

EQUESTRIAN FEDERATION OF INDIA

SELECTION CRITERIA (VERSION - I) FOR RIDERS AND HORSES OF INDIAN

EQUESTRIAN TEAM FOR THE 20th ASIAN GAMES 2026, AICHI, NAGOYA.

JAPAN WEF 19 SEPTEMBER TO 04 OCTOBER 2026

General

1. It has been intimated by the Asian Equestrian Federation that the 20th Asian Games-2026 will be held at Aichi, Nagoya, Japan wef 19 September 2026 to 04 October 2026. Hence, it has become necessary for the process of selection of Indian Equestrian team to seize this opportunity provided to select riders who are competent, consistent and current by laying down a comprehensive Selection Criterial for our riders based in India and abroad.

2. In order to achieve the above objectives, a set of trials will be conducted in India under the aegis of the EFI. For riders based abroad FEI events as approved by the EFI shall be their trial competitions.

3. The process of selecting the Indian National Team for 20th Asian Games for the three Olympic disciplines shall be divided into two stages :-

(a) **Stage-I.** Selection trials for rider based abroad for each of the three Olympic disciplines wherein a max of six probables shall be selected based on the order of merit prepared by the Federation from the results of the selection trial competitions wherein MER(s) have been achieved as stipulated in subsequent paragraphs. The period of trials is 01 December 2025 to 31 July 2026.

(b) Thereafter these six or less probables selected shall undergo the training under one coach and shall be located at one centre or they could be training under their own coach and at a centre of their own choice. However, in either case these probables shall take part in one FEI competition of same technical specification as that of 20th Asian Games which shall be considered as their final selection trial. In disciplines where training is being undertaken by the horse rider combination under own arrangement, the National coach if appointed by the Federation above shall visit the venues of final selection trials to assess their training level and performance to enable him/ her to forward a confidential feedback to EFI.

(c) The six or less probables shall participate in final selection trials at the FEI events chosen by EFI to enable federation select a team of 3/4 members for representing India at the 20th Asian Games, based on the MER achieved and resultant merit drawn at the end of final selection trials.

(c) **Stage-II.** Participation in 20th Asian Games-2026, Aichi, Nagoya, Japan wef 19 September 2026 to 04 October 2026 including the Pre Expert Quarantine (PEQ) procedure.

Note :-

(i) These Selection Criteria is being promulgated on the premise that horses Ex-India are not permitted to travel directly to Japan but Ex-Europe, or any other foreign country shall be permitted to travel to Japan.

- (ii) The expenses on account of participation in 20th Asian Games may or may not be borne by the Govt. In case of no financial support by MYAS, the decision to field Teams in 20th Asian Games will rest with EFI.

General standards for Trials.

4. Selection criteria for riders and horses of Indian Equestrian Team for participation 20th Asian Games-2026, Aichi, Nagoya, Japan are based on the technical standards approved at AGM of AEF at Tashkent, Uzbekistan wef 05th Mar to 08th Mar 2024 subject to approval of FEI in respect of Dressage, Show Jumping and Eventing disciplines as given below: -

(a) **Show Jumping.**

- | | | |
|-----------------|---|----------------|
| (i) Team | - | Height-1.50 m. |
| (ii) Individual | - | Height-1.55 m. |

(b) **Eventing (Team & Individual)** Dressage and Show Jumping 3 Star and X- Country -2 Star (Long)

(c) **Dressage.** Each NOC can participate with a maximum of four (4) athlete-horse combinations (no reserve horse can be entered for Dressage) and horses shall have registered at FEI. For NOCs not represented by a Team, they can enter one (1) or two (2) Individuals.

(i) **Participation.** Each NOC with 1 Team of 4 Athlete/ Horse Combinations/ or 1 or 2 individuals- No reserve horse.

(ii) **Athletes.** Min 16 Years.

(iii) **Horses Small Tour.** Min 7 Years old, Competition 1 (Team & Individual Qualifier)- the FEI Prix St Georges (all athletes) Competition 2 (Individual Qualifier)- the FEI Intermediate I (All athletes), Competition 3 (Individual Final)- the FEI intermediate I Freestyle.

(iv) **Horse Big Tour**. Min 8 Years old. Competition 1 (Team & Individual Qualifier)- the FEI Grand Prix (All athletes), Competition 2 (Individual Qualifier)- The FEI Grand Prix Special (all athletes), Competition 3 (Individual Final)- the FEI Grand Prix Freestyle.

(d) **Technical Level**. Composed Teams- Small Tour/ Big Tour (Maximum 2 athlete-horse Big Tour (grand Prix Combinations).

(e) A team of 4 (Four) can be composed of the following combinations:-

(i) 4 (Four) small Tour (St. George) combinations.

