

SELECTION POLICY 2018 WORLD EQUESTRIAN GAMES CARRIAGE DRIVING

This selection policy ('the policy') covers the discipline of Carriage Driving (four in hand).

1. OBJECTIVE

To select athletes who are able to achieve the best possible results at the 2018 World Equestrian Games. The term 'best possible result' encompasses both a team and an individual result. If the Carriage Driving Selection panel does not believe the expectation of a top ten team placing and an individual in the top three placing will be achieved, they may choose not to select a team to represent Australia in the Driving Team Competition.

2. PROCESS OF SELECTION

Subject to the terms of the Policy and any additional FEI qualification/entry requirements:

- 2.1 On or before 30 April 2018, the Carriage Driving Selection Panel ('the CDSP') will select up to 6 athletes to form a Short List of possible WEG Entries. Any athletes who have met the qualifying criteria for WEG will be eligible for this list.
- 2.2 On or before 6 August 2018, the CDSP will select a Squad of up to 3 athletes ('the WEG Team'). The WEG Squad will comprise the up to three (3) drivers to compete in the Team competition at WEG. If there are not a sufficient number of combinations available to constitute a team, individual combinations may be nominated for the WEG Team.

The Policy may be varied, amended or supplemented by the CDSP and EA from time to time, including where matters arise for which there is no explicit provision in the criteria. Any variation, amendment or supplement to the Policy, must be in writing. EA and the CDSP will endeavor to give as much notice as possible to all persons affected by any variation, amendment or supplement to the Policy.

3. SUBSTITUTION

- 3.1 Following selection of the WEG Squad, if:
 - 3.1.1 In the opinion of the Chef d'Equipe (in consultation with the Chair of the CDSP), there has been a loss of form or fitness by a member of the WEG Team (the loss of form to be assessed as likely to be sustained and affect performance at WEG); or
 - 3.1.2 A member of the WEG Team contravenes their athlete's agreement, FEI Veterinary Regulations or EA Rules and policies; or
 - 3.1.3 A member of the WEG Team does not meet the requirements outlined in the athlete's agreement;

That member of the WEG Team may be replaced by another rider previously selected for the Short List of possible WEG Entries from the WEG Applicants for Selection ('a Substitution').

4. ELIGIBILITY FOR SELECTION TO THE SHORT LIST & WEG TEAM

4.1 For **Athletes** to be eligible for WEG selection, all athletes must:

- 4.1.1 Be a current member of EA;
- 4.1.2 Be eligible to compete for Australia as per FEI Regulations Article 119;
- 4.1.3 Be able and willing to undertake any training program recommended by the Chef d'Equipe after consultation with the CDSP and the athlete;
- 4.1.4 Provide accurate and up-to-date whereabouts information on a regular basis to EA;
- 4.1.5 Satisfy any additional preconditions advised in writing to the athlete by EA prior to or at the time of selection for the Short List of possible WEG Entries;
- 4.1.6 Demonstrate to the satisfaction of EA that they are not suffering any physical or mental impairment that would prevent them from competing in the Games to the highest possible standard; and
- 4.1.7 Have acted and at all times act in such a manner so as to not bring the athlete, the discipline of Carriage Driving, or EA into public disrepute or censure.
- 4.1.8 Have signed the EA National athlete agreement.

4.2 For **Horses** to be eligible for selection to WEG Short List, all horses must:

- 4.2.1 be registered with EA or should the horse be permanently domiciled in a country other than Australia, a current FEI passport administered by either EA or the drivers host country.
- 4.2.2 have passed a veterinary examination to the satisfaction of the Team Vet

4.3 **Owners** - In order for the horse and athlete combination to be selected for WEG Short List, EA must have received from the owner(s) of the nominated horse a signed copy of the 2018 EA Horse Owner Agreement

4.4 **Additions to the WEG Short List**

The CDSP may, in its absolute discretion, add a horse and athlete combination to the WEG Short List at any stage subject to the combination satisfying the relevant FEI qualification criteria and prior to the close of Nominated Entries.

5. APPEALS

- 5.1 Appeals concerning non-selection of athletes and horses for the WEG Team will be heard by an EA Appeal Tribunal in accordance with the EA Appeal By-Laws.
- 5.2 There will be one level of appeal only with the sole grounds for an Appeal being that this Selection Policy was not properly followed and/or implemented.

- 5.3 Only athletes may appeal their non-selection. Owners cannot appeal any decision. An athlete must lodge their notice of intention to appeal in writing with the CEO of EA within three (3) working days from the date of the announcement of the WEG Team.

6. CRITERIA FOR SELECTION

The Criteria for selection combine the FEI qualification criteria, Competition criteria and General Criteria.

