://www.equestrian.ca/sport/dressage>*) 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 athlete being informed of the decision. Appeals must be accompanied by an administration fee of \$1,000.00 (CAD).

- 6.2 Athletes hereby adopt the EC Discipline, Complaints and Appeal Policy as the mechanism to resolve disputes between all declared athletes 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.

7 CHEF(S) D'EQUIPE

- 7.1 The Chef(s) d'Equipe is responsible for the Canadian 2025 NAYC Dressage Team management and the Team's behaviour throughout the competition, as well as liaising with EC and the 2025 NAYC Organizing Committee. The Chef(s) d'Equipe will help the Team members understand the process and requirements leading up to and during the 2025 NAYC and follow up on communication/emails from EC.

The Chef will assist in coordinating transportation and horse arrivals per 2025 NAYC venue requirements, coordinating lunging, familiarization, and ride times per the competition schedule/venue requirements.

Chefs will also submit the order of go for the draws and communicate all relevant information from Chefs' meetings to Team members.

- 7.2 The Chef(s) and EC are jointly responsible for any damage that occurs. EC will hold members of the Team responsible for reimbursement of any such damages that they caused and invoice the appropriate party(s) accordingly
- 7.3 Chef(s) d'Equipe must apply and ensure adherence to the obligations set forth as per Safe Sport practices (found at <https://www.equestrian.ca/about/safe-sport>) FEI Regulations, the EC rules and policies, and the USEF/USDF Code of Conduct.

8 Donation of NAYC Dressage Team Items

- 8.1 All donations, sponsorship, or commissioning of items (e.g. apparel for team members including horse tack and outfitting) for the Team must be organized through EC, this will ensure that:
- I. designs and donations/sponsorships are approved.
 - II. EC branding appears on the item and is appropriately sized (following the criteria for the 2025 NAYC and FEI).
 - III. there are no violations of EC trademarks/branding requirements.
 - IV. that the Official Team attire is ordered for the exclusive use of Team members
 - V. that appropriate recognition is given to donors/sponsors.



9. FUNDRAISING

- 9.1 All declared athletes are expected to support the Team's fundraising efforts to help cover the associated expenses for 2025 NAYC. It is anticipated that the associated expenses for 2025 NAYC Canadian Dressage Team will be approximately \$60,000 CDN.

Fundraising activities may include, but are not limited to:

- Online auctions - Athletes are responsible for the collection of the items and the mailing or delivery of items (if not an electronic gift card/certificate)
- Tack / bake sales.
- Stall cleaning events.

Athletes are encouraged to brainstorm together for additional fundraising ideas.

- 9.2 Funds raised must be remitted to EC within 7 days via <https://www.equestrian.ca/donate>. Please be sure to select "04. Dressage -NAYC team (Youth Development)" under "Funds". Please inform the Dressage Program Coordinator of the event, date, and when the funds raised are submitted. Donations of \$25 or more are eligible for a tax receipt.

- 9.3 All funds raised are used to decrease the expenses of the Canadian 2025 NAYC Dressage Team. Expenses include:

- Team Outfitting item(s) for all horses, athletes, grooms, and the Chef(s) d'Equipe (and outfitting of owners, and athlete companions if donations permit)
- Entry fees - Approx. \$2,500 US per athlete/horse combination
- Chef(s) d'Equipe golf cart rental.
- Stabling, tack stall(s), vet inspection - Approx. \$1,200 US per horse.
- Athletes are responsible for their own feed and bedding costs.
- Chef's expenses including travel, hotel, rental car (gas and parking), and meals

- 9.4 Athletes are invoiced after the 2025 NAYC, equally for the difference between the amount of funds raised and the total expense of sending the Team. Should revenues surpass expenses, then any remaining revenues will be distributed equally to the Team athletes.

- 9.5 The athlete is responsible for paying for the following:

- Transport costs for athlete, horse, groom, owner(s), parent(s), athlete companion and/or coach
- Horse documents, vaccinations, border crossing/related fees
- Personal meals
- Personal coach and groom costs (must each be accredited and meet all the 2025 NAYC criteria)
- Hotel costs. *The Traverse City area is an extremely popular tourist destination. Hotels are expensive. Costs are upwards of \$400 US/night and higher rates for weekend stays.*

NOTE: FEI rule article 415 section 7.3 the athletes should stay at the same hotel as the Chef d'Equipe EC has already negotiated for a block of rooms for the athletes and the Chef.

