



AUSTRALIAN  
EQUESTRIAN  
TEAM

**2016 Australian Paralympic Team  
Equestrian Australia Nomination Criteria**

**Australian Paralympic Team  
Nomination Criteria  
Equestrian**

**1. Introduction**

- 1.1 The objective of these Nomination Criteria is to identify and nominate to the Australian Paralympic Committee ("**APC**") those athletes who will achieve the best possible medal results at the 2016 Paralympic Games ("**Games**").
- 1.2 These Nomination Criteria may be amended or supplemented by Equestrian Australia ("**EA**"), specifically where matters arise which have not been provided for in these Nomination Criteria. Any amendment or supplement to these Nomination Criteria must be first approved by the APC. Any such amendment or supplement must be in writing given by the Chief Executive Officer of EA who will endeavour to give as much notice as possible to all persons affected by any amendment or supplement to these Nomination Criteria.

**2. Process of Nomination and Selection**

- 2.1 The APC Paralympic Preparation Program ("**PPP**") Equestrian Squad ("**Squad**") is comprised of those athletes who meet the criteria circulated by the JMC ("**Joint Management Committee**") and who are invited to join the Squad by the JMC.
- 2.2 Subject to clause 3.2 athletes will be nominated to the APC for selection to the Australian Paralympic Team ("**Team**") in accordance with the following:
  - 2.2.1 Notwithstanding the other provisions of these Nomination Criteria, individual athletes will be nominated on the basis of section 2 of this selection policy.
  - 2.2.2 As the Games are an "own horse" competition, a major criterion for nomination will be horse/rider combination. Combinations will be selected as outlined in section 2 of this policy.
  - 2.2.3 Athletes must have achieved an Federation Equestre Internationale ("**FEI**") Paralympic Games qualification at an FEI sanctioned international dressage competition during the qualification period as outlined in the qualification procedure in section 2 of this policy.
  - 2.2.4 To be eligible to be nominated to the APC for selection to the Team an athlete must have:
    - 2.2.4.1 Achieved the requirements as outlined in the competition criteria of section 2 of this selection policy
    - 2.2.4.2 Demonstrated consistent performance outcomes identified in individual training programs and met specific training and performance goals as outlined by the EA Para-Equestrian National Performance Director on a consistent basis.
  - 2.2.5 Athletes must maintain individual training programs and, upon request, provide such programs to the EA Para-Equestrian National Performance Director or the APC for monitoring purposes.

- 2.2.6 Athletes must demonstrate a personal commitment to setting goals and achieving those goals in consultation with the EA Para-Equestrian National Performance Director.
- 2.2.7 Athletes must maintain regular communication with the EA Para-Equestrian National Performance Director
- 2.2.8 Athletes must be registered with the FEI and must have a valid current FEI equestrian classification, with a sport class status of Confirmed, or sport class status of Review, with a review date after 31 December 2016.
- 2.2.9 Athlete's horses must be registered with the FEI and be able to meet all required vaccination and identification criteria for transport to the Games.
- 2.2.10 Athletes must be medically fit to complete all obligations. All injuries or medical conditions that may affect performance must be reported to the EA Para-Equestrian National Performance Director as soon as the athlete is, or should reasonably be aware of, such injury or medical condition
- 2.2.11 Each nominated horse must be medically fit to complete all obligations. All injuries or medical conditions that may affect performance of the horse must be reported to the EA Para-Equestrian Team Veterinarian as soon as the athlete is, or should reasonably be aware of, such injury or medical condition.
- 2.2.12 Athletes to be considered for nomination to the APC for selection to the Team will be identified by the EA Para-Equestrian National Performance Director in consultation with the National Para-Equestrian Selection Panel.
- 2.2.13 The nomination of athletes to the APC for selection to the Team will be ratified by the JMC prior to submission.
- 2.2.14 Unless otherwise stated, the JMC may give such weight to any or all of these Nomination Criteria as it sees fit. For the avoidance of doubt, the JMC need not have regard to all of the requirements in this clause 2.
- 2.3 The JMC will nominate athletes to the APC for selection to the Team by no later than 27<sup>th</sup> **MAY 2016**. The JMC will nominate the number of athletes against the number of slots received plus no more than two reserves. Depending on the makeup of the team, these reserves may be selected according to grade.
- 2.4 To be eligible to be nominated to the APC for inclusion in the Team, athletes must comply with the requirements set out in the General Selection Criteria.
- 2.5 The fact that an athlete is nominated to the APC for selection to the Team by the JMC does not guarantee the APC will select the athlete as a member of the Team. Athletes will be selected to the Team at the sole discretion of the APC.
- 2.6 The APC will determine the date it will announce the selection of athletes to the Team and this date will be advised.

### **3 Appeals**

- 3.1 All appeals concerning the nomination or non-nomination of athletes to the APC by EA will follow the process set out in the Equestrian Australia Appeals Process document which is available on the EA website [www.equestrian.org.au](http://www.equestrian.org.au)
- 3.2 All appeals concerning the selection or non-selection of athletes to the Team by the APC will follow the process set out in the APC Appeals Process document which is contained in Schedule 4 of the Athlete Deed of Agreement.

### **4. Interpretation**

- 4.1 Words used in these Nomination Criteria have the same meaning ascribed to them in the APC's General Selection Criteria unless a contrary meaning appears from the context.