6.1 FEI Qualification Criteria

Qualification period: Start 1 January 2017

End 13 August 2018

Minimum qualification criteria: (In conjunction with art 913 and 914.1-6 of FEI Driving Rules 2017)

At two (2) combined driving events, 3* Drivers must achieve a score of 65 points or less in the Dressage test (test 3*B HP4)) and have successfully completed (without Elimination, Disqualification or Retirement) all three competitions (Dressage, Cones, Marathon) in their own class.

One of the qualifying results as defined above must be achieved no earlier than on the 1st January of the year in which the Championships take place and no later than the end date of the qualification period.

Art914.2 –Qualification results can be obtained at CAIO4*, CAI3* and CAI2* (see Article 913)

-Four-in-hand Horses.

Maximum Driven penalty points allowed at the Championships in Dressage as per Art 9.14.4: 75 points. Note : Above 75 points and Drivers will not be allowed to start the Marathon.

Dressage test 3*B HP4 will be run at the FEI World Equestrian Games 2018.

6.2 General Criteria

In evaluating the performances of drivers that have met the FEI Qualification Criteria, the CDSP will take into account the following General Criteria:

- 6.2.1 Competition-based factors will be taken into consideration when assessing each athlete's performance. These include, but are not restricted to:
- 6.2.1.1 The performance of an athlete in relation to the quality and number of competitors;
 - 6.2.1.2 The quality of the driving by an athlete especially in relation to the quality and number of horses they have driven in competition;
 - 6.2.1.3 An athlete and horse combination maintaining a consistent standard during the selection period may be selected ahead of a combination that may have achieved higher scores, but whose performances are less consistent.

6.2.1.4 The general conditions under which a performance is achieved, and;

6.2.1.5 The suitability of the athlete for the 2018 World Equestrian Games, taking into account the objective of the team and individual competition and the type of driving required to achieve the best possible results; the ability and experience of the athlete to compete successfully at high level international competition. Consideration will be given to:

- The ability, or potential ability, of athletes to perform under the stress and pressure of WEG;
- The ability of athletes to adapt their driving for competition with borrowed horse/s;
- The ability of athletes to contribute towards an effective team environment, and
- The demonstrated ability of athletes to be suitable representatives of Australia;
- Consistency of performance and the likelihood of a suitable performance to contribute towards a team score may be considered.
- The age, soundness and fitness of horses will be taken into consideration.

The CDSP has the discretion to place a greater emphasis on one or more of the general criteria in considering athletes for selection.

6.3 Competition Criteria

To be eligible for consideration for selection, driver and horse(s) combination are to have achieved the competition criteria as follows:

6.3.1 3* drivers must successfully compete (without Elimination, Disqualification or Retirement) in the following criteria over from 1 January 2017 -13 August 2018 at CAI 2* or above events:

- 3* Drivers must consistently achieve a score of **60** penalty points or less in the Dressage test 3*B HP4, and have successfully completed (without Elimination, Disqualification or Retirement) all three competitions (Dressage, Marathon, Cones).
- One of the qualifying results as defined above must be achieved no earlier than on the 1st January of the year in which the Championships take place, and no later than the end date of the qualification period.
- Athletes must have successfully completed (without Elimination, Disqualification or Retirement) the Marathon – 7 obstacles: 115 penalty points or less, 8 obstacles: 137 penalty points or less.
- Athletes must have successfully completed (without Elimination, Disqualification or Retirement) the Cones - time penalties and penalty points less than 20 penalties.

Unforeseen circumstances, including those outside the control of the driver, may also qualify for dispensation at the sole discretion of the Selection Panel.

In exceptional circumstances, the Selection Panel may modify the competition criteria.

A veterinary certificate issued by the National Committee Nominated Veterinarian or a medical certificate is required in order to receive dispensation by the Selection Panel from any of the above conditions. The veterinary or medical certificate must be received by EA **prior** to the start of the competition.

7. REMOVAL FROM A LIST

Athletes who:

- 7.1 by reason of illness, injury or soundness problems to either their horse or themselves are unable to perform to the required standard as determined by the CDSP (after having received advice from a medical practitioner or the Team Vet); or
- 7.2 contravene the FEI or EA Codes of Conduct, FEI Veterinary Regulations or EA Rules and policies;
- 7.3 fail to comply with the terms of their Athlete's Agreement; or
- 7.4 do not meet any other stated requirement communicated to them in writing by EA,

may be removed from the WEG Short List, or WEG Team. Decisions regarding removal from the WEG Short List or Team will be made by the CDSP but only with the prior written approval of the HPD of EA.

9. POST SELECTION SUBSTITUTIONS

If, after Team selection, the horse sustains an injury and/or exacerbates an earlier injury and/or shows symptoms of an illness at any time up to the point of competition, the horse will be subject to an assessment of the current form of the horse to compete at the expected level. This assessment will be conducted by the CDSP Selectors, Chef d'Equipe and/or HPD in consultation with the Team veterinarian.

After the assessment has been carried out a decision will be made by the CDSP.

Any replacement must be made in accordance with this Selection Policy.