



AUSTRALIAN
EQUESTRIAN
TEAM

**2016 Australian Olympic Team
Equestrian Australia Nomination Criteria**
Eventing

1. Process

1.1 Shadow Team

- (a) Equestrian Australia (EA) will identify Athletes from within the Eventing discipline to be members of the Shadow Team. The Australian Olympic Committee (AOC) may recognise additional Athletes from within each of the equestrian disciplines to also be members of the Shadow Team.
- (b) In order to be identified on the Shadow Team, each Athlete must:
 - (i) be a member of the 2016 National High Performance Squads as selected by Equestrian Australia in accordance with the [Eventing High Performance Squad Criteria](#) and the process outlined in clause 3.1 below;
 - (ii) have provided the Consent to Shadow Team Membership Form (in the case of minors, the Parents/Guardians Acknowledgement for Minors Form) (Form 1, attached) electronically to the AOC; and
 - (iii) have signed the AOC statutory declaration regarding anti-doping matters as required by the AOC from time to time (Form 2, attached) and provide the original to the AOC at PO Box 1788 Royal Exchange NSW 1225.
 - (iv) be current members of EA;
 - (v) be eligible to compete for Australia as per FEI regulations Art. 119;
 - (vi) attend and participate in training clinics and camps as requested by the National Performance Director;
 - (vii) undertake the training and competition program recommended by the National Performance Director after consultation with the athlete;
 - (viii) make their horse(s) available for examination at a time and location reasonably requested by the Team Veterinarian (or Veterinarian nominated by the Team Veterinarian) and accept and implement the reasonable recommendations of the Team Veterinarian;
 - (ix) not have breached an applicable anti-doping policy, including AOC, EA or the FEI Anti-Doping Rules for Human Athletes, unless the Athlete has already been sanctioned for the breach and has completed the sanction imposed;
 - (x) comply with the Whereabouts requirements as determined by ASADA in addition to complete education programs as per the requirements set by EA, ASADA and the AOC for 2016;
 - (xi) sign the applicable High Performance Squad Athlete Agreement;
 - (xii) have acted and at all times act in such a manner so as to not bring the athlete, the discipline of Equestrian or Equestrian Australia into public disrepute or censure.

- (c) Equestrian Australia will provide all Athletes identified as members of the Shadow Team with the *Selection Criteria* and this *Nomination Criteria*. The [AOC Olympic Team Selection By-Law](#) and the *Qualification System* will be made available on the AOC's website (www.olympics.com.au).
- (d) Equestrian Australia will advise the AOC of the Athletes that it has chosen as members of the Shadow Team at such times as required by the AOC.
- (e) Equestrian Australia reserves its rights to add and remove Athletes from the Shadow Team in accordance with this clause 1.1, at any time up until **4 July 2016**.
- (f) If an Athlete breaches the requirements of the *Nomination Criteria*, the *Selection Criteria* or the *Olympic Team Selection By-Law*, Equestrian Australia and/or the AOC may suspend or terminate the Athlete's membership of the Shadow Team.

1.2 *Nomination of Athletes*

- (a) On or before 17.00pm AEST **4 July 2016**, Equestrian Australia will nominate up to 4 Horse and Athlete Combinations (Combinations) to the AOC for selection to the 2016 Australian Olympic Team. In nominating the Combinations, Equestrian Australia will:
 - (i) only nominate Combinations who, to the satisfaction of Equestrian Australia have competed in competitions, completed the training regime and fulfilled other attendance and team participation requirements as set out in Clause 3 of this *Nomination Criteria*;
 - (ii) only nominate Combinations who have met the [FEI Minimum Eligibility Standard](#) (MES) as set out for each discipline in Clause 3 of this *Nomination Criteria*;
 - (iii) only nominate Athletes who are, or are recognised by the AOC as, members of the Shadow Team;
 - (iv) only nominate Combinations Equestrian Australia honestly believes have met the requirements described in the *Nomination Criteria*;
 - (v) not nominate more Combinations (including reserves) than the maximum number permitted under the *Qualification System*; and
 - (vi) not nominate Athletes who have breached the AOC Anti-Doping By-Law unless the Athlete has already been sanctioned for the breach and has completed the sanction imposed.
- (b) For the purpose of this *Nomination Criteria*, reference to Equestrian Australia's Eventing Selection Panel (Eventing Selection Panel) means as follows:

Georgia Clifford (Chair)

Prue Barrett

Mike Etherington-Smith

Nigel Thompson

1.3 *Veterinary Examination*

Members of the Shadow Team must make Horses considered for nomination available for examination by the National Veterinarian (or Veterinarian nominated by the National Veterinarian) as requested by the Chair of the Eventing Selection Panel, or the National Performance Director.

