



AUSTRALIAN  
EQUESTRIAN  
TEAM

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

## 1. Process

### 1.1 Shadow Team

- (a) Equestrian Australia (EA) will identify Athletes from within the Dressage 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 [Dressage 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;
  - (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 EA 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 Dressage 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](http://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, 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 identify up to 4 Horse and Athlete Combinations (Combinations) for nomination 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 Dressage 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 Dressage Selection Panel (Dressage Selection Panel) means as follows:

Maryjane Crabtree (Chair)

Jan Smith

Connie Bookless

### 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 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 Equestrian Australia's Dressage 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 Dressage 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 Dressage 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 Dressage 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 Dressage 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) 1<sup>ST</sup> July 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



- (ii) Each athlete may have no more than two horses named on the Identified Combinations.
- (iii) To be eligible for consideration for the Identified Combinations, Combinations are to have achieved the competition criteria as follows:
  - (A) Combinations must have achieved an overall minimum percentage of 67% or above in at least one Grand Prix test at a CDI or CDI-W event where the Ground Jury is composed of at least one FEI 5\* judge and two FEI 4\* judges in 2015 or 2016
  - (B) The Identified Combinations will be determined by:
    - (I) calculating the average of each Combinations best two results from the Grand Prix at CDI-Ws, CDI 3\*, 4\* and 5\* events during the period 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2015 to 10<sup>th</sup> April 2016; and
    - (II) ranking Combinations according to the average of their best two results.
  - (C) In the event that two Combinations have the same score, the Dressage Selection Panel will, in its sole discretion (but in consultation with the EA Dressage Advisor, the National Performance Director and the Team Veterinarian), consider the following general criteria to rank one Combination ahead of the other for the purposes of the Identified Combinations:
    - (I) The performance of each Combination in relation to the quality and number of competitors (i.e. Combinations with performances at CDI-W, 4\* or 5\* may, in the sole discretion of the DSP, be preferred to those with performances at CDI 3\*);
    - (II) The suitability of the Combination for the expected conditions at the Rio Olympic Games taking into account the objective of the team and the individual competition;
    - (III) The ability of the Combination to compete successfully at high level international competitions. Consideration may be given to:
      - i. Demonstrated experience at championship level;
      - ii. The ability, or potential ability of the Combination to perform under the stress and pressure of an Olympic Games;
      - iii. The ability of the athlete to prepare their horse for optimum performance at an Olympic games;
      - iv. Consistency of performance and the likelihood of a suitable performance to contribute toward a team outcome; and

v. Exceptional ability and an improving trend in performances may be a consideration.

- d) The Combinations to be nominated to the AOC will be identified in the following way:
- (i) The Identified Combinations will attend the two Nomination Events.
  - (ii) The final scores for each Combination from the Grand Prix class at each of the two Nomination Events will be averaged to produce a single score for each Combination which will then be used to rank Combinations from highest to lowest.
  - (iii) In the event that one or more of the Identified Combinations are unable to attend one of the Nomination Events, for reasons referred to in Clause 1.4 they will be attributed a score that is the average of the lowest three scores achieved by Combinations within the Identified Combinations who attend that particular Nomination Event.
  - (iv) The top four ranked Combinations on this ranking list will be nominated to the AOC.
  - (v) The fifth and sixth ranked Combinations will be identified as 'non travelling reserve' Combinations. For the avoidance of doubt, the reserves will not be members of the 2016 Australian Olympic Team unless and until replacing a selected Combination in accordance with clause 1.5 of this Criteria. An athlete who is part of a selected Combination may also be identified as a 'non-travelling reserve' where their performances on their second Horse places them fifth or sixth on the ranking list.
  - (vi) In the event of a tie for fourth position, the Dressage Selection Panel will, in its sole discretion (but in consultation with the EA Dressage Advisor, the National Performance Director and the Team Veterinarian), consider the following general criteria to rank one Combination ahead of the other for the purposes of the Combinations nominated to the AOC:
    - (A) The suitability of the Combination for the expected conditions at the Rio Olympic Games taking into account the objective of the team and the individual competition;
    - (B) The ability of the Combination to compete successfully at high level international competitions.
    - (C) Demonstrated experience at championship level;
    - (D) The ability, or potential ability of the Combination to perform under the stress and pressure of an Olympic Games;
    - (E) The ability of the athlete to prepare their horse for optimum performance at an Olympic games;
    - (F) Consistency of performance and the likelihood of a suitable performance to contribute toward a team outcome; and

- (G) Exceptional ability and an improving trend in performances may be a consideration.