



Qualifying Standards and Eligibility Policy: World Clubs Tournament 2026

1. Purpose

This policy establishes the minimum eligibility requirements for riders and horses seeking to represent **Equestrian Bahamas** at the **World Clubs Tournament 2026**. The standards ensure fairness, safety, and competitive readiness while supporting the development of Bahamian equestrian sport.

2. General Eligibility Requirements

2.1 Membership Status

- Riders must hold **current, active membership** with Equestrian Bahamas (EB).
- Riders must be in **good standing**, with no outstanding disciplinary actions, unpaid fees, or unresolved sanctions.

2.2 Riding classification

- Riders competing at 1.10m and above in National classes are ineligible for participation.
- Riders who have competed in FEI competitions are ineligible for participation.
- Riding instructors are ineligible for participation.

2.3 Nationality / Representation

- Riders must be **citizens** of The Bahamas or holders of **Permanent Residency status** for a minimum of **two (2) years**.
 - Proof of nationality/status must be submitted with the application.
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3. Competition Qualification Standards

3.1 Minimum Participation

To be considered for selection riders must have or will be required to:

- Competed on a borrowed horse in at least two (2) competitions sanctioned by EB, any FEI NF, CEA, Grand Caraiibe, USEF, EC, IHSA, IEA or other sanctioning body, provided that body is approved by EB.

- Complete the required **qualifying rounds** in their intended division.
- Participate in a **mandatory training session** with **Coach Rai Burch**, whether at his Ocala riding facility (such training to be scheduled late June/early July 2026) or in such other place and time as will be designated by EB.

3.2 Performance Standards

Riders must demonstrate consistent performance at or above the minimum standard for their division. (For example: Completion of a 0.95-1.00m course with no more than 8 faults)

Final standards may be adjusted based on Tournament requirements or Coach assessment

4. Safety & Welfare Requirements

4.1 Equipment Compliance

- Approved helmets and protective vests are mandatory during all mounted activities.

4.2 Conduct & Sportsmanship

- Riders, parents, and trainers must adhere to the **EB Code of Conduct**.
- Violations may result in disqualification from consideration.

4.3 Anti-Doping Requirements

- Athletes must register with the Bahamas Anti-Doping Commission
 - Athletes must complete online ADEL/WADA training
 - Athletes must comply with any applicable requirements with respect to Therapeutic Use Exemptions (TUEs)
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5. Documentation Requirements

All applicants must submit:

- Completed Expression of Interest for FFE World Clubs Tournament 2026
- Proof of age and nationality

Incomplete applications will not be considered.

6. Selection Process

6.1 Review Panel

Applications will be evaluated by the **Equestrian Bahamas Selection Committee**, which may include:

- EB President or delegate
- Team Coach

- Discipline-specific technical advisors

6.2 Selection Criteria

Selections will be based on:

- Meeting all minimum eligibility standards
- Demonstrated consistency and sportsmanship
- Horse–rider combination suitability
- Readiness for international competition

6.3 Final Approval

Final team selections will be announced no later than **June 1, 2026**.

7. Appeals

Riders may submit a written appeal within **7 days** of receiving a non-selection notice. Appeals will be reviewed according to EB's established appeals procedures.

8. Amendments

Equestrian Bahamas reserves the right to amend these standards in response to:

- FEI/FFE rule changes
- Tournament requirements
- National Federation considerations

Any amendments will be communicated promptly to all members.