(ii) 3 (Three) Small Tour (St. George)/ 1 (One) Big Tour (Grand Prix) combinations.

(iii) 2 (two) Small Tour (St. George)/ 2 (two) Big Tour (Grand Prix) combinations

(f) A team of 3 (Three) can be composed of the following combinations:-

(i) 3 (three) Small Tour (St. George) combinations.

(ii) 2 (two) Small Tour (St. George)/ 1 (one) Big Tour (Grand Prix) combinations.

(iii) 1 (one) Small Tour (St. George)/ 2 (two) Big Tour (Grand Prix) combinations.

(g) **Tests**. There will be two tests according to the technical level of participating combinations:-

(i) **Tests Small Tour**. The FEI Prix St. George/ the FEI Intermediate I/ the FEI Intermediate I Freestyle.

(ii) **Tests Big Tour**. The FEI Grand Prix/ the FEI Grand Prix Special/ the FEI Grand Prix Freestyle.

5. **Dates and Format**

(a) A set of selection trials for selecting Team of each of the three disciplines for participation in the 20th Asian Games will be conducted under the aegis of the EFI between 01 December 2025 and 31 July 2026 as per technical standards for qualification. The cut-off date for conclusion of trials has been set as 31 July 2026 based on the lead time required for veterinary protocols, movement of horses to training facilities abroad, foreign exposure in the form of final selection trials and their further movement to the venue of the championships including PEQ.

(b) In case of any change in technical standards / other protocols/ schedule by the OC of the 20th Asian Games, the criteria for selection of the Indian team will be revised accordingly by the EFI and intimated to all concerned participating in the selection trials. Also, in case 20th Asian Games is delayed by six months from the current proposed date then fresh trials shall be conducted for the Indian Equestrian Contingent to take part in the said championship.

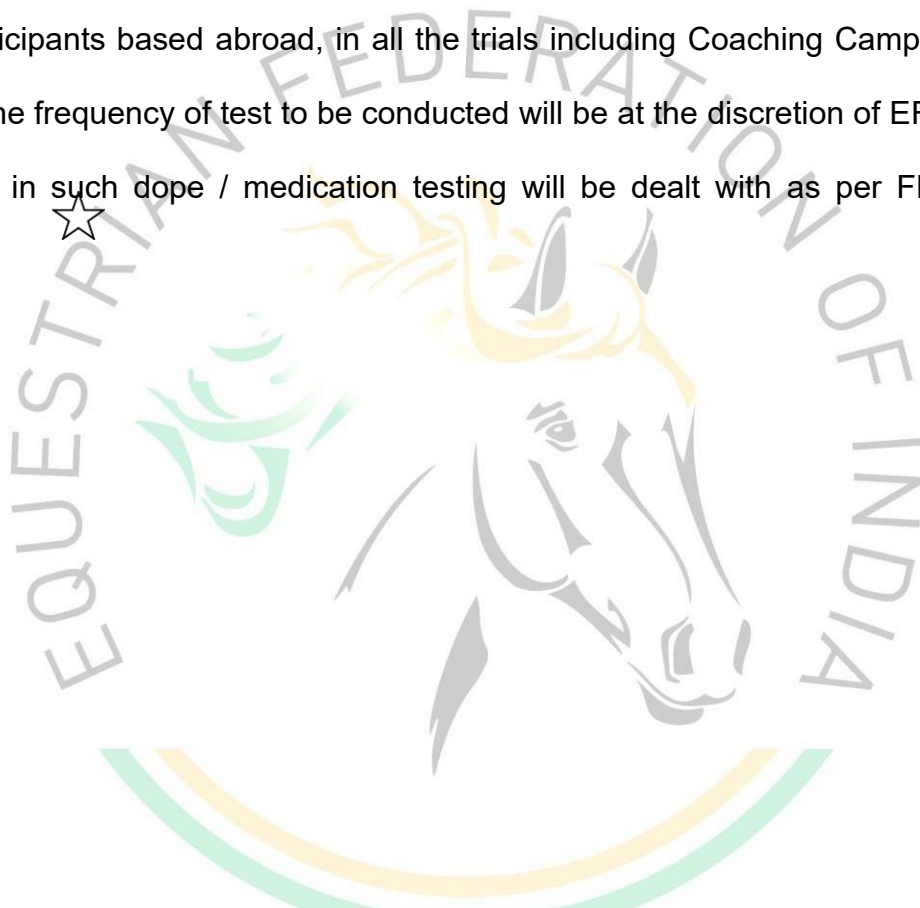
(c) Riders based abroad will be required to participate in FEI competitions as approved by EFI, meeting the standards and specifications laid down by the OC of the 20th Asian Games for Dressage, Show Jumping and Eventing.