For grooms/coaches, friends, horse owners, you may be able to find individual rooms at a lesser rate elsewhere, other than the block rate at the Team hotel.



The Dressage Program Coordinator will communicate directly with declared athletes the hotel booking information. Athletes are advised to book their hotel rooms in the Team hotel early due to the high demand and there is no guarantee that hotel rooms will be available later

- 9.7 Athletes in need of financial assistance should approach their provincial associations to explore the possibility of provincial funding.

10. QUALIFICATION PERIOD

- 10.1 The qualification period shall run from **June 16, 2024, until & including June 15, 2025**

11. QUALIFYING COMPETITIONS, CLASSES & SCORES

- 11.1 Qualification is based upon the athlete/horse combination.
- 11.2 Qualifying classes must be ridden at either EC Gold or Platinum (CDI), foreign sanctioned or FEI sanctioned competitions. Note: Athletes may use scores obtained in Test of Choice (TOC) classes for qualification provided the scores meet these criteria:
- 11.3 Each athlete/horse combination must submit scores as follows:

Children's Division

1. **Three (3) Technical Scores** – Three (3) technical scores must be submitted, **each technical score submitted must be a minimum of 65% or higher.**
- a) Two (2) scores from the FEI Children's Team Test – at least one Children's Team Test score submitted must be from 2025; **Note:** One of the submitted scores can be from 2024 provided it is within the qualifying period
 - b) One (1) score from the FEI Children's Individual Test - this score must be from 2025;
 - c) A maximum of one score from the FEI Children's Team Test and one score from the FEI Children's Individual test may be obtained at the same competition.
 - d) All scores must be achieved from a panel as outlined in s. 11.4. The panel's average (final score) is to be submitted.
 - e) CDI-CH competition scores will have a bonus of 1% added by EC before ranking.
 - f) See additional eligibility requirements for 2025 NAYC s.12 (Athlete Eligibility Requirements / Restrictions) and s.13 (Horse/Pony Eligibility Requirements / Restrictions) of this criterion.

Junior Riders

1. **Three (3) Technical Scores** – Three (3) Technical scores must be submitted, **each technical score submitted must be a minimum of 65% or higher.**
- a) Two (2) scores from the FEI Junior Team Test – at least one score submitted must be from 2025; Note: One score can be from 2024 provided it is within the qualifying period;
 - b) One (1) score from the FEI Junior Individual Test - this score must be from 2025.
 - c) A maximum of one score from the FEI Junior Team Test and one score from the FEI Junior Individual test may be obtained at the same competition.



- d) All scores must be achieved from a panel as outlined in s. 11.4. The panel's average (final score) is to be submitted.
- e) CDI-JR competition scores will have a bonus of 1% added by EC before ranking
- f) See additional eligibility requirements for NAYC s.12 (Athlete Eligibility Requirements / Restrictions) and s.13 (Horse/Pony Eligibility Requirements / Restrictions) of this criterion.

2. **FEI JR Freestyle Score As a minimum eligibility standard, each declared athlete must obtain a score of at least 66%**

- a) The submitted Freestyle score will not be used as selection scores except in the case of breaking a tie as set out in s. 14.9.
- b) The score must be achieved from a panel as outlined in s. 11.4. The panel's average (final score) is to be submitted.
- c) The score must be obtained during the qualification period.
- d) CDI-JR Freestyle competition scores will have a bonus of 1% added by EC before ranking
- e) See additional eligibility requirements for NAYC s.12 (Athlete Eligibility Requirements / Restrictions) and s.13 (Horse/Pony Eligibility Requirements / Restrictions) of this criterion.

Young Riders

1. **Three (3) Technical Scores – Three (3) Technical scores must be submitted, each technical score submitted must be a minimum of 65% or higher.**

- a) Two (2) scores from the FEI Young Rider Team Test – at least one score submitted must be from 2025; **Note:** One score can be from 2024 provided it is within the qualifying period;
- b) One (1) score from the FEI Young Rider Individual Test - this score must be from 2025
- c) A maximum of one score from the FEI Young Rider Team test and one score from the FEI Young Rider Individual test may be obtained at the same competition.
- d) All scores must be achieved from a panel as outlined in s. 11.4. The panel's average (final score) is to be submitted.
- e) CDI-YR competition scores will have a bonus of 1% added by EC before ranking
- f) See additional eligibility requirements for NAYC s.12 (Athlete Eligibility Requirements / Restrictions) and s.13 (Horse/Pony Eligibility Requirements / Restrictions) of this criterion.

