

July 6th 2024



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Paris 2024 Olympic Games French Equestrian Federation announces Olympic team selections

Following the validation of the French National Olympic and Sports Committee (CNOSF), Serge Lecomte, President of the French Equestrian Federation and Sophie Dubourg, National Technical Director, announce the list of riders and horses selected to represent France during the Paris Olympic Games from 26 July to 6 August.

Serge Lecomte, President of the FFE

"I applaud the commitment of all the riders and owners who have banded together for the French team for several years. It is thanks to this collaborative that the French team is stronger. Our athletes are committed to doing well this summer in Versailles and they have our confidence to represent French equestrianism in an exemplary manner. »

Sophie Dubourg, National Technical Director

"This year the Games will be intense over 15 days, and that includes 12 days of competition for the Olympic Games. We are keen to show the best of our sport in the arena at Versailles. We are counting on the support of the public and licensees, present on site and remote, to support and encourage our Olympic and Paralympic teams in all four disciplines. On the 16th next July, we will bring together all those selected, the horse owners, the grooms and the staff for a day of conviviality. It's the perfect opportunity to bring together this beautiful, unified and strong French team before entering the heart of the competition."



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EVENTING TEAM

Following the choice made by the national coach Thierry Touzaint and the federal sports management team, the French combinations selected for the Paris 2024 Olympic Games in Eventing are:

In alphabetical order :

<u>Karim Laghouag</u>, 49 years old - Nogent le Rotrou (28) & Triton Fontaine, Selle Français gelding - 17 years old, owned by Philippe Lemoine, Guy Bessat, Sarl Ecurie Karim Laghouag and Camille Laffite. Breeder: Sophie Pelissier Coutureau Groom: Coraline Radigue

<u>Stéphane Landois</u>, 30 years old - Salles sur Mer (17) & Chaman Dumontceau*Ride for Thaïs, Selle Français gelding – 12 years, owned by the S.C.E.A. Blue Cherry Stable. Breeder: Earl Ecurie du Montceau. Groom: Marine Renault

<u>Nicolas Touzaint</u>, 44 years old - Becon les Granits (49) & Diabolo Menthe, Selle Français gelding - 11 years old, owned by Mézard Sports and Françoise Niclaus. Breeder: Laetitia de Moustier. Groom: Aure Coulange

Réserviste :

<u>Gireg Le Coz</u>, 35 years old - Feneu (49) & Aisprit de la Loge, Selle Français gelding - 14 years old, owned by Frédérique and Augustin Grand. Breeder: Scea Elevage de la Loge Groom: Marion Rodde

Quotes:

Thierry Touzaint, National Coach:

"For me it's a logical selection compared to past seasons. I picked riders who have good potential and show consistency. We have a lot of horses in good shape this year, the choice was not easy, but I think that these are currently the combinations in the best shape and most able to defend our chances at Versailles. We have two experienced riders with equally experienced horses. The other two are younger but they are reliable, with horses on the rise, and that had a very good European Championship last year. Whatever happens the goal is to win a medal. We have a squad that is capable of it. We will not be alone in competition; the result will also depend on other nations. There are all the unforeseen events of sport, and this makes us all equal, the slightest error will be crippling. On paper, if everyone performs at their value, we can hope to get on the podium. Our goal is always and above all to perform as a team. If an individual medal were to emerge in addition, it would be the icing on the cake. »

Michel Asseray, Discipline Director:

"The selections are always a difficult moment. You must make a choice when building a team for a big event. We would have liked to bring more combinations but with this Olympic format, we are only allowed three combinations and a reserve. We think we have selected the combinations who are currently in the best form. We have two riders experienced in the Olympic Games and two younger people who will discover the greatness of the Games but have already cut their teeth at the European Championships. Personally, I am very happy to have two riders in the selection who come from the French National Training Facility in Saumur, which comes under the FFE. This is great recognition of their work and the quality of the training and the support they received at the start of their career. I am also very happy for French breeding which is very well represented with four Selle Français horses born and bred in France in the team. We will do everything possible to build a mentally and technically strong team during the training preparation camp. We are looking ahead at Versailles now and we dream of winning a team medal in front of our home crowd."



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DRESSAGE

Following the choice made by the national coach Jean Morel and the federal sports management team, the French combinations selected for the Paris 2024 Olympic Games in Dressage are:

In alphabetical order : <u>Alexandre Ayache</u>, 41 years old - Lantosque (06) & Holmevangs Jolene, Danish Warmblood mare - 12 years old, owned of Abdulkarim Barake and his rider. Breeder: Tove Lund Bovbjerg Groom: Olga Guseva

<u>Pauline Basquin</u>, 45 years old - Saumur (49) & Sertorius de Rima Z*IFCE, Zangersheide gelding - 14 years old, owned by the French Institute of Horses and Equestrianism. Births: Marine Ferté and Jean-Marie Martin. Groom: Rodrigue Guyon

<u>Corentin Pottier</u>, 30 years old - Pamfou (77) & Gotilas du Feuillard, KWPN gelding - 13 years old, owned by Hervé and Maryse Potter. Breeder: Unlimited Stables Groom: Livie Lamaury