6. **Conduct of Trials**

(a) During the period 01 December 2025 to 31 July 2026, a horse-rider combination can participate in three competitions in order to achieve the qualifying scores. Minimum Eligibility Requirements (MER) should have been met by the horse-rider combination which will be counted towards preparation of the comparative merit for selection of probables.

(b) A maximum of six horse rider combinations to be called 'Probables' shall be selected per discipline (Dressage, Eventing and Show Jumping). These six horse-riders combinations per discipline will be selected based on the comparative merit of the horse-rider combination having the least cumulative penalties in Eventing and Show Jumping, and the most cumulative score in Dressage in atleast one trial in which they have attained MER. The process of drawing up the merit list is elucidated in paragraph 33.

7. **Anti-doping Protocols and Medication Controls**. These will apply to all riders and horses including those participants based abroad, in all the trials including Coaching Camps for 20th Asian Games. However, the frequency of test to be conducted will be at the discretion of EFI. Any horse or rider found positive in such dope / medication testing will be dealt with as per FEI rules on the subject.



8. **Eligibility.** Eligibility conditions for riders and horses for participation in the Asian Games and Selection Trials are as given below:-

(a)	<u>Nationality of riders.</u>	A rider must be a citizen of India. He / she should not be disqualified from holding a passport of the Republic of India.
(b)	<u>Minimum age requirement of riders.</u>	<p>Dressage : Rider should reach birthday 16th in 2026.</p> <p>Show Jumping : Rider should reach 18th & Eventing birthday in 2026.</p>
(c)	<u>Minimum age requirement of Horses.</u>	
	(i) Eventing	06 years and above as on 01 Jan 2025 are eligible (born in 2019 or before).
	(ii) <u>Dressage</u>	07 years and above as on 01 Jan 2025 are eligible (born in 2018 or before).
	(iii) <u>Show Jumping</u>	07 years and above as on 01 Jan 2025 are eligible (born in 2018 or before).
(d)	(d) Horses and riders will follow the FEI age regulations in vogue for all competitions and are required to achieve MERs during this period to be considered for selection.	

Note :- ☆ **Subject to confirmation by the OC of 20th Asian Games.**

9. Horse and Rider Combination.

(a) For the purpose of selection for 20th Asian Games, the horse and rider as a combination will be considered in Stage-I of the selection process. Each horse-rider combination will be allowed to participate in three trials.

(b) A rider may participate in these trials in any discipline on more than one horse without any upper limit on the number of horses. However, at the end of Stage-I of the selection process a rider will be permitted only two horses in top six in the order of merit.

(c) In case there are a minimum of three combinations only in the list of probables as per the order of merit at the end of Stage-I then, each of these riders may be permitted a second horse but they need to score at least one MER stated in these Selection Criteria on his/her new horse at the first competition nominated by the EFI as final selection trials.

10. **Quarantine / Vaccination / Testing of Horses**. Horses shall be quarantined / vaccinated / tested in accordance with the quarantine / health protocols promulgated in consultation with FEI, by the Organizing Committee of Asian Games.

11. **Restrictions on Horses**

(a) There is no embargo on the number of horses a rider may compete on in each discipline and in each trial.

(b) A horse-rider combination is permitted to participate in only one discipline in any trial for the purpose of consideration for selection to the Indian Team.

(c) For the purpose of selection, horses nominated for a particular discipline (Dressage / Jumping / Eventing) in the first trial shall be allowed to participate only in that discipline in all remaining trials.

(d) In order to participate in the selection trials for the Eventing discipline (CCI3*- short format), the horse should be eligible to participate as per FEI guidelines.

(e) The nominated horse-rider combinations for Dressage, Show Jumping and Eventing discipline must intimate to the EFI at least fifteen days prior to the date of the veterinary inspection of each trial at the competitions nominated by EFI for their participation both in India and abroad.

12. **Conflict of Interest**

(a) Any person with conflict of interest must not be a part of any selection / appointment that could influence selection as per Appendix 3 of FEI Internal Regulation, Article 013, Chapter IV of statutes of EFI and relevant rules as laid down by the FEI for other events / disciplines.

(b) Athletes participating in trials abroad are not permitted to participate in events to be considered as their nominated entries for any discipline in which any judge / official is an Indian.

TECHNICAL STANDARDS FOR SELECTION QUALIFIERS / TRIALS
IN INDIA AND ABROAD

Dressage (Team & Individual)

13. All participants competing in the Dressage discipline are required to participate in all three tests (Prix St Georges, Intermediate-I and Intermediate Free Style to Music) progressively in each trial abroad in case they achieve the minimum standards laid down for each test. For riders based abroad, in case the competitions do not have any one or two of these three tests, they may participate in these tests in other competitions to acquire MERs for the Team or Individual categories. For an individual / team selection, a horse-rider combination may participate in three trials to be conducted as FEI CDI competitions to be held abroad. A horse-rider combination will only be considered for selection if they achieve atleast one laid down MER as per Selection Criteria for either Team or Individual category as elucidated below.