1.4 *Illness/ Misadventure/ Extenuating Circumstances*

- (a) In assessing the performances of Combinations at competitions, training camps or other attendances as described in Clause 3 of this Nomination Criteria, Equestrian Australia may, in their discretion, give weight to extenuating circumstances.
- (b) For the purposes of this clause, 'extenuating circumstances' means an inability to compete and/or attend competitions, training camps or other attendances arising from:
 - (i) injury or illness to either Athlete or horse;
 - (ii) travel delays;
 - (iii) force majeure;
 - (iv) bereavement or disability arising from death or serious illness of an immediate family member; and/or
 - (v) any other factors reasonably considered by Equestrian Australia to constitute extenuating circumstances.
- (c) Combinations unable to compete at competitions, training camps or other attendances required under this Nomination Criteria must advise the National Performance Director and, if required by the National Performance Director, provide the reasons before the commencement of the competitions, training camps or other attendances required under this Nomination Criteria.
- (d) In the case of illness or injury, Athletes may be required to undergo a medical examination by a doctor or doctors nominated by Equestrian Australia and for horses, a veterinary examination by the Team Veterinarian or Veterinarian nominated by the Team Veterinarian.
- (e) A decision in each case of extenuating circumstances will be made by Equestrian Australia on an individual basis. Any such decision will not be binding on the AOC.

1.5 *Replacement of Horse/ Athlete Combinations*

- (a) Dramatic Loss of Form/Fitness or Illness/Injury of Athlete
 - (i) Equestrian Australia will recommend to the AOC that a selected Combination be replaced if, in the opinion of the Eventing Selection Panel, upon the advice of the National Performance Director, the Combination will not be capable of performing in the 2016 Olympic Games, Rio, to the level expected as a result of a dramatic loss of form, fitness or illness/injury.

- (ii) Equestrian Australia will recommend to the AOC that a Combination nominated to, or selected by, the AOC be replaced if, in the opinion of the Equestrian Australia nominated medical professional, the following circumstances exist:
 - (A) the Athlete will not be capable of performing at the 2016 Olympic Games, Rio, to the level which the Athlete would be expected to perform if not affected by the illness/injury in question; or
 - (B) by competing with the illness or injury in question at the 2016 Olympic Games, Rio, the Athlete may suffer significant short or long term medical complications that pose an unacceptable risk to the Athlete.

The Chair of the Eventing Selection Panel must follow the recommendation of the Equestrian Australia nominated medical professional when determining whether a Combination should be recommended for replacement under this clause 1.5(a).

- (iii) If the Eventing Selection Panel determines to replace a Combination in accordance with this clause, they will recommend to the AOC that the Combination should be replaced with a Combination nominated in accordance with the process in clause 3 below.
 - (iv) The AOC will determine whether a Combination should be replaced, in its absolute discretion. In exercising its discretion, the AOC will be subject to any conditions that apply in relation to entry for the 2016 Olympic Games.
 - (v) The final date of replacement will be determined by the Rio 2016 Organising Committee Late Athlete Replacement Policy.
- (b) Dramatic Loss of Form/Fitness or Illness/Injury of Horses
- (i) Equestrian Australia will recommend to the AOC that a selected Combination be replaced if, in the opinion of the Eventing Selection Panel, upon the advice of the Equestrian Australia Team Veterinarian and/or National Performance Director the Horse will not be capable of performing in the 2016 Olympic Games, Rio, to the level which the Horse would be expected to perform as a result of a dramatic loss of form, fitness or illness/injury.
 - (ii) If the Eventing Selection Panel determines to make a recommendation to the AOC to replace a Combination in accordance with this clause, the National Selection Panel will recommend to the AOC that the Combination should be replaced with a Combination nominated in accordance with the process in clause 3 below.
 - (iii) The AOC will determine whether a Combination should be replaced, in its absolute discretion. In exercising its discretion, the AOC will be subject to any conditions that apply in relation to entry for the 2016 Olympic Games.
 - (iv) The final date of replacement will be determined by the FEI Regulations for Equestrian Events at the Olympic Games, 23rd Edition and Rio 2016 Organising Committee Late Athlete Replacement Policy.

