

Welsh Endurance Team

Would you like to be a member of a team representing your country in endurance riding?

The Welsh Endurance Team (WET) Selectors are looking for riders for the Home International and Celtic Challenge teams 2018.

Each year WET sends one team to compete in the "Celtic Challenge" (all home nations except England) and one in the "Home International" (all home nations). Each team includes riders from novice to experienced levels.

In 2018, Scotland play host with the competitions scheduled to take place in the beautiful setting of Brodie Castle over the weekend of 17th 18th and 19th August. WET is looking for riders that would like to be considered for the teams.

It is a long way to go and requires a lot of commitment and hard work from those that will travel. Next year Wales play host, so it is only fair that the selected team that travels to Scotland will be given priority selection (subject to fitness and meeting the minimum criteria below) for the home venue at Red Dragon in 2019.

We need team players, horse and riders that travel well, able to perform at the appropriate level, to produce their mount at an appropriate level of fitness and to make the team success their top priority. The emphasis on the course is getting successful completions, not necessarily high grades. A team that can get all 12 riders around the course successfully is likely to win.

It is particularly difficult to find a novice horse/ novice rider combination, so please don't let inexperience put you off applying for a place!

Qualification for a Place on the Team

1. Riders must have been born in Wales or have lived in Wales for the last 12 months.
2. For distances of 80km or under at least 5 graded endurance rides should be completed successfully in the 12 months prior to the competition and at least 1 must be of a qualifying distance.
3. In the case of the positions for 160km and 120km - 2 qualifying rides are required. (Qualifying distance shown in table below). These rides may be completed at any competitive endurance ride.

Home International Competition

Competition Distance	Qualifying Distance	Minimum number of rides
1 x 160km over 2 days	80km	2
1 x 120km over 2 days	80km	2

Welsh Endurance Team

Chef d'Equipe: Steve Smith, 24 Heol Y Pentre, Pentyrch, Cardiff CF24 1GG

Tel: 07890 267238

E: steve.smith@linc-cymru.co.uk

1 x 80km ER 1 day	80km	5
1 x 80km over 2 days	64km	5
1 x Novice 40km 1 day	40km No Ride over 48km	5
1 x Junior 48 km 1 day	48km	5

Celtic Challenge Competition

Competition Distance	Qualifying Distance	Minimum number of rides
1 x 160km over 2 days	80km	2
1 x 80km ER 1 day	80km	2
1 x 80km over 2 days	64km	5
1 x 80km over 2 days Junior	64km	5
1 x Novice (Horse) 40km 1 day	40km No Ride over 48km	5
1 x Novice - 48 km 1 day	48km 1 day	5

Riders wishing to be considered for the teams must complete the attached form and send to the Chef d'Equipe by the end of 14

th April 2018. (steve.smith@linc-cymru.co.uk)

Riders should be prepared to ride if selected (they should be actively building fitness towards the event and have ensured that they are available for the event dates.)

They are to notify selectors immediately if any circumstances change and they (or their horse) become unavailable for selection.

If more applications are made than team places available then some riders may be asked to act as reserves and selection may involve:-

1. Consideration of the horse and rider combination best meeting the criteria set out in 1 – 4 above.
2. Consideration of the log books of each horse being considered. Preference will be given to successful completions and consistently low heart rates for riders being considered for GER rides.
3. Consideration of the history of the horse and rider combination in previous years.

Riders with more than one horse

Riders who wish to use a 'back-up' horse should put the names of all their potential horses forward.

Should the specified horse become unavailable, then that rider's second horse does not automatically take the first horse's place. (It may do so, but if a reserve combination is preferable then the selectors may take that choice.)

The selectors reserve the right to approach other riders with good results who have not put their names forward if this is demonstrably in the best interests of the team.

When will teams be selected?

Selections for the longer distances (120km and 160km) will be made by the middle of May. Selection of the full team (and 2 travelling reserves) will be completed by the middle of June.

Funding for Team Members

The cost of sending the team to Scotland is approximately £5500 (travel, entry and kit for 14 riders and 14 crew plus 2 reserves) but excluding accommodation and food – camping and BBQs/Takeaways are the norm).

We are trying to make sure that finance is not a barrier to the best team being picked so we are already approaching potential sponsors and will be approaching the Welsh Endurance Groups to assist with fund raising.

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Team members should be prepared to assist with fund raising where possible and should anybody know of any potential sponsors please contact the chef.

The more funding that is raised the less that team members will be asked to contribute!

Good Luck for the Season

Steve