14. The test for selection of Dressage Team will be Prix St-Georges (Test). For consideration for selection to the team, a rider will have to score a minimum of 66% marks in atleast one selection trial as the MER. Best scores achieved in three trials held wef 01 December 2025 to 31 July 2026 in which MERs have been achieved will be counted towards the computation of relative merit.

Note :- The horse –rider combination need to complete in both Inter-I & Inter-I FS to Music after PSG test or else the scores will not be counted towards MER.

15. The tests for selection for Dressage Individual will be Prix St. Georges, Intermediate - I and Intermediate Freestyle to Music. In order to qualify for selection as an individual entry, a combination must:-

(a) Compete in the Dressage Team event and complete the Prix St. Georges dressage test in atleast one selection trials.

(b) Compete in the Intermediate – I test and score 69% marks or more in at least one selection trial.

(c) Compete in Intermediate Freestyle to Music and score 69% or more marks in atleast one selection trials as the MER.

Note : To achieve the individual MER, the horse –rider combination need to participate in both Inter-I & Inter-I FS to Music and achieve the requisite MER in both categories or else the scores will not be counted towards MER.

16. **Number of Riders**

(a) The total number of riders for Dressage Team category can be three or four and all members of the Team Event will also be fielded for the Individual Event in the 20th Asian Games. Hence it is mandatory to participate in both Inter-I & Inter-I FS Music events commensurating with the number of Team MERs achieved. However, in case at least three riders do not qualify for selection to the Dressage Team and therefore, it is not possible to field a team, the horse-rider combination(s) that has / have achieved the MER laid down for Individual event may be fielded as individual entry(s) in the 20th Asian Games provided they competed and completed PSG event.

(b) While considering the composition of a team, all riders who have attained MERs in individual category will be placed higher in merit over those who have attained MERs in the Team Event only, or even if they have not achieved MER in team events.

17. For selection trials for abroad, the composition of jury will be as under:-

(a)	Prix St-Georges (Test)	-	As per FEI Dressage Rule
(b)	Intermediate-I (Test)	-	
(c)	Intermediate-I Free Style to Music (Test)	-	

Show Jumping (Team & Individual)

18. The conditions governing selection trials for Show Jumping (Team and Individual) will be as given below:-

- (a) EFI will conduct a set of three CSN competitions in India of same technical standard as that of 20th Asian Games. Riders based abroad are required to participate in competitions as per calendar / events schedule issued by FEI as per their choice. Such athletes should approach the EFI to intimate, where they wish to participate, consisting of similar technical standards as given in these selection criteria.
- (b) It is at the discretion of the FEI level CD to plan the course as per technical standards at Para 4 (b) above, to maintain parity between trials conducted as CSN in India and FEI CSI for riders based abroad.
- (c) In case, it is not possible to form a team of three or four riders for the 20th Asian Games, and if any horse-rider combination is to be considered for selection in individual category, they are required to have acquired at least one MER for individual category.
- (d) While considering the composition of the team, all riders who have attained MERs in individual events will be placed higher in merit even if they may not have achieved MERs in the team category. However, the number of MERs achieved in each category i.e. Individual / Team will be deciding factor for order of merit wherein individual MER will be consider higher in case they have no team MER.

19. **MERs for Show Jumping**

(a) **Team.** To qualify for selection as a team entry, a horse-rider combination should not have incurred more than eight penalties in total (including time penalties) in a one-round at 1.45m and another at 1.50m competitions respectively on two consecutive days as far as possible. At least one MER is required to be counted towards selection as probables and more than one MER for order of merit for selection of probables.

(b) **Individual.** To qualify for selection as an individual entry, a horse-rider combination should not have incurred not more than twelve penalties in total (including time penalties) in a one-round competition at 1.50m and another at 1.55m competitions respectively on two consecutive days as far as possible. At least one MER is required to be counted towards selection as probable and more than one MER for order of merit for selection of probables.

(c) For the purpose of assessment of MERs and for computation of relative merit, the system of calculation of time penalties will be as per the revised FEI rule on time penalties effective wef 01 January 2022 will be taken into consideration (at the rate of one penalty for each commenced seconds in excess of time allowed).

20. All the selection trials in India and abroad will be held under the following officials: -

- (a) Jury
 - (b) Technical Delegate (TD)
 - (c) Chief Steward
 - (d) Course Designer
- As per FEI Jumping Rules.