1.6 *Making of Nominations*

- (a) Equestrian Australia will notify Athletes of their intended nominations to the AOC on (or before) 27th June 2016.
- (b) Nominations to the AOC by Equestrian Australia must be provided to the AOC by 17:00pm AEST on 4 July 2016.
- (c) Nominations made after this deadline (or within such further deadline as the AOC may allow) will be invalid unless made pursuant to a direction or award in respect of an appeal against non- nomination to Equestrian Australia Appeals Tribunal or the Court of Arbitration for Sport pursuant to the AOC's Olympic Team Selection By-Law and which appeal had been commenced prior to the deadline for receipt of nominations by the AOC.
- (d) The 17:00pm AEST on 4 July, 2016 deadline for the making of nominations by Equestrian Australia applies irrespective of any deadline prescribed under the Qualification System or by the Organising Committee for the 2016 Olympic Games.

1.7 *Amendments to Nomination Criteria*

- (a) This Nomination Criteria may be amended by Equestrian Australia with the prior written approval of the AOC.
- (b) Any amendment to the Nomination Criteria will be distributed by Equestrian Australia via email to Shadow Team members, posted on the Equestrian Australia website and further brought to the attention of the Shadow Team members via SMS.

1.8 *Appeals*

- (a) Any dispute regarding a Combination's nomination or non-nomination by EA to the AOC will be addressed according to the [Olympic Team Selection By-Law](#).
- (b) For the avoidance of doubt there are no rights of appeal by an Owner regarding the non-nomination of their Horse or of the non- nomination of the Athlete of their Horse.

2. Eligibility

2.1 *Horses*

- (a) To be eligible for nomination as a part of a Combination, all horses must:
 - (i) have achieved the Minimum Eligibility Standard (MES) as a combination as set by the FEI;
 - (ii) be registered with Equestrian Australia (or the National Federation of that in which the horse is domiciled);
 - (iii) hold a current FEI passport or FEI recognition card;
 - (iv) have been registered with the FEI as property of owners of the same nationality as the Athlete by 15 January 2016. Horses with multinational ownership must be registered with the FEI by 15 January 2016 under the name of the nation for which the horse will compete;

- (v) have been examined to the satisfaction of the Team Veterinarian (or Veterinarian nominated by the Team Veterinarian); and
- (vi) not have breached the requirements of the [EA](#) or [FEI](#) Equine Anti-Doping & Medication Control Policies.

2.2 *Owners*

- (a) In order for the Combination to be nominated:
 - (i) EA must have received from the Owner(s) of the nominated horse a signed copy of the EA Horse Owner Agreement; and
 - (ii) the Owner(s) must make their horse available for examination at a time and location reasonably requested by the Team Veterinarian (or Veterinarian appointed by the Team Veterinarian) and accept and implement the reasonable recommendations of the Team Veterinarian.

3. **Discipline Nomination Criteria**

This Clause 3 of the Nomination Criteria must be read in conjunction with Clauses 1 and 2 of this document and the general requirements of the AOC Nomination Criteria. Athletes should familiarise themselves with all the requirements of these documents. In order to be considered for Nomination to the AOC, all Horse and Athlete Combinations must comply with the FEI Horse and Athlete Minimum Eligibility Standards, as published in the [FEI Qualification System](#).

