



National High Performance Program

National Driving Squad 2019 - 2022



1. Preamble

National Squads within the Equestrian Australia High Performance Program focus primarily on developing Australian combinations to compete at major competitions such as the World Equestrian Games and World Championships.

Selection in these Squads is an indication that Selectors have identified combinations as possible future World Equestrian Games and World Championship competitors. Selection in these squads will provide support / coaching opportunities through the EA High Performance Program to assist the selected to develop further.

Mission: The Green and Gold High Performance Squad Programs provide training opportunities for Australian drivers that have demonstrated a commitment to the goal of competing at EA/FEI level. These programs seek to assist drivers that are in the pursuit of competitive excellence. The Generation Next Squad Program identifies up and coming talented drivers in order to create a High Performance development pathway. The programs aim to increase the number of drivers and their horses/ponies competing at high performance levels therefore developing and enhancing the future Carriage Driving in Australia.

2. Definitions

In these Criteria, the following words have the following respective meanings:

Combination	Athlete horse or pony or combination currently competing
Major Events	CAI 1* and above
Rules	FEI Driving Rules. 11th Edition, effective 1st January 2014 updates effective 1 st January 2019
HPD	Equestrian Australia's High Performance Director

All squads will be based on the General and Competition criteria as listed in this document. The selection will be generally based on performances in the preceding 6 to 12 months, and squads will be reviewed each year.

In selecting and assessing potential squad members, the National Selectors may consider outside relevant information e.g. Squad member's personal coaches. National Selectors will exercise their discretion in extraordinary circumstances.

3. National Senior Squads

Appointed Selection panels will select two (2) squads selected as follows:

Gold Squad:

- Members of this squad are combinations who are established at CAI and are identified as capable of gaining selection for World Equestrian Games or next World Championships.
- Combinations that have achieved medal performances at the most recent World Equestrian Games and or World Championships
- Combinations who were members of a team and placed in the top 10 or individual top 20 at the most recent World Equestrian Games and or World Championships

Green Squad:

Members of this squad are, in principle, talented combinations that are capable of progressing to Gold Squad within the next 4 year cycle.

These drivers / combinations will be selected with reference to the following criteria:

- Proven competency competing currently at CAI competitions with consistent performances within a 12 month period
- Athlete drivers displaying consistent commitment to the sport and aptitude to progress to Gold team selection with the next 4 year cycle
- Athlete driver combination has been identified as having the physical, tactical, technical and personal skill set to achieve team selection within the next 4 year cycle

From time to time selectors may invite potential drivers on an invitation basis to be on the Green Squad.

Generation Next Squad:

Members of this squad demonstrate a potential and capability to progress to Green squad within the next 4 year cycle.

4. Competition Criteria

In principle, the Selectors will apply the following criteria when selecting Horse Four in Hand, Horse Pairs and Horse Single combinations for the Gold Squad. Pony Four in Hand, Pony Pairs and Pony Single combinations for the Gold Squad

To be considered for selection on the Squad, combinations should be:

Gold Squad

Horse Four in Hand

Drivers:

Open to Athletes who meet the following criteria over a period of 2 years:

- 3* Drivers must consistently achieve a score of **60** penalty points or less in the Dressage test (Test 3*B HP4) and have successfully completed (without Elimination, Disqualification or Retirement) all three competitions (Dressage, Marathon, Cones)
- Marathon – 7 obstacles **120** penalty points, 8 obstacles **130** penalty points.
- Cones - time penalties and penalty points less than **20** penalties and completion.
- Combinations must complete all three Competitions including all Veterinary Inspections (without Elimination, Disqualification or Retirement) at a single Combined Driving Event.

Horse Pairs

Drivers:

Open to Athletes who meet the following criteria over a period of 2 years:

- 3* Drivers must consistently achieve a score of **60** penalty points or less in the Dressage test (Test 3*B HP2) and have successfully completed (without Elimination, Disqualification or Retirement) all three competitions (Dressage, Marathon, Cones)
- Marathon – 7 obstacles **120** penalty points, 8 obstacles **130** penalty points.
- Cones - time penalties and penalty points less than **20** penalties and completion.

Horse Singles

Drivers:

Open to Athletes who meet the following criteria over a period of 2 years:

- 3* Drivers must achieve a score of **60** penalty points or less in the Dressage test 3*B HP1 or 3*C HP1 and have successfully completed (without Elimination, Disqualification or Retirement) all three competitions (Dressage, Cones, Marathon) in their own class.
- Marathon – 7 obstacles **115** penalty points, 8 obstacles **120** penalty points
- Cones - time penalties and penalty points less than **20** penalties and completion.