Eventing (Team & Individual)

21. A total of three trials in the Eventing discipline will be conducted and a horse-rider combination is required to meet the MER specified in Paragraph 23 below in at least one trial. The selection trials will be of FEI CCI3* (short) level. Due to paucity of time and limited number of competitions available for competitors based abroad, Dressage Test 'A'/'B'/'C'/'D' will apply for the purpose of the trials. However, in India, all trials will be conducted with Dressage Test 'B'.

22. All the selection trials in India and abroad will be held under the following officials:-

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| (a) Jury | } | As per FEI Eventing Rules. |
| (b) Technical Delegate (TD) | | |
| (c) Chief Steward | | |
| (d) Course Designer | | |

23. **MER for Eventing**

(a) **Team.** A horse-rider combination should achieve at least one MER in FEI CCI3* (short). The horse-rider combination should not have incurred more than forty eight penalties towards selection in the team in at least one trial.

(b) **Individual.** A horse-rider combination should not have incurred more than thirty eight penalties in at least one trial, for consideration for selection as an individual entry.



(c) Since the total number of riders for Eventing team category can be a maximum of four riders, the contenders for team category will also be fielded for the individual category. However, in case at least two/ three riders do not qualify for the Eventing Team, and therefore, it is not possible to field a team, the horse-rider combination(s) that has / have achieved MER for the individual event will be fielded as individual entry(s).

GOVERNING CONDITIONS FOR RIDERS BASED ABROAD

24. Dressage, Show Jumping and Eventing

(a) Riders based abroad participating in selection trials must intimate the EFI by email at it's official address, their choices of three FEI competitions where they would be participating to be considered as trials.

(b) The horse-rider combination may participate in as many events abroad as they wish to but must intimate the EFI, a maximum of three FEI events nominated as selection trial competitions where they can participate. Results of these three competitions shall be taken into consideration for compiling the comparative merit wherein MER's have been achieved whether Individual/ Team. Such intimation of three choices shall be given to EFI fifteen days days prior to the date of the first veterinary inspection of each of the three nominated events in which the combination intends to participate. Only one competition in a venue will be permitted. The EFI will acknowledge the receipt of such communication through the same platform on which it has been received from the riders. The riders must ensure that they are in receipt of the acknowledgement from the EFI. The information regarding the nominated competitions for riders based abroad will be posted on the website of the EFI.

(c) In case any of the nominated FEI events get cancelled by the organizers / FEI, the rider will be required to nominate an alternate event (or events) from the FEI Calendar, fifteen days prior to the veterinary inspection of such trial(s) so that he / she can get an equal

platform to compete over three trials like other competitors. The same will be uploaded on the EFI website for information of all concerned.

(d) The events and venues should be listed on the FEI calendar and the level of competition must conform to the technical specifications / standards for selection qualifiers / trials in India and abroad as laid down in these criteria.

(e) A max three or a min of one best result from the trials in which MERs have been achieved, will be considered for selection to the list of Probables and preparation of order of merit.

25. **Communication with EFI.**

(a) **Results.** The results of a qualifier trial held abroad should be intimated on email, by the riders to the Secretariat of EFI within 24 hours of declaration of the results, for compilation of final results for selection. The EFI will acknowledge the receipt of such communication through the same platform on which it has been received from the riders. The riders must ensure that they are in receipt of the acknowledgement from the EFI. The results thus communicated will be verified by the EFI from the website of the FEI / Local NF / OC before compilation, for computation of comparative merit.

(b) **Other Matters.** Only the rider undergoing trials for 20th Asian Games is permitted to communicate with EFI preferably on email with respect to anything related with Selection Criteria and or the selection process.

26. **Criteria for Riders / Horses based Abroad.** The following criteria will be valid for selection of riders and horses based abroad :-

(a) Cutoff date for selection of probable riders and horses abroad will be same as for riders and horses in India i.e. 31 July 2026.

(b) The riders /horse owners will be required to strictly comply with all quarantine, veterinary / health protocols, requisite vaccinations and laboratory testing for specified diseases in OIE approved laboratories as per guidelines laid down by the OC of the 20th Asian Games host country and or FEI Veterinary Protocols.

(c) It shall be the sole responsibility of the rider to possess knowledge of the veterinary and quarantine rules / health protocols for the championship as applicable to the respective countries where they are based.

(d) The EFI will make efforts to facilitate all administrative requirements of riders based abroad through the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports in India. However, it will be the rider's responsibility to keep abreast with all the requirements and inform the Secretariat of the Federation well in advance for such facilitation.

(e) The EFI shall not be responsible for delays / non-submission of the entry of the rider(s) by the date specified if there is a failure on part of the rider(s) to submit by the due date, any information asked for by EFI, for whatever reasons. The riders must seek and obtain from the EFI, a confirmation of receipt of the information sent by them in case there is default on the part of the EFI in acknowledging their communication.