### **5. FEI Qualification Procedure for the Rio 2016 Paralympics**

Qualification Period:	Start: 1 January 2014 End: 19 June 2016
Qualifying Events:	Any FEI Para-Equestrian 3* or above event listed on the FEI Calendar within the Qualification Period
Qualification Score:	Minimum 60% score in Team Test or Individual Championship Test
Judges:	Minimum of 3 FEI PE O or I-judges of different nationalities

### **6. Selection Criteria**

- 6.1 The objective is to select horse and rider combinations that the Para-Equestrian Selection Panel believes will achieve the best possible result at the Rio 2016 Paralympics. The term 'best possible result' covers both an individual and a team result but must be based on the realistic expectation that a team finishes in the top 6 and individuals in the top 3. If selectors do not expect this to be achievable, they will not select a team to represent Australia in the Para-Equestrian Team competitions.
- 6.2 While the team must be selected according to FEI regulations, the National Selection Panel will take into consideration the overall percentage achieved by combinations against the target scores as outlined in the competition criteria, to select the best possible team. These target scores are based on the average overall scores that achieved medals in each grade at the 2014 World Equestrian Games in Normandy.

## 7. Competition Criteria

- 7.1 To be eligible for consideration for selection, rider and horse combinations are to have achieved the competition criteria as follows at the nominated Selection Events:

**Have achieved an overall percentage of 67% or above in the Team or Individual test in at least two of the three nominated Paralympic Australian Selection Events as listed below:-**

- The Saddleworld Dressage Festival Paralympic Selection Event, December 2015
- The CPEDI 3\* Boneo, January 2016
- The Sydney CDI Paralympic Selection Event Sydney, April 2016

OR:

**Have achieved an overall percentage of 67% or above in the Team or Individual test in at least two of the three nominated Paralympic European Selection Events.**

The EU selection events will be:

1. Deauville (FRA) 7-10 April 2016
2. Waregem (BEL) 22-24 April 2016
3. Mannheim (GER) 6-10 May 2016 or Roosendaal (NED) 19-22 May 2016\*

Athletes will be required to submit their selected events prior to the 15<sup>th</sup> January 2016 and once submitted, there will be no opportunity to change.

*\*Athletes must select either Mannheim or Roosendaal CPEDI as their selected event.*

- 7.2 A veterinary certificate issued by the EA National Team Veterinarian or a medical certificate is required in order to receive dispensation by the Selection Panel from any of the above conditions.
- 7.3 The veterinary or medical certificate must be received by EA PRIOR to the start of the competition.
- 7.4 Unforeseen circumstances, including those outside of the control of the rider, may also qualify for dispensation in the sole discretion of the Selection Panel.

## 8. General Criteria

- 8.1 In considering the performances of combinations that have met the competition criteria, the EA Para-Equestrian National Selection Panel will take into account the following general criteria:-
- 8.1.1 Where the aspect of 'current form' is to be considered, only performances at the three (3) events nominated in the competition criteria will be taken into consideration

- 8.1.2 The age, soundness and fitness of the horse may be taken into consideration.
- 8.1.3 The Australian EA Para-Equestrian Team Veterinarian will be consulted in regard to selection.
- 8.1.4 Target Scores for each grade to be taken into consideration for selection of the AUS Team are:
- Grade 1A 75.616%
  - Grade 1B 75.032%
  - Grade 2 71.840%
  - Grade 3 72.021%
  - Grade 4 74.019%
- 8.1.5 Selection Scores for each rider will be calculated by averaging the top two team scores and the top two individual scores (i.e. 4 scores in total) from the eligible selection competitions above. These Selection Scores will be compared to the Target Scores published for each grade above.

Note: Target Scores were calculated by averaging the medal scores for both team and individual events at WEG Normandy.

- 8.2 If a combination is unable to attend the Selection Events nominated in the competition criteria, and have been granted dispensation as outlined under clause 7.5 of the competition criteria, the Selectors may take into consideration performances from Events nominated by the EA Para-Equestrian National Performance Director for this purpose.
- 8.3 TEAM COMPOSITION: As per FEI Rules, the team will contain a maximum of two athletes in any one grade, and must contain at least one combination from Grade 1a, 1b or 2.

## 9. Post Selection

- 9.1 In addition to the rules allowing substitutions of combinations as permitted with the Paralympic competition rules, if, in the opinion of the EA Para-Equestrian National Performance Director and if agreed with the High Performance Manager, Team Veterinarian (horse issues), Team Medical Officer (rider issues) and Chair of the National Para-Equestrian Selection Panel, should there be a loss of form by a selected horse or an illness to a rider following the final team selection that may impact on the overall results of the team (including individual results), a substitution may be made.
- 9.2 Any such replacement must meet the requirements of the Para-Equestrian and Paralympic competition rules.
- 9.3 The reserve(s) will be identified by the National Para-Equestrian Selection Panel.

- 9.4 Up to three reserves may be named depending on the composition of the selected team. There are two situations in which substitutions may be made.
- 9.4.1 Prior to departure from Australia. If an athlete or horse is deemed unfit to travel with the team, a reserve combination will take their place.  
In this instance the reserve combination:
- 9.4.1.1 may be either Australian or European based;
- 9.4.1.2 will be selected according to rankings; and
- 9.4.1.3 will be selected in accordance with Clause 8.3 above.
- 9.4.2 Post departure from Australia: If an athlete or horse is deemed unfit to compete, a reserve combination will take their place.  
In this instance, the reserve combination:
- 9.4.2.1 will be a European based combination;
- 9.4.2.2 will be selected according to rankings; and
- 9.4.2.3 will be selected in accordance with Clause 8.3 above.