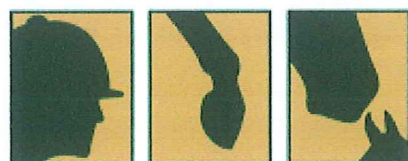




**2016 Olympic Summer Games
Rio de Janeiro**

**Agreement for the selection of
Athletes for the Sport**

“Equestrian”



HORSE SPORT IRELAND

2016 OLYMPIC SUMMER GAMES – RIO DE JANEIRO

AGREEMENT FOR THE SELECTION OF ATHLETES
FOR THE SPORT OF:

Equestrian

The Olympic Council of Ireland (“OCI”) and Horse Sport Ireland (“HSI” - “the National Federation”) agree the following nomination and selection standards and procedures for the selection of athletes for the 2016 Olympic Summer Games in Rio de Janeiro (the “Olympic Games”) for the sport of Equestrian.

The parties acknowledge and agree that the standards and procedures set out in this Agreement may exceed those stipulated by the International Olympic Committee (“IOC”) the Association of National Olympic Committees (“ANOC”) and the Federation Equestrian International (“FEI”) (“International Federation”). Accordingly, the parties agree that an athlete or team will not be considered eligible for selection as a Member of the Irish Olympic Team for the Olympic Summer Games, even though he/she may have achieved the standard stipulated by the International Federation and/or the IOC, and ANOC unless he/she fulfils the relevant criteria and/or achieves the relevant standard(s) pursuant to and in accordance with this Agreement.

This Agreement and its Appendix should be read and construed as one document and the parties agree that the Appendix forms part of this Agreement.

IT IS AGREED THAT:

1. OCI Selection

- 1.1 The parties acknowledge that under Paragraph 2.1 of Rule 28 of the Olympic Charter the OCI has the exclusive power for the selection and participation of the Irish Olympic Team at the Olympic Summer Games. The parties further acknowledge that under Paragraph 2.1 of the Bye-law to Rule 28 of the Olympic charter, the OCI is required to constitute, organise and lead its delegation at the Olympic Games and that the OCI has the exclusive power in accordance with that Bye-law, to “decide upon the entry of athletes proposed by their respective national federations. The National Olympic Committees (“NOCs”) must ensure that the entries proposed by the national federations comply in all respects with the provisions of the Olympic Charter”.
- 1.2 Under paragraph 2.3 of the bye-law to Rule 28 - They have the sole and exclusive authority to prescribe and determine the clothing and uniforms to be worn, and the equipment to be used, by the members of their delegations on the occasion of the Olympic Games and in connection with all sports competitions and ceremonies related thereto.

This exclusive authority does not extend to specialised equipment used by athletes of their delegations during the actual sports competitions. For the purposes of this rule, specialised equipment shall be limited to such equipment acknowledged by the NOC concerned as having a material effect on the performance of athletes, due to the specialised characteristics of the equipment. Any publicity in respect of any such specialised equipment must be submitted to the NOC concerned for approval if there is any reference, express or implied, to the Olympic Games.

- 1.3 In accordance with its exclusive authority, the OCI reserves the right to require any individual nominated by the National Federation to undergo a medical examination carried out under the control of the OCI Chief Medical Officer (and/or his/her appointed representative) at any time prior to, or during the Olympic Games to determine an individual's medical fitness to perform to the best of his/her ability at the Olympic Games and/or to determine whether or not an individual has breached any of the rules contained in or referred to under the Olympic Charter or the Team Member's Agreement in force at the time.
- 1.4 If, pursuant to and in accordance with the results of any such medical examination, the Chief Medical Officer considers in his/her reasonable opinion that an individual nominated and/or selected for the Olympic Games is not physically fit to perform and/or has breached any of the rules referred to in the Team Members' Agreement, the OCI may at its absolute discretion not select or may de-select such an individual.
- 1.5 The parties agree that pursuant to and in accordance with the OCI's exclusive authority, the OCI may at its absolute discretion refuse to select an individual nominated by the National Federation for selection to the Team.
- 1.6 The OCI agrees to notify the National Federation of its selection or refusal to select any nominated athlete as soon as reasonably practicable after the OCI receives the National Federation's relevant nomination.
- 1.7 No Team Member's selection will be ratified by the OCI until all relevant documentation and required procedures are fully completed.

