



## United States Equestrian Federation, Inc.

*The National Governing Body for Equestrian Sport*

### High Performance

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#### **Mission:**

The Developing Driver Program has been established to provide supplemental training opportunities for American combined drivers that have demonstrated a commitment to the goal of competing at the USEF/FEI level. This program seeks to assist combined drivers that are in the pursuit of competitive excellence. The objective of this program is to increase the number of drivers and their horses/ponies competing at high performance levels therefore developing the drivers that may be future International competitors.

#### **Eligible Athletes:**

Eligible drivers must be US Citizens and USEF members and have competed at or above the Preliminary level. Junior drivers that have demonstrated talent and dedication may be given special consideration. Drivers are encouraged to express their interest in participating by contacting the Director of Driving, Lizzy Staller, with a history of their competitive driving, goals for the future in the sport and a letter of recommendation sent to [estaller@usef.org](mailto:estaller@usef.org). Please be aware that you must do all communication for this program through the USEF Director of Driving. Applying for the Developing driver Program does not guarantee acceptance into it, the final decision for the invitations will come solely from the coaches. Once an application has been reviewed, athletes that qualify will receive an invitation to participate. This program requires an annual one-time \$35.00 application fee payable to the United States Equestrian Federation. Once accepted to participate in a clinic the clinicians, in consultation with the team coaches, will evaluate the driver to see if they show the potential to be kept in the program.

#### **Clinics & Clinicians:**

Clinics will be held in various locations allowing invited drivers to bring their horses/ponies for performance training.

Clinicians will be selected based on their knowledge and experience as a driver, instructor or trainer at the FEI level. Clinicians will conduct lessons for each driver and their horses/ponies which will be open for all participants to watch. This program also seeks to assist in developing the number of coaches fully qualified to train drivers and their horses/ponies at the USEF/FEI level.