2. **Young Rider Freestyle Score As a minimum eligibility standard, each declared athlete must obtain a score of a minimum of at least 66%**

- a) The submitted Freestyle score will not be used as selection scores except in the case of breaking a tie as set out in s. 14.9.
- b) The score must be achieved from a panel as outlined in s. 11.4. The panel's average (final score) is to be submitted.
- c) The score must be obtained during the qualification period.
- d) CDI-YR Freestyle competition scores will have a bonus of 1% added by EC before ranking



- e) See additional eligibility requirements for NAYC s.12 (Athlete Eligibility Requirements / Restrictions) and s.13 (Horse/Pony Eligibility Requirements / Restrictions) of this criterion.

U25 Riders

1. **Three (3) Technical Scores – Three (3) Technical scores must be submitted, each technical score submitted must be a minimum of 65.00% or higher.**

- a) Two (2) scores from the FEI Intermediate II Test – at least one score submitted must be from 2025; **Note:** One score can be from 2024 provided it is within the qualifying period;
- b) One (1) score from the FEI Grand Prix 16-25 Test - this score must be from 2025
- c) A maximum of one score from the FEI Intermediate II Test and one score from the FEI Grand Prix 16-25 test may be obtained at the same competition.
- d) All scores must be achieved from a panel as outlined in s. 11.4. The panel's average (final score) is to be submitted.
- e) CDI-U25 competition scores will have a bonus of 1% added by EC before ranking
- f) See additional eligibility requirements for NAYC s.12 (Athlete Eligibility Requirements / Restrictions) and s.13 (Horse Eligibility Requirements / Restrictions) of this criterion.

2. **Freestyle Score As a minimum eligibility standard, each declared athlete must obtain a score of a minimum of at least 66%.**

- a) The submitted FEI Grand Prix Freestyle score will not be used as selection scores except in the case of breaking a tie as set out in s. 14.9.
- b) The score must be achieved from a panel as outlined in s. 11.4. The panel's average (final score) is to be submitted.
- c) The score must be from a qualified competition within the qualification period.
- d) CDI-U25 Freestyle competition scores will have a bonus of 1% added by EC before ranking
- e) See additional eligibility requirements for NAYC s.12 (Athlete Eligibility Requirements / Restrictions) and s.13 (Horse/Pony Eligibility Requirements / Restrictions) of this criterion.

11.4 All qualifying scores **must be obtained from a panel with a minimum of two judges** composed as follows:

- I. A minimum of two EC Senior Dressage judges or Two Foreign National Senior Dressage judges or a combination thereof. Judges must hold an official Senior status (not a temporary or guest card status).
- II. A minimum of one FEI Dressage Judge and one EC Senior Dressage Judge or one Foreign National Senior Dressage judge or a combination thereof. Must hold an official FEI or Senior status (not a temporary or guest card status); or
- III. Two or more FEI Dressage Judges.



Note:

- Where a panel is comprised of two judges the full panel score must be submitted as the qualification score
- Where a panel is comprised of three judges the full panel score must be submitted as the qualification score
- Where a panel is comprised of five judges the full panel score must be submitted as the qualification score

All submitted scores must have been obtained in tests ridden without whips. A declaration to this effect must be signed and sent by the athlete when submitting your qualification scores 2025 Score Submission, Whip and FEI compliance declaration portal

12. ATHLETE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS / RESTRICTIONS

- 12.1 Athletes must hold an EC Gold or Platinum sport licence before entering a qualifying competition and must hold a Platinum Sport Licence at the time of declaration for 2025 NAYC.
- 12.2 Athletes must have a valid Canadian passport at time of declaration. Passports must not expire before **September 1st, 2025**. Athletes not holding valid Canadian passports at the time of declaration must submit proof of eligibility to hold a Canadian passport (*photocopies of the following documents are acceptable: birth certificate, Canadian Citizenship, or an expired Canadian passport*).
- 12.3 As per FEI Regulations, athletes must be registered with the FEI before they can take part in any international competition. Register no later than four (4) weeks prior to your first international competition.
- 12.4 Athletes must meet all eligibility requirements according to FEI Regulations for Children, Juniors, Young Riders, or U25 Riders. Rules can be found at:
- FEI General Regulations- <https://inside.fei.org/content/general-regs-statutes>
- FEI Dressage Rules - <https://inside.fei.org/fei/disc/dressage/rules>
- FEI Veterinary Rules - <https://inside.fei.org/content/fei-veterinary-rules>