All Ponies

Drivers:

Open to Athletes who meet the following criteria over a period of 2 years:

3* Drivers must achieve a score of **60** penalty points or less in the Dressage test for the following classes and have successfully completed (without Elimination, Disqualification or Retirement) all three competitions (Dressage, Cones, Marathon) in their own class:-

- Pony Four-in-Hand: dressage tests 3*B HP4
- Pony Pairs: dressage test 3*B HP2
- Pony Singles: dressage tests 3*B HP1
- Marathon Pony Four-in-Hand: 7 obstacles **115** penalty points, 8 obstacles **120** penalty points
- Marathon Pony Pairs: 7 obstacles **110** penalty points, 8 obstacles **115** penalty points
- Marathon Pony Singles: 7 obstacles **110** penalty points, 8 obstacles **115** penalty points
- Cones – time penalties and penalty points less than **20** penalties and completion.

When considering the composition of the High Performance squads the Selection Panel may under extenuating circumstances utilise their discretion to include additional members.

Green Squad

The squad shall be selected based on general criteria, listed above, and competition criteria as listed below.

To be applied in conjunction with Art. 913 and 914.1-6 of the FEI Driving Rules.

The Green Squad will ideally contain:

- Promising new combinations that may have recently begun competing at CAI level

Horse Four in Hand

- All Combinations for Horse Four in Hand competition must achieve a score of **65** penalty points or less in a Driven Dressage Competition (Dressage test 3*B HP4) at a State / National or CAI Event in their own class.
- Drivers cannot progress into the Gold Squad unless they achieve a Dressage score of **60** penalty points or less under **2 FEI** accredited Judges.
- Marathon – 7 obstacles **120** penalty points, 8 obstacles **137** penalty points.
- Cones a combination of time and fault of **20** penalties or no more.
- Combinations must complete all three Competitions including all Veterinary Inspections (without Elimination, Disqualification or Retirement) at a single Combined Driving Event.

Horse Pairs

- All Combinations for Horse Pairs competition must achieve a score of **65** points or less in a Driven Dressage Competition (Dressage test 3*B HP2) at a State / National or CAI Event in their own class.
- Drivers cannot progress into the Gold Squad unless they achieve a Dressage score of **60** penalty points or less under **2 FEI** accredited Judges.
- Marathon – 7 obstacles **120** penalty points, 8 obstacles **137** penalty points
- Cones - a combination of time and fault of **20** penalties or no more.
- Combinations must complete all three Competitions including all Veterinary Inspections (without Elimination, Disqualification or Retirement) at a single Combined Driving Event.

Horse Singles

- All Combinations for Horse Singles competition must achieve a score of **65** points or less in a Driven Dressage Competition (Dressage test 3*B HP1) at a State / National or CAI Event in their own class.
- Drivers cannot progress into the Gold Squad unless they achieve a Dressage score of **60** penalty points or less under **2 FEI** accredited Judges.
- Marathon – 7 obstacles **115** penalty points, 8 obstacles **131** penalty points.
- Cones - a combination of time and fault of **20** penalties or no more.
- Combinations must complete all three Competitions including all Veterinary Inspections (without Elimination, Disqualification or Retirement) at a single Combined Driving Event.

All Ponies

- All Combinations for Pony competitions must achieve a score of **65** points or less in a Driven Dressage Competition at a State / National or CAI Event in their own class.
 - Pony Four-in-Hand: dressage tests 3*D P4 or 3*B HP4
 - Pony Pairs: dressage test 3*C HP2 or 3*B HP2
 - Pony Singles: dressage tests 3*C HP1 or 3*B HP1
 - Drivers cannot progress into the Gold Squad unless they achieve a Dressage score of **60** penalty points or less under **2 FEI** accredited Judges
 - Marathon – 7 obstacles **115** penalty points, 8 obstacles **131** penalty points
 - Cones - a combination of time and fault of **20** penalties or no more.
 - Combinations must complete all three Competitions including all Veterinary Inspections (without Elimination, Disqualification or Retirement) at a single Combined Driving Event.

When considering the composition of the High Performance squads the Selection Panel may under extenuating circumstances utilise their discretion to include additional members.

All Combinations may be asked to attend a coaching/assessment clinic as nominated by the selectors.

Squad members are to attend Boyd Exell Clinics

Must compete and complete in 2 FEI CAI events to stay on the squad.

Term: Squads are for a 12-month term (from January to December).

Squads are reviewed annually (November).

Squad members will need to complete an Expression of Interest form each year.

Selection criteria will be reviewed annually and updated to reflect the upcoming Championships.

Footnote

All squad members please take note of FEI General Regulations 113.4

Generation Next Squad

From time to time athletes may be identified by the National Selectors and invited to join the Generation Next Squad