(f) MERs to be achieved by the riders based abroad will be same irrespective of their location.

Procedures for Assessment of Performance of Riders Based Abroad

27. Performance of horse-rider combinations based abroad will be critically monitored by the International coach appointed by Federation post Stage-1 of selection process.

28. The undermentioned conditions will apply to riders based abroad or to those desiring to be selected on horses taken on lease / being imported from abroad, for participating in selection for the 20th Asian Games for Team / Individual competitions of all disciplines: -

(a) No additional or exclusive trials for Show Jumping, Eventing and Dressage will be organized.

(b) Results of riders based abroad (for all three disciplines) will also be corroborated from the results on FEI's official authenticated website for the FEI competitions in addition to the communications received from riders.

(c) Copy of Passports of the horse and rider combination contending for selection must be sent at least fifteen days prior to the date of the veterinary inspection of each trial attempted by the combination, to the Secretariat of EFI by email and the same will put up on EFI's website for information of all concerned.

(d) A letter of consent signed by the owner / lessor of a foreign horse to include making necessary changes in the FEI passport of the horse as warranted by the OC of 20th Asian Games should be submitted to the EFI latest by 31 July 2026, or on a subsequent date that may be intimated by the EFI. The said letter of consent must

indicate the willingness of the owner / lessor to allow the horse to participate with its Indian rider, as an Indian Team or Individual entry in the 20th Asian Games. In the absence of such certificate, the entry of the horse-rider combination will be considered void.

(e) Anticipated expenses on freight from the present location of the horse to the venue of the 20th Asian Games and back are to be furnished to the Secretariat of EFI as and when asked for. This information is essential for seeking budgetary support for the Indian team from Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports.

(f) An FEI veterinarian's certificate to the effect that the horse is sound, free from infectious / contagious diseases and not having been administered any prohibited substances (as verified by a dope test) at the time of being considered towards selection, should be forwarded within two weeks of conclusion of the last trial. It will be the sole responsibility of the rider to ensure that the horse has been given the mandatory vaccinations based on veterinary protocols required by the host country, as per laid down schedules and guidelines in vogue.

29. Ordinarily, each Indian rider based abroad and selected to represent India at 20th Asian Games will be allowed to have one person accompanying him / her as a groom, to the venue of 20th Asian Games on Government of India expenses. This permission is subject to government approval.

**GENERAL PROCEDURES TO BE FOLLOWED FOR RIDERS BASED IN INDIA AND
ABROAD FOR SELECTION FOR 20TH ASIAN GAMES**

30. All riders intending to be considered for the selection trials shall submit an undertaking to the Secretariat of EFI before commencement of their first trial that they will abide by the selection criteria laid down by the EFI. A written undertaking as per **Appendix 'A'** to these instructions in this regard shall be communicated to the EFI before commencement of the first trial. In case of minors (aged between 16 and 18 years) participating in the trials, the undertaking of parents or guardians as per **Appendix 'B'** to these instructions should be communicated to the EFI before commencement of their first trial.

31. No additional/special competition or trial will be held any time before, during or after the scheduled trials. The presence of at least one member designated by EFI is mandatory at each of the trials to be held in India.

32. Once the entry is given for riders based in India or abroad, it will be considered as an attempt and will be counted as such unless cancelled by FEI or the OC. A written proof of the same should be sent to EFI within 48 hours of such notification.

33. The EFI is not be responsible for horses Ex-India are not permitted to travel to Japan being the host country of the games.

34. Order of Merit for Probables

(a) Only the horse-rider combinations that have achieved the laid down MER as per Selection Criteria laid down for the 20th Asian Games trials, will be considered for selection.

(b) Only penalties / scores attained in trials in which the horse-rider combinations have attained atleast one MER will be considered and will be added up to arrive the order of merit. At least one MER should have been acquired mandatorily in the set of trials to be held during the period from 01 December 2025 to 31 July 2026.

(c) If the horse selected as a horse-rider combination becomes unsound after selection for any reason, the combination standing next in merit will take its place. The original rider may not claim the same position in the list on a different horse unless that combination happens to be next in the order of merit on the list.

(d) Amongst riders having the same number of MERs, their relative merits will be decided based on the aggregate of scores / penalties. A rider with a higher cumulative score for Dressage or a lesser cumulative penalty for Show Jumping and Eventing, will be placed higher than the others.

(e) In the event of equality of MERs and scores in Dressage or penalties in Eventing, the merit will be decided as per FEI Rules. In case of Show Jumping, it will be decided on lesser cumulative penalties. In the event of equality in the penalties, the speeds of the second round of jumping in qualifying competitions (length of course divided by time taken) in which MER have been achieved will be considered. A horse-rider combination with higher average speed will be placed higher in merit.