13. HORSE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS / RESTRICTIONS

- 13.1 Horses must meet all requirements according to FEI Regulations and eligibility requirements (see rules link in 12.4 above).
- 13.2 Horses of any origin (biological and geographical) may take part in International Dressage competitions in accordance with the FEI Rules for Dressage. Note: Biological origin exception - Ponies and mules are ineligible to compete in the junior, young rider and U25 divisions. Ponies may compete in the Children's division.
- 13.3 Horse Ownership must be in accordance with the current FEI General Regulations.



- 13.4 Horses must have a valid FEI Document **at the time of selection**. The application process to obtain an FEI Document may be completed through the horse owner's MY-EC account (Must have a current/valid Platinum EC Sport Licence to proceed through the application process). Please contact FEIservices@equestrian.ca for assistance if required.
- ** The process of obtaining a FEI Document can take approximately eight (8) weeks to complete.
- 13.5 Per FEI Regulations, all horses must be registered with the FEI and EC before they can take part in any international competition. It is recommended that horses have a FEI Registration and FEI Document prior to starting a qualifying competition. Please register your horse at least eight (8) weeks in advance of the first qualifying competition. FEI Horse Registration numbers need to be renewed each year. For further information please contact FEIservices@equestrian.ca or visit www.equestrian.ca.
- 13.6 A valid FEI Document, and Coggins Test must always accompany the horse from the time of declaration onward.
- 13.7 The FEI Document must have the Vaccination section endorsed by a Veterinary Surgeon, who is not an owner of the animal, stating that it has received: vaccination requirements in accordance with the current FEI Veterinary Regulations. Additionally:
- i. Declared athletes are requested to consult with a federal veterinarian regarding vaccinations and export/import requirements prior to departure.
 - ii. If the horse is a stallion or mare, there may be additional vaccinations and tests required therefore, it is strongly suggested that the declared athlete and owner consult with a federal veterinarian on all requirements.
 - iii. It is strongly recommended that all owners/athletes who declare that they wish to participate in the qualifying/selection process for the 2025 NAYC consult with a federal veterinarian prior to declaration, and in any event 90 days prior to the anticipated departure date, to ensure that regulations regarding residency, quarantine, vaccinations, laboratory testing and documentation in respect of a temporary shipment to and from the US can and will be adhered to within the time lines set out in this criteria.
- 13.8 A condition of participation in the qualifying and selection process is the agreement by the horse owner, personal coach, personal veterinarian and athlete to cooperate 100% with EC in the delivery of equine athletes capable of successfully completing the mandatory Horse Fitness and Drug Screening as set out in s. 17 of these criteria. This agreement is evidenced by submitting your declaration.

14 SELECTION OF THE TEAM(S)

- 14.1 All Scores Report Forms (along with official class results) must be submitted via the online score submission portal [form](#) on or before **9 a.m. ET on Monday, June 16, 2025**. Score Report Forms **received after 9 a.m. ET on Monday, June 16, 2025** will **not** be considered. *Incomplete or illegible forms will be considered invalid. EC are not responsible for any late, lost, delayed, misdirected or stolen correspondence. Any intentional misrepresentation of information will eliminate the applicant from being considered.*



14.2 Any athlete who fails to submit scores per s. 11.3 above is ineligible to be considered for the 2025 NAYC exception, see below:

Extraordinary Unforeseen Circumstances

The HPAG may consider athlete/horse combinations that did not achieve the s 11.3 score requirements, but only under extraordinary, unforeseen circumstances. Extraordinary, unforeseen circumstances may include, without limitation, situations of temporary injury to either the athlete or the horse that are outside the reasonable control of the athlete, extreme weather causing cancellation of a qualification event, or unusual and unforeseen events occurring at a qualification event or preventing access to one or more qualification events or preventing one or more qualification events from taking place etc.

14.3 **Provincial Teams:** The athlete/horse combinations for each Provincial Team will be selected in descending order based on the average of the three technical scores submitted to a maximum of the four best athlete/horse combinations per Team. Any additional athletes qualified under the criteria, but not selected in the top four in their Province when ranked may at the discretion of EC be named as reserve athletes to their Provincial Team.