2. National Federation Nominations

- 2.1 The National Federation agrees to submit to the OCI its nomination of any individual(s) or team(s) eligible for consideration under clause 3 below within the relevant deadlines set out in clause 9 below.
- 2.2 The National Federation agrees to provide the OCI with all such relevant documentation, including official results and ranking listings as the OCI

may require in order to verify the eligibility of any individual so nominated by the National Federation at the time of nomination.

- 2.3 The National Federation agrees to comply with the recommendation as in the Report of the Expert Group on the eradication of prohibited substances and practices from the Irish equestrian sector – Chaired by Dr. Gordon Holmes on 6th March 2009, which recommendations are deemed to be incorporated into this agreement. (see appendix)
- 2.4 The National Federation agrees to comply with the HSI general rules version 1 implemented 01.01.10 and such rules are deemed to be incorporated into this agreement. (see appendix)
- 2.5 The National Federation agrees to comply with the FEI Clean Sport Campaign and such campaign details are deemed to be incorporated into this agreement. (www.feicleansport.org)

3. Eligibility for Consideration

- 3.1 The parties agree that they shall not consider any individual or team eligible to participate as a member of the Irish Olympic Team at the Olympic Games (the “Team”) unless he/she/ they have achieved or exceeded, as agreed with the OCI, the relevant qualification method or ‘A’ standard as set out by their International Federation and agreed with the IOC and ANOC and complies with the nationality requirements as set out in the Olympic Charter and to provide the relevant information to the OCI.
- 3.2 The National Federation agrees that it shall not nominate any individual whose form and/or consistency does not merit nomination. Further, the National Federation agrees to monitor, and if necessary test, an athlete on an ongoing basis in order to ensure his/her current form is of a standard to perform at the Olympic Games.
- 3.3 The National Federation shall not nominate any athlete who is the subject of an anti-doping ban.
- 3.4 The National Federation shall inform the OCI immediately of the results of any anti-doping test of any athlete who is on the long list submitted to the OCI.
- 3.5 The National Federation shall not submit nominations for athletes who have received Tripartite (IOC/ANOC/IF) invitations, re-allocated places or wildcards or who have achieved qualification by means other than that described in the IOC/ANOC/IF qualification system and in this agreement.

4. Close of Nominations to the OCI

- 4.1 The closing date of the nominations to the OCI of athletes for the sport of Equestrian is (TBC when dates are issued by IOC/ROCOG)

5. Appeals

- 5.1 The National Federation shall have an appeals process available to Team Member's and have submitted same to the OCI no later than 22nd May 2015. Any internal appeals process must be concluded prior to nomination to the OCI.
- 5.2 Appeals to the OCI may be heard by the OCI Executive Committee or a sub-committee appointed by the Executive Committee for that purpose. It is agreed by the parties that the decision of the OCI is final.

6. Team Members Agreement

- 6.1 Each team member must sign the OCI's Team Members Agreement and the IOC Eligibility Form.
- 6.2 Failure to sign this agreement and the Eligibility Form will prevent entry to the Olympic Games.

7. The Announcement of Team Selection

- 7.1 The National Federation agrees not to disclose any nominated Team Member's name to the press or any other media until the OCI have selected the team member for the Rio Olympic Games and announced it to the press and other media.
- 7.2 The National Federation further agrees not to make any announcement to the press or other media in any form relating to any individual or team selected or proposed to be selected by the OCI as a member of the Team unless any such announcement is made jointly by the OCI and the National Federation under the OCI's management and control.
- 7.3 The parties agree that no commercial organisation shall be involved in any way in any publicity or advertising at any such joint OCI and National Federation announcement other than one or more of the OCI's sponsors and/or commercial partners.

8. Communication of Information

- 8.1 The National Federation shall circulate the information contained in this agreement and its Schedule(s) to the athletes, team managers, coaches and other relevant individuals within its sport and shall procure their compliance with it.
- 8.2 The OCI and the National Federation shall publish this agreement and its schedule(s) on their websites.

- 8.3 The OCI shall issue the agreement to all National Federations.
- 8.4 The NF shall publish this agreement subsequent to the OCI doing so.
- 8.5 The NF shall indemnify the OCI for any loss or damage suffered by it as a result of or in connection with the nomination procedure other than those arising from the OCI's negligence.