3.1 *Process of Nomination*

- (a) On (or before) 31st January 2016, the Eventing Selection Panel will select the 2016 High Performance Squads. All Athletes identified on the 2016 High Performance Squads will be identified as members of the Shadow Team in accordance with clause 1.1.
- (b) The Eventing Selection Panel will review the 2016 High Performance Squads at regular intervals and Athletes will be added and removed as deemed appropriate by Equestrian Australia. The Eventing Selection Panel reserves its right to add Athletes to the 2016 High Performance Squads and the Shadow Team up to and including 4 July 2016.
- (c) On (or before) 27 June 2016, the Eventing Selection Panel will notify four (4) athletes of Equestrian Australia's intention to nominate them to the AOC for selection in the 2016 Australian Olympic Team.
- (d) On (or before) 27 June 2016, the Eventing Selection Panel will notify a further four athletes of their identification on the Equestrian Australia list of 'Reserves'. The 'Reserves' may include riders who have already been advised of Equestrian Australia's intention to nominate them to the AOC as part of the four combinations for selection to the 2016 Australian Olympic Team, but on a further horse(s).
- (e) On (or before) 17:00 AEST 4 July 2016, Equestrian Australia will provide the nominations for the four combinations to the AOC for selection to the 2016 Australian Olympic Team.
- (f) On (or before) 26 July 2016, the Eventing Selection Panel will identify one (1) of the Rio Olympic Eventing Team Reserves to travel to Rio as the travelling reserve combination. For the avoidance of doubt, 'Reserves' will not be a member of the 2016 Australian

Olympic Team unless and until replacing a selected Combination in accordance with this Nomination Criteria.

3.2 Combinations to be nominated to the AOC for selection by Equestrian Australia will be identified by the Eventing Selection Panel in its sole and absolute discretion to achieve the best possible result at the 2016 Olympic Games. Without in any way limiting the discretion of the Eventing Selection Panel, the Eventing Selection Panel will consider the following in relation to any Shadow Team Combination under consideration for nomination to the AOC:

(a) Competition considerations

- (i) The Eventing Selection Panel will primarily consider competition results achieved at CCI ****, CCI ***, CIC ***, and CNC *** during 2015 and 2016.
- (ii) In exceptional circumstances, the Eventing Selection Panel will consider performances achieved at CCI ** level in 2015 and 2016.

(b) Objective Considerations

- (i) In assessing the performances of Combinations, the Eventing Selection Panel will consider the following objective measures:
 - (A) The final score (across all three phases of the competition);
 - (B) The scores achieved in each individual phase; and
 - (C) The final placing of the Combination (the Eventing Selection Panel note that the score and the placing of each Combination will be considered but do not automatically position one Combination above another for nomination purposes).

(c) Discretionary Considerations

- (i) In assessing the performances of Combinations, the Eventing Selection Panel will consider the following competition based factors. These factors include, but are not restricted to:
 - (A) the performance of each Combination in relation to the quality and number of competitors;
 - (B) the technical features of the competition, in particular (but not limited to):
 - (I) the dressage judging (including the breakdown of scores across multiple judges);
 - (II) the cross-country fences and terrain;
 - (III) the relative difficulty of the show jumping;
 - (IV) the quality of the riding by an Athlete; and
 - (V) the general conditions under which the performance is achieved, such as the weather, surface and footing.

- (d) In assessing the performances of Combinations, the Eventing Selection Panel will give consideration to general factors. These general factors include, but are not limited to:
- (i) the suitability of the Combination for the expected conditions of the Rio Olympic Games (taking into account the objective of the team and individual competition);
 - (ii) the overall balance of the Combinations that have been selected;
 - (iii) the ability and experience of the Combination to compete successfully at high level international competition. Consideration will be given to;
 - a) demonstrated experience and/ or success at Championship level;
 - b) the ability, or potential ability, of a Horse and/or Athlete to perform under the stress and pressure of an Olympic Games;
 - c) the ability of the Athlete to prepare their Horse to peak condition for a major campaign;
 - d) the ability of the Athletes to contribute towards an effective team environment;
 - e) consistency of performance and the likelihood of a suitable performance to contribute towards a team outcome may be a consideration;
 - f) exceptional ability of a Combination (and the potential to achieve an individual medal) may be a consideration and may, in the Eventing Selection Panel's sole discretion, place a Combination with less experience or consistency ahead of another Combination;
 - (iv) The Eventing Selection Panel has the discretion to place a greater emphasis on one or more of the nomination considerations in considering Combinations for nomination.