Réserviste

<u>Anne-Sophie Serre</u>, 47 years old - Arles (13) & Jibraltar de Massa, male Portuguese sport horse - 10 years old, owned by Sarl Serre Dressage and Mathilde Juglaret. Breeder: Sylvain Massa Groom: Carla Arnaud

Quotes :

Jean Morel, National Coach

"We focused on the three combinations who have shown the most consistency with good results over the last two years. We are committed to forming a true team spirit because we know that we will only be able to perform if everyone gives 100% for the team. Everyone will need to give their best without taking unnecessary risks, in the hope of entering the team final. We are proud of this team, and we are keen to show the good work that has been done in recent years with the French team. This selection was validated on July 1 by the Selection Council who listened to us and with whom we had very interesting and constructive discussions. »

Laurent Gallice, Discipline Director

"For two years we have done a lot of work with the riders. We placed emphasis on longitudinal veterinary monitoring horses and sports monitoring. For this last stage, we encouraged the combinations to participate in more competitions and we analysed the performances in detail. We favoured combinations with scores consolidated by all the judges. We worked on the well-being of the horses thanks to data collected with the IFCE. For example: pressure sensors on the saddle pad to determine the adjustment of the equipment and the position of the riders for the comfort of their horses. The entire staff will be present at Versailles to put the riders in the best psychological, physical and mental condition, along with the support of a mental coach who has also been following us for several months. We will spend nine days on the Olympic site, so this is not trivial. These riders are all very active, they are used to riding several horses per day. In Versailles, we will have to keep them busy to keep them calm and focused on the objective. »



Communiqué FFE, le 6 juillet 2024

JUMPING

Following the choice made by national coach Henk Nooren and the federal sports management team, the French combinations selected for the Paris 2024 Olympic Games in show jumping are:

In alphabetical order : <u>Simon Delestre</u>, 43 years old - Solgne (57) & I Amelusina R 51, KWPN male - 11 years old, owned by SA M.S.H, Pascale Bliscaux and Philippe Berthol. Breeder: Stal Roelofs. Groom: Margaux Guilluy

<u>Julien Epaillard</u>, 47 years old - Le Pré d'Auge (14) & Dubai du Cèdre, Selle Français mare - 11 years old, owned by Sarl Exceptional Horses S.L., Sylvains Pitois and Perrine Cateline. Births: Sylvain Pitois and Perrine Cateline. Groom: Caroline Belouet

<u>Olivier Perreau</u>, 38 years old - Roanne (42) & Dorai d'Aiguilly*GL Events, Selle Français mare - 11 years old, owned by Ecurie Perreau et fils and Emilie Perreau. Breeder: Ecurie Perreau et fils. Groom: Coraline Michaud

<u>Kevin Staut</u>, 43 years old - Pennedepie (14) & Viking d'la Rousserie, Selle Français gelding - 15 years old, owned by S.A.S. Finegal. Breeder: Michel Roger. Groom: Mathilde Schmidt

Quotes :

Henk Nooren, National Coach

"We chose the most experienced combinations because we know that the pressure will be great at the Paris Olympic Games. With the format of three horse and rider combinations, without the "drop score, we will not be allowed to make any mistakes, we will have to be right in the game from the first day of competition. We had detailed discussion on Monday during the Selection Council with elected officials from the FFE and the discipline experts. The discussions were very pleasant, and they validated our selection choice. It's a good thing to see that everyone agrees. Our first objective is really to win a team medal. And we have combinations who are more than capable of securing an individual. »

Sophie Dubourg, Discipline Director

"It's an experienced team with two riders who have already competed in the Olympic Games and two for whom it will be their first participation, but who also have experience in the biggest competitions in the world. All riders are very competitive and know how to handle pressure. There is a real professional and friendly mutual assistance between the riders and a great trust with the staff, both in terms of technique and veterinary monitoring of the horses. We have high ambitions both the team and the individual and we believe that the tremendous cohesion of the group will really support us. »



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Press Day 16 Juillet 2024 - Saint Martin de Bréhal (50).

The French Equestrian Federation invites journalists to come and meet the horse & rider combinations selected for the Olympic and Paralympic Games during a press day Tuesday July 16, 2024:

Provisional program

Ecuries des Salines: 3 rue des Salines 50290 Bréhal

From 9 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.: Individual riding sessions for Eventing riders with federal staff + possibility to do interviews after sessions.

Gabriel Lefranc Racecourse: Avenue de l'hippodrome 50290 Bréhal

12 p.m.: Press briefing in the presence of the President of the FFE Serge Lecomte and the National Technical Director Sophie Dubourg, head of mission for the 2024 Paris Games.

- Federal support system and medal objectives.
- Team planning before arriving at the competition site in Versailles.
- 12:30 p.m.: Self-service lunch buffet

From 1 p.m.: Arrival of Dressage, Show Jumping and Para Dressage riders — Mixed zone and interview pool

4:30 p.m.: End of the press day and departure of the journalists.

Press day accreditation

Download the press kit

Royalty-free photos of selected couples

Watch the video announcing the selections

Contact presse

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