(f) Riders who have attained MERs in Individual category will be placed higher in merit over those who have attained only team category MERs for Show Jumping and Dressage only, even if such riders may not have attained MERs at team level.

35. Based on the order of merit, a team consisting of a maximum six riders including reserves as set out above, will be selected for each discipline for further training under the aegis of the EFI. These riders will be trained in India or abroad as per availability of budget and other conditions, as determined by the EFI.

36. **Coaching Camps and Coaching.** Riders and horses selected following the trials may attend coaching camp(s) at designated locations and under the coaches organized by EFI. Dates for conduct of coaching camps will be notified by the EFI to the athletes concerned as soon as the details are finalized. With the permission of the EFI, riders may choose to train with their individual coaches based in India or abroad provided there is no additional financial burden on the EFI.

Selection of Final Teams for the 20th Asian Games

37. **Strength of Teams.** The final composition of the teams for the three disciplines to be fielded in the 20th Asian Games will be as follows:-

- | | | | | |
|-----|--------------|---|------------|---|
| (a) | Dressage | - | Team | : 03 or 04 riders. |
| | | | Individual | : Those who qualify as per Para 16. |
| | | | | |
| (b) | Show Jumping | - | Team | : 03 or 04 riders. |
| | | | Individual | : Those who qualify as per para 18 (c). |
| | | | | |
| (c) | Eventing | - | Team | : 03 or 04 riders. |
| | | | Individual | : Those who qualify as per para 23 (c). |

38. **Selection is Provisional.** All selected combinations in all the disciplines will be considered as 'Probables' till the EFI, in consultation with the nominated International coaches of each discipline, again reviews the entire selection process in term of Para 3 (a) above before submission of final entry for 20th Asian Games.

39. **Competitions during Training Period as final Selection Trials.** Horse-rider combinations selected as 'Probables' will be required to participate in one competition at venues to be decided and facilitated by the EFI to provide necessary competitive exposure, ensure maintenance of fitness, form and to enable the Selection Committee to take a call on the final order of merit, based on which the teams for the three disciplines will be finalized.
40. **Change of Horses.** In case a rider attain MER on different horses, only his/her top two horses shall be accepted in the list of six probables as per merit list at the end of Stage-I of the selection process. A rider in the top four positions may, in consultation with the coach, be allowed to switch his / her horse on which he / she has been placed in the top five positions on two horses.
41. **Selection of Manager / Chef d'Equipe.** The EFI will also select the Manager of the Indian Equestrian contingent based on competence, experience, exposure and knowledge of rules and regulations of the sport. The nominated person should be in a position to meet the administrative / managerial requirements of the Team. The manager is required to take on responsibilities immediately on declaration of Probables so that the riders and coaches are free to concentrate on training / competition. The manager will be attached with the team from the day of declaration of Probables to organize all administrative aspects right until the dispatch of the riders and horses to their respective destinations on completion of the 20th Asian Games.
42. **Questions not Addressed.** Any matter that has not been addressed in these criteria that may arise at any stage will be put up to the EFI for consideration. The decision taken by EFI will be considered final and binding.

43. **Grievance(s) / Dispute (s).** Any athlete(s) who has any grievance / dispute in the course of operation of this selection criteria till participation in 20th Asian Games should approach the appropriate committee notified by this Federation for relief / clarification. The decision of Federation will be final and binding.
44. **Rights to Make Amendments to the Selection Criteria.** EFI reserves all rights to make amendments to these Selection Criteria, should it become necessary, to do so under compelling circumstances.

Appendix 'A'

(Refers to Para 30 of the Selection Criteria)

**FORM OF CONSENT TO SELECTION CRITERIA: 20th ASIAN GAMES 2026,
AICHI, NAGOYA, JAPAN**

1. I, _____ (name of rider), son / daughter of _____, resident of _____ do hereby consent to being considered for selection by the Equestrian Federation of India, to the Indian equestrian team for the 20th Asian Games.

2. In giving this undertaking for selection to the national team, I affirm my commitment to abide by the terms and conditions governing the selection and participation in the said 20th Asian Games as have been laid down by the FEI, EFI and other bodies governing the sport. Further, I fully understand and acknowledge the following :-

(a) I have been provided with, or have been given access to the selection criteria for various disciplines, of the EFI for the selection of riders for 20th Asian Games laid down in the Selection Criteria and agree to abide by and be bound by the statutes.

(b) Based on technical / administrative / veterinary, similar or other conditions, the selection criteria laid down by the EFI may be amended by the Federation to cater to changed circumstances. I shall continue to remain bound by the revised EFI selection criteria.

(c) Selection criteria for every discipline and amendments to the same, if any, will be posted on the website of the EFI for public attention.