14.4 **Combined Provincial Teams:** When Provinces do not have enough qualified athletes to form a Team, athletes from those Provinces may be combined to form Combined Provincial Teams. These Combined Provincial Teams will have a minimum of three to a maximum of four athlete/horse combinations. The methodology and priorities for how to constitute the various Teams are set out in Attachment A (Team Selection Goals, Guidelines and Priorities).

14.5 In determining the athlete/horse combinations, so long as the priorities set out in Attachment A and elsewhere in these criteria are also applied, EC may consider a comparison of scores as a factor in determining which athlete/horse combinations to place on Combined Provincial Teams and how to arrange those combinations including when making substitutions under s. 14.10.

14.6 In making these selection decisions and interpreting the priorities set out in Attachment A, EC will do so in a way that prefers athletes on Teams from within their region. **Please note:** When an athlete/horse combination or athlete/horse combinations have been selected from a Province to participate on a Combined Provincial Team, no additional athletes from that Province are permitted to enter the 2025 NAYC on another Combined Provincial Team or as Individuals

14.7 **Individual Athletes:** When a Provincial Team or Combined Provincial Team is not constituted for a Province, then individual athlete/horse combinations from that Province with the necessary qualifying scores as set out in s.11, may be selected from those remaining Provinces to a maximum of the two best athlete/horse combinations from that Province.

14.8 If an athlete has qualified more than one horse, the athlete/horse combination with the highest average technical scores will be selected to compete at 2025 NAYC. That athlete may substitute their second qualified horse **ONLY** in the event that their highest ranked horse is unable to compete at the Championships due to illness or injury, and their second qualified horse is ranked such that the alternate combination is within the top 4 athlete/horse combinations for that Province or in the case of combined Provincial Teams and Individual Athletes ranked such that they are in the top 2 or 3 for their Province in the case of a combined Provincial Team or the top 2 for an Individual athlete from a Province with no Team.



- 14.9 **TIES:** In the event of a tie between any two or more athlete/horse combinations the combination with the highest Team test score shall break the tie. Should there still be a tie then the single highest Individual score submitted will break the tie. Should there still be a tie then the highest Freestyle score submitted will break the tie.
- 14.10 In the event that following the selection, a Team's athlete/horse combination is unable to proceed to the 2025 NAYC for any reason, EC may select an athlete/horse combination from the list of qualified reserve athlete/horse combinations from that Province, in the case of Provincial Teams of 4, or from the original pool of athlete/horse combinations from those that the Combined Provincial Teams were selected, to move-up and be named to a Provincial Team or Combined Provincial Team. This may result in reconstituting other Combined Provincial Teams or Provincial Teams of three to maintain the priorities set out in Attachment A. If two or more changes are required, EC shall have the ability to select two or more qualified individual athlete/horse combinations to move-up and be named to a Provincial Team or Combined Provincial Team where required. The foregoing is only applicable prior to the date of the definite entries and provided that the 2025 NAYC OC allows substitutions in these situations. This rule regarding substitutions may be subject to change based on regulations imposed by external organizations such as the Organizing Committee.
- 14.11 Following Team selection all athlete/horse combinations should organize their travel plans to arrive on site at Flintfields Horse Park before the start of the competition, if permitted by the OC. Arriving on site a minimum of 2 days in advance of the start of the competition allows time for horses and riders to acclimate to the weather and surroundings and allows time to hand out sponsor items, organize Team photos, complete a practice jog, and ensure that all Chef(s) d'Equipe have sufficient time to meet with their Teams/athletes. **Note:** Additional fees for early arrivals may be borne by the rider.

15 COMPETITION FOLLOWING SELECTION TO TEAM

- 15.1 Training and competition plans following selection to the Team should be presented and discussed with your coach and your 2025 NAYC Chef d'Equipe.
- 15.2 EC encourages athletes to compete for further experience following selection to prepare their horse for the competition environment at the Championships.