9 Medical Data Capture Form

- 9.1 Each team member must complete the OCI Medical Data Capture Form

10 Advance Information

- 10.1 Prior to 22nd May, 2015 the National Federation must submit their selection policy of Athletes for the Olympics for recommendation to the Olympic Council of Ireland and the approval of the Olympic Council of Ireland.
- 10.2 Prior to 22nd May, 2015 the National Federation are required to submit their "fit to perform policy for approval by the Olympic Council of Ireland"

11 Advance Information/Key Deadlines

- 11.1 Prior to 22nd May, 2015 the National Federation must submit their selection policy of Athletes for the Olympics for recommendation to the Olympic Council of Ireland and the approval of the Olympic Council of Ireland.
- 11.2 Prior to 22nd May, 2015 the National Federation are required to submit their "fit to perform policy for approval by the Olympic Council of Ireland"
- 11.3 30th January, 2015
The 'Long List' of all potential team members to be submitted by NF and received by the OCI and this must include an updated athlete profile.
- 11.4 29th January 2016
Revised (Short) list to be submitted by National Federation and received by the OCI.
- 11.5 The closing date of the nominations to the OCI of athletes for the sport of Equestrian is TBC when dates are issued by IOC/ROCOG.
National Federation nominations to be received by the OCI with all supporting information for selection.

Signed by:

Patrick Hickey
President
For and on behalf of
The Olympic Council of Ireland

Dermot Henihan
Honorary General Secretary
For and on behalf of
The Olympic Council of Ireland

Date:

20th May 2015

Signed by

Prof. Patrick Wall
Chairman
For and on behalf of
Horse Sport Ireland

Damian Mc Donald
Chief Executive
For and on behalf of
Horse Sport Ireland

Date:

23/1/2015

Appendix to the Olympic agreement for the selection of Athletes for the Sport of Equestrian for the 2016 Olympic Summer Games - Rio de Janeiro

The Olympic Council of Ireland and Horse Sport Ireland are committed to ensuring, in so far as possible, that there is no repeat of the incidents which occurred in previous Olympic Games where horses ridden by Irish riders tested positive for prohibited substances.

- The Olympic Council of Ireland notes the Clean Sport initiative undertaken by the International Governing Body for equestrian sport the Federation Equestre Internationale (FEI) as set out on the website www.feicleansport.org.
- In particular, the Council notes the introduction of the new detailed prohibited substances list, similar in style to the WADA list for human athletes.
- The Olympic Council of Ireland notes the contents of the Holmes Report into the eradication of prohibited substances and practices from the Irish Equestrian sector and the recommendations in relation to Irish riders competing internationally.

The Olympic Council of Ireland and Horse Sport Ireland have agreed the following additional measures to further reduce the possibility of any horse ridden by an Irish rider testing positive at the next Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro:

Logbook and declaration

Riders long-listed for the Olympic Games will be required to keep a specific logbook for their Olympic long-listed horse(s) into which they must enter every substance, product or medication that goes into or onto their horse.

The maintenance of this specific logbook will start on a date as directed by the 'monitoring group'. The riders will submit this, along with a declaration confirming that it contains everything administered to the horse at regular intervals to the Horse Sport Ireland team veterinarian.

Meetings with riders

Horse Sport Ireland will facilitate meetings between the Olympic Council of Ireland and Ireland's top international riders during 2015 and 2016. This will give the Olympic Council an opportunity to stress the importance of a clean Olympics in 2016 and to set out what it requires the riders to do in the lead up to the Games to reduce the possibility of a horse ridden by an Irish rider testing positive at the Games.

Terms of Reference

The Monitoring Group will have two nominees from the Olympic Council of Ireland and two nominees from Horse Sport Ireland and an independent veterinary advisor.

Duties

- To monitor the implementation of the Agreement.
- To ensure all riders, horses and personnel in the entourage of any potential Olympic Team Member are aware of and are providing the information required by the Agreement.
- To review any positive cases involving riders from other countries with a view to distilling any lessons that might reduce the risk of an inadvertent breach by an Irish rider of the rules.
- To ensure that any elements of the agreement that are not being adhered to are advised to the personnel in question and to advise them of the implications including potential 'non-selection' for the Rio de Janeiro 2016 Games because of a breach of the Agreement.
- The Monitoring Group will meet on a required basis up to and post the 2016 Games until such time as the duty for the 2016 Games is complete.
- To report to the Olympic Council of Ireland and Horse Sport Ireland.