(d) The decision on nomination of competitors to the national team and their selection as the main or reserve participants will be taken by the EFI in consultation with the coach for the concerned discipline, based on the laid down criteria, the outcome of the selection trials and performance in the coaching camps that will follow the announcement of the probable athletes.

(e) The decision to send all or a part of the selected team will be at the discretion of the EFI. The decision not to send a team to the 20th Asian Games too, if it so feels, shall also rest with the EFI.

(f) My nomination as one of the Probables is not a guarantee of my participation in the 20th Asian Games and such participation shall be subject to my meeting the necessary criteria and at the discretion of the EFI.

3. I undertake not to engage in any manner of conduct by an act or omission, whether before or after my nomination to the national team, which will or is likely to bring me or my sport into disrepute or censure. I shall refrain from doing anything which is or is likely to be inconsistent with, contrary to or prejudicial to the best interests, image or values of the EFI and the sport.

4. I will not, at any time (whether before or after my selection), indulge in any activity that may result in my conviction for or being charged with, any serious offence involving violence, alcohol, drugs, or any sex offence, racism, or any offence relating to any betting or gambling activities of any nature, or otherwise for any offence which is punishable under the laws of the land.

5. I have so far done and will continue to honestly and fully disclose information to EFI and the concerned authorities, about any conduct that might be in breach of any of the provisions given in paragraphs 3 and 4 above or concerning any criminal offence of whatever nature, with which I have been charged, or of which I have been convicted, whether in India or abroad.

6. I accord my consent to EFI and to relevant authorities for conducting inquiries to ascertain my antecedents and to obtain details relating to my criminal records, if any, details of any charges pending or any past convictions required to be disclosed by law. I hereby give my consent to those authorities providing to the EFI any information in answer to such inquiries.

7. I understand that in any matter relating to any of the provisions given herein, the EFI has the full right and authority to take cognizance of or to excuse any transgressions of minor nature in its sole and absolute discretion.

8, **Disclosure**

(Please provide details if there are any matters to be disclosed in respect of paras 1 to 6 of the Form of Consent to Selection Criteria: 20th Asian Games).

9. My contact details are : -

Address :

 Mobile and WhatsApp Nos :
 Email :

10. I will notify EFI in writing of any change in the above contact details. Any failure by me to advise EFI in informing of a change in my contact details may be to my detriment. Any announcement to be made or notice required to be sent relating to the selection criteria may be sent on the abovementioned details.

Signed at _____ (place) this _____ day of _____, 20....., in the presence of the following witnesses.

(
Name of competitor)

(Witness No 1)		(Witness No 2)	
Name	:	Name	:
Address	:	Address	:
	:		:
	:		:
Mob No	:	Mob No	:
Date	:	Date	:

Appendix 'B'

(Refers to Para 30 of the Selection Criteria)

FORM OF UNDERTAKING BY PARENTS / GUARDIANS FOR MINORS FOR CONSIDERATION TO BE SELECTED FOR THE NATIONAL EQUESTRIAN TEAM FOR THE 20th ASIAN GAMES 2026, AICHI, NAGOYA, JAPAN
WEF 19 SEPTEMBER TO 04 OCTOBER 2026

1. I, _____, son / daughter of _____ resident of _____ am the parent / guardian of _____ (name of the rider). I have read the terms and conditions relating to the selection of the national team by the EFI for participation in the 20th Asian Games and confirm the following: -

(a) The above named rider is under the age of 18 years as on the date of signing this form of consent.

(b) I have read and understood the Selection Criteria applicable to the various disciplines of equestrian events for selection of the Indian equestrian team for the 20th Asian Games. I have read out and fully explained to the rider, all terms and conditions given in the selection criteria. To this end, I have obtained independent advice as to the selection criteria in order to clarify any doubts or concerns I / we may have had in this regard.

(c) The rider has read the selection criteria and, together with the benefit of my full explanation, understands their meaning and effect. The selection criteria have been framed for providing a standard and unambiguous qualitative requirement applicable across the board for all riders vying for a position in the nation equestrian team.

(d) The rider's eligibility for being considered for nomination by the EFI for selection

(e) to the Indian equestrian team may cease in the event of any breach of any of the selection criteria and statutes relating to discipline.

2. I hereby confirm that I have read out and explained to the aforementioned rider, the terms and conditions of selection and participation of the national equestrian team in the 20th Asian Games, and he / she agrees to abide with them.

Signed at _____ (place) this _____ day of _____, in the presence of the following witnesses.

Signature _____
(_____)
Name of competitor
Mobile Number: _____

Signature _____
(_____)
Name of parent / guardian
Mobile Number: _____

(Witness No 1)
Name :
Address :
.....
.....
Mob No :
Date :

(Witness No 2)
Name :
Address :
.....
.....
Mob No :
Date :