16 ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE TEAM

- 16.1 EC shall announce the 2025 NAYC athlete/horse combinations including reserves. on or before **June 27, 2025.**
- 16.2 **Non-Disclosure Policy Regarding Team Announcement** It is important that ALL athletes selected for the 2025 NAYC (as well as ALL owners, grooms, guests, chef(s) Team personnel, and anyone else affiliated with a selected athlete, including friends, and family) respect this Non-Disclosure Policy Regarding Team Announcement until after the official announcement of the Team by EC. Until the official EC Team announcement, athletes and their affiliates (owners, grooms, guests, companions, Chef(s), Team personnel, and anyone else affiliated with a selected athlete, including friends, and family) are to refrain from confirming Team selections to any and all media, and must not make any references that confirms Team selections on social media



(Facebook, X, Instagram, Snapchat etc.). The purpose of this non-disclosure policy is to ensure maximum impact and exposure for the announcement of the athlete who will represent Canada at the 2025 NAYC. Violation of this non-disclosure policy may result in sanctions, up to and including removal of the athlete from the selection process.

17 HORSE FITNESS AND DRUG SCREENING

- 17.1 Horses are not to be competed under the influence of any prohibited substances identified in the FEI Veterinary Regulations. Horses found to have done so will be disqualified from that competition, ineligible to be selected for 2025 NAYC and if already selected shall be removed from the Team.
- 17.2 All declared horses may be subject to drug testing. Blood and / or urine samples may be collected at any time during the qualifying period or at the 2025 NAYC. Should a horse not pass drug testing (including re-testing), the horse will be disqualified at the discretion of EC.
- 17.3 It is of paramount importance that the welfare of the horse is protected. EC wishes to ensure that no unfit or unsound horse travels to the 2025 NAYC. Throughout the period commencing on the date of declaration up to the 2025 NAYC, all horses may be subject, without advance notice at competitions, and with twenty-four hours' notice out of competition, to be submitted, at the discretion of EC, for assessment for soundness and/or the presence of prohibited substances.
- 17.4 **Veterinarian Affidavit:** The owner / athlete of each horse selected to compete at the Championships must provide to EC via email to naycdressage@equestrian.ca not more than **5 days prior to departure for the 2025 NAYC**, a written statement signed by a veterinarian, other than the horse's regular treating veterinarian, confirming that his or her horse is fit to compete. (sample form will be provided to athletes shortly after team selection). The affidavit must also include a statement to confirm that the veterinarian is not the regular treating veterinarian for the horse in question.

18 ADDITIONAL CONDITIONS

- 18.1 The schooling of horses, at all qualifying competitions and at 2025 NAYC, will be in accordance with the FEI Rules for Dressage. A signed declaration to this effect must be completed and submitted with qualification scores via the online score submission portal at [2025 Score Submission, Whip and FEI compliance declaration portal](#) no later than **9 a.m. ET on Monday, June 16, 2025**
- 18.2 All athletes selected to participate at the 2025 NAYC, as well as the legal owner(s) of the horse the selected athlete will compete on at the 2025 NAYC, and the groom MUST sign their respective Release Waiver that is part of the 2025 NAYC certification process. These forms, once assigned to the individual, will be on the individual's Ecampus.

Signing the applicable Release Waiver shall be a condition precedent to participating at the 2025 NAYC. **Signed Waivers must be completed and submitted no later than 9 a.m. ET on Monday, June 16, 2025.**



19 HUMAN MEDICATION, PRESCRIBED MEDICATION & THERAPEUTIC USE EXEMPTION (TUE) FORMS

- 19.1 All declared athletes may be subject to testing at any time during the qualifying period and throughout the 2025 NAYC competition.
- 19.2 CCES- <http://cces.ca/>, and the World Anti-Doping Agency (“WADA”) <https://www.wada-ama.org/>, publish prohibited substance lists. Information can also be found on the FEI website www.fei.org
- 19.3 All declared athletes, and anyone who has a 2025 NAYC accreditation will be required to have completed the on-line CCES Human Medications education course.
- 19.4 Athletes prescribed medication or taking a substance for therapeutic use (found on the prohibited list at <https://www.globaldro.com/Home>) MUST contact the EC Dressage Department immediately to start the process for a Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE) Form through the Centre for Ethics in Sport (CCES). This process can take considerable time. Athletes requiring a TUE must have the TUE completed and on file on or before **Friday, May 16, 2025**, or in the case of a last-minute request, on or before **Friday, July 18, 2025**.
- 19.5 Athletes may not take part in the selection process or 2025 NAYC if any prohibited substance is being used without there being a completed and issued TUE from CCES on file.

