



### **Introduction**

The purpose of the Equestrian WA High Performance Pathways is to assist talented combinations be selected to Australian National Squads.

All squads will be based on the General and Competition criteria as listed.

In selecting and assessing potential squad members, the WA State Selectors will source information from and consult with a range of suitable personnel with the appropriate expertise and knowledge.

The Squad for the following year is selected based upon results from the preceding six to twelve months, as reviewed by the Selection Panel. Combinations seen to be meeting the stated Competition and General Criteria will sent notification via post and, on behalf of the State Selection Panel, be invited to apply. Should the combination wish to be considered for selection, they then must return the application form, profile, and signed Athlete Agreement & Code of Conduct by the stated date to the Equestrian WA High Performance Manager (HPM). Current Squad riders will not be asked to reapply in writing, but will be invited to remain on the Squad should they continue to meet the stated criteria. All currently listed Squad riders must return the necessary documentation, as sent to them via post, by the stated closing date or will forfeit their position to the Squad. To maintain position on the Squad, members must continue to meet the general and competition criteria and will undergo performance reviews in January and June each year.

Combinations travelling Interstate or International for the purpose of training and/or competitions will be commended for their efforts, and should they continue to represent Equestrian WA at the standards required and will remain listed to the Squad. However, in their absence a reserve combination will be invited to attend training clinics & workshops. If there is an extended absence interstate or internationally with a Squad member training or competing, the State Selectors may nominate another combination to attend training clinics and workshops in their place on a consistent basis.

## General Criteria

Riders must meet the following criteria for inclusion on any WA State Squad.

- Rider must be a member of the Equestrian Federation of Australia and their horse must be registered with the Equestrian Federation of Australia
- The primary focus will be on combinations that have shown the ability or potential to represent W.A. at National level and at a high standard.
- All riders must sign the Athlete Agreement & Code of Conduct before inclusion in any Equestrian WA State Squad. Agreements must be signed and returned to the Equestrian WA Office before any combination will be named officially on any State Squad.
- Riders must have demonstrated fitness, rider experience, and ability to develop and maintain a consistent training program. They must have demonstrated that they are ready for a rigorous training program/preparation as required for successful competition.
- Horses must be sound and fit to compete. Riders and owners must be prepared to submit their horses for soundness and fitness assessments by an Equestrian WA appointed vet if requested.
- Should the selected combination (horse and/or rider) become unable to continue competition and training at any stage during which they are listed as a WA State Squad member, they must advise the WA High Performance Manager immediately
- Riders are encouraged to submit a competition and training development plan and meet with the State Selection Panel when requested as part of the Equestrian WA High Performance Pathways

## **Competition Criteria**

Combinations must meet the following Competition Criteria and listed General Criteria in order to secure a place on the Squad. **Only scores from C level judges and above will be considered for selection.**

### **Equestrian WA DRESSAGE STATE SQUAD COMPETITION CRITERIA**

- For combinations competing from Advanced to Grand Prix and with the goal of competing at a high standard at National level on a National Squad
- The horses will be in the age range of 7 to 11 years. In some circumstances the upper age limit may be extended at the discretion of the WA Dressage Selectors
- **Advanced:** minimum 2 scores of 62% or above
- **Prix St. George:** minimum 2 scores of 62% or above
- **Inter I, Inter II and Grand Prix:** minimum 2 scores of 60% or above

### **Equestrian WA DRESSAGE YOUNG RIDER SQUAD COMPETITION CRITERIA**

- For combinations competing from Novice level and above, showing potential to compete on a National Squad and/or be competitive at National level and thereby having potential for selection on the National Young Rider Squad
- Riders to be aged 16-21. Younger riders may be considered for inclusion, at the discretion of the WA Dressage Selectors
- Horses and ponies allowed; no age limit and no height restrictions
- **Novice:** minimum 2 scores of 64% or above
- **Elementary:** minimum 2 scores of 60% or above
- **Medium and above:** minimum 2 scores of 58% or above

### **Equestrian WA DRESSAGE DEVELOPMENT SQUAD COMPETITION CRITERIA**

- For combinations competing at Elementary level and above, showing potential to compete on a National Squad and/or potential to be competitive at National level and thereby having potential to be selected onto a National Dressage Squad
- Novice combinations may be considered for inclusion, at the discretion of the WA Dressage Selectors
- Horses to be no more than 11 years of age at time of selection, and must be over 149cm with shoes or 148cm without shoes
- **Elementary:** minimum 2 scores of 65% or above
- **Medium:** minimum 2 scores of 62% or above

### **Weightings**

- For all Squads, weightings will be used as follows:

**State and Indoor Championships 3 star – 1.06**

**Nationals/CDIs****4 star – 1.08**

- 3 performances over the required % should be achieved except for Inter II & Grand Prix combinations

***\*\* Should exceptional circumstance or performances occur, the Selection Panel retains the right to allow for their discretion to take precedent\*\****

## **Definitions**

### **WA High Performance Pathways**

The WA High Performance Pathways is based upon guidelines set by the Equestrian Australia National High Performance Programs. The High Performance Pathways aim to foster development of talented combinations through clinics & workshops, allowing each Squad rider every opportunity to reach higher levels in the sport of Equestrian

### **State Selection Panel**

The State Selection Panel is comprised of 3 members meeting the stated criteria and as appointed by the Equestrian WA High Performance Panel. The Equestrian WA HPM will be in attendance at all meetings pertaining to squad selections.

### **Combination**

Means a horse-and-rider combination currently training and competing

### **Training Clinics**

The Equestrian WA High Performance Manager, in consultation with the various Sport Committees and Selection Panels, arranges at least four Squad clinics to be held periodically throughout the training season. These clinics are coached by NCAS Accredited coaches with expertise in Eventing, Dressage, Jumping or Show Horse. Squad riders are also expected to attend High Performance Workshops as part of the program. All Squad combinations are expected to attend a minimum of 3 ridden training clinics and 2 workshops. Those who do not meet minimum attendance requirements will forfeit their position to the Squad

**Young Rider**

Riders must be classified as Young Riders according to FEI criteria: Annex IX Article 3

A person may compete as a Young Rider from the beginning of the calendar year in which he reaches the age of 16 until the end of the calendar year in which he reaches the age of 21.

**Nomination and Selection**

Combinations not currently listed to the Squad will be notified in writing via post and email (when applicable) that they have met General and Competition Criteria and will be invited to apply. To be considered, nominated riders must return the application form, profile document and signed Athlete Agreement and Code of Conduct.

Currently listed riders who continue to meet the stated General and Competition Criteria must return the signed profile document, Athlete Agreement and Code of Conduct by the stated date if they wish to maintain their position to the Squad. Reviews will be carried out in January and June each year; however should any horse or rider become unable to continue to meet the General or Competition Criteria for any reason they may forfeit their position to the Squad, at the discretion of the Selection Panel.

All successful or unsuccessful nominated combinations will be notified in writing no more than 3 weeks post closing date as stated in the nomination letter.