20. ACCREDITATION PROCESS

- 20.1 Please reference the document [https://licence.equestrian.ca/gamesdb/images/Multi-Sport%20Games%20and%20FEI%20Championships%20Accreditation%20\(EN\).pdf](https://licence.equestrian.ca/gamesdb/images/Multi-Sport%20Games%20and%20FEI%20Championships%20Accreditation%20(EN).pdf)
- 20.2 Individuals without accreditation may attend the 2025 NAYC as members of the general public. Accreditation for those 18 and over is subject to the completion of all safe sport documents and courses, which includes a police background check (E-PIC), and a vulnerable sector search (VSS) see s. 5.

As per s 5, all safe sport courses and documents must be current and on file with EC on or before **Monday, June 9, 2025**. You are advised to click and expand each section of the 2025 NAYC certification course to ensure that not only it is complete but that it will not expire before August 5, 2025. **Those with incomplete documents or courses as of Monday, June 9, 2025 will be ineligible for accreditation.**

Individuals needing a police background search (E-PIC) and, or a vulnerable sector search (VSS) should start the process as early as possible. These checks can take weeks or months to complete depending upon your location.

- 20.3 If selected to compete at 2025 NAYC, athletes are eligible to receive up to five accreditation badges:
 - 1 Athlete Accreditation
 - 1 Groom Accreditation
 - 1 Guest Accreditation



- 2 Owner Accreditations - provided that both owners are listed as owners in your horse's FEI Document – *Please note that ownership changes to FEI Documents take time, therefore, changes to your FEI Document must be made immediately upon selection.*

NOTE: For accreditation, coaches must be accredited as grooms, guests, or owners.

IMPORTANT: Changes to accredited individuals will only be permitted if you have them listed as an alternate, **at time of declaration**, and only if the alternate individual has completed all safe sport courses and documents as required for 2025 NAYC see s 5. Note: late changes will impact on outfitting and clothing will be provided only if sizes are available.

- 20.4 The accreditation process for 2025 NAYC will be coordinated by EC with the Organizing Committee (OC). Athletes, owners, guests, and grooms are not permitted to directly apply for additional accreditation to the OC. If an athlete, owner, guest, groom, or anyone on their behalf, applies to, or approaches, the OC for additional accreditation, the athlete, owner, guest, groom will be subject to dismissal from the 2025 NAYC.
- 20.5 As an accredited member of the 2025 NAYC Team you have an obligation to uphold and adhere to the highest standards of horsemanship, sportsmanship, and citizenship whenever you represent Canada whether as a Team member, individual competitor, guest, coach, parent, horse owner, groom or Team support personnel, and whether during the time leading up to the 2025 NAYC, the actual competition or non-competing day at 2025 NAYC.
- 20.6 All accredited members of the Team must sign the applicable EC and USEF Codes of Conduct for the 2025 NAYC.
- 20.7 Violations of the Codes of Conduct, EC Regulations/Policies including Safe Sport, FEI Regulations/Policies, or the EC Athlete Agreement may result in removal of any accredited individual (owner, groom, athlete companion/guest) from the Team and / or removal from the 2025 NAYC grounds. This includes removal for unsportsmanlike behaviour or for violating the direction given by the Chef(s) d'Equipe or any EC staff member before or during the 2025 NAYC.

21.REMOVAL OF ATHLETE (withdrawal of athlete)

- 21.1 A athlete may be removed after selection for any of the following reasons as determined by EC. Once competition has started the athlete may be removed by the appointed Chef(s) d'Equipe:
- I. Voluntary withdrawal. Athlete must submit a notice in writing to the EC Dressage Department
 - II. Injury or illness as certified by a physician. If an athlete refuses verification of their illness or injury by a physician, their injury will be deemed to be disabling, and they may be removed.
 - III. Injury or illness of their Horse
 - IV. Violation of the EC Participant Agreement and/or EC 2025 NAYC criteria
 - V. Violation of the EC or USEF Codes of Conduct and/or Safe Sport policies
 - VI. Detection of a prohibited substance in the horse



- VII. Failure to adhere to all WADA, FEI, EC and CCES anti-doping protocols, policies and procedures including participation in competition testing as required by WADA, FEI, EC and CCES rules.
- VIII. Failure to have a valid TUE on file in cases where a prohibited substance has been prescribed by a physician for therapeutic treatment see s 19.



ATTACHMENT A

NORTH AMERICAN YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS (NAYC)

TEAM SELECTION GOALS, GUIDELINES AND PRIORITIES

The NAYC is an athlete development opportunity for our future Canadian equestrian stars. Athlete/horse combinations must qualify for consideration and are selected through the published and posted criteria for the FEI North American Children, Junior, Young Rider Championship, Dressage Division. Qualification scores are used to select the Provincial Teams, Combined Provincial Teams, and Individual(s).

Selection Goals:

(Where permitted by the criteria and the rules of the competition)

- Maximize the number of athlete/horse combinations representing Canada at NAYC
- Maximize the experience for each athlete/horse combination to the full extent.
- Maximize the opportunities for each athlete/horse combination by selecting athlete/horse combinations to Teams, where possible, allowing the athlete the opportunity to participate for both Team and Individual medals

Team Selection Guidelines and Priorities:

The priorities are listed in descending order with the highest priority beginning at 1 and lowest at 6.

1. Provincial Team comprised of four (4) athlete/horse combinations *(Where a Provincial Team of four (4) athlete/horse combinations has been selected, no additional athlete/horse combinations from that Province may be entered to compete in the Championships for another Province or as Individuals)*
2. Combined Provincial Team comprised of three (3) athlete/horse combinations from a Province plus one (1) athlete/horse combination from a Province with only one (1) athlete/horse combination qualified *(Once athlete/horse combinations from a province have been selected to a Team no additional athlete/horse combinations from that Province may be entered to compete in the Championships for another Province or as Individuals)*
3. Combined Provincial Team comprised of four (4) athlete/horse combinations from up to four (4) different Provinces. This could be combinations of:
 - two (2) athlete/horse combinations from one Province and two (2) athlete/horse combinations from another Province;
 - two (2) athlete/horse combinations from one Province, one (1) athlete/horse combination from another Province and one (1) athlete/horse combination from a third Province;
 - four (4) athlete/horse combinations from four (4) different Provinces.*(Once athlete/horse combinations from a province have been selected to a Team no additional athlete/horse combinations from that Province may be entered to compete in the Championships for another Province or as Individuals, unless through the substitution process described in s. 14 of the criteria)*
4. Provincial Team of three (3) athlete/horse combinations from the same Province in cases where only 3 athlete/horse combinations qualified and have not been combined with a 4th athlete/horse combination from another Province.
5. Combined Provincial Team comprised of three (3) athlete/horse combinations.



6. Individual athletes. Up to two athlete/horse combinations from the same Province may be selected on this basis from each Province with less than 3 qualified athlete/horse combinations provided no athlete/horse combination from that Province has already been selected to for a Combined Provincial Team.



CRITICAL DATES (CHECKLIST)

Before Friday Jan 31, 2025

FEI Document ID application (if required) please be advised that the FEI passport application process typically takes a minimum of 4 weeks to complete with the FEI

Before making the declaration

- Ensure you've read : [FEI CHAMPIONSHIPS AND ACCREDITATIONS](#).
- Looked at the bio form and have information and photographs ready for upload – statement of interest and Bio. Info.

Coach **MUST** have AT TIME OF DECLARATION

- valid licensed status or equivalent
- License valid until at least August 5, 2025.
Should these conditions not be in place, the coach will not be eligible.

On or before Friday, March 28, 2025

- Declaration (see s. 4.1 for instructions)**
- Statement of Interest & Athlete profile information (forms found [here](#))**
- Apply for a Medication Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE) if required (see s. 19)**
 - <https://www.cces.ca/medical-exemptions>
- Apply/renew FEI Athlete and Horse Registration if not already done for 2025 (see s 12 & s 13)**

Monday, June 9, 2025 – for anyone with accreditation

- Major Games Portal profiles must be completed on the major games portal.

AND

- Complete all requirements assigned in the Ecampus Certification Course incl. safe sport (see s. 5 and 20.3)

Monday, June 16, 2025, Complete and submit on or before 9 a.m. ET:

- Score Report, Whip Declaration, FEI compliance Declaration via the [2025 Score Submission, Whip and FEI compliance declaration portal](#)**



- Attach your test cover pages or official class results.
- Include the competition information, date, judges, and scores, etc.

Submit within 5 days prior to departure for 2025 NAYC.

- **Vet Affidavit** – Submit vet affidavit (not from your normal vet) that horse is fit and is sound to compete no more than 5 days prior to departure for 2025 NAYC (see s. 17.4). A sample of the form will be provided to the athletes shortly after selection.