

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

1. OBJECTIVE

To select athletes for the Australian Carriage Driving Teams and Individuals to achieve the best possible result for Australia at the 2019 FEI World Driving Championships for Combined Ponies

2. PROCESS OF SELECTION

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

- 2.1 The initial process of selection will commence with the current endorsed National Carriage Driving Selection Panel (NCDSP) identifying athletes from which the Carriage Driving team and Individuals will be primarily selected (Long list). The Long list will be announced on or before the 24th May 2019.
- 2.2 Once identified to the long list, athletes will need to provide evidence to support their interest in competing in 2019 FEI World Driving Championships for Combined Ponies no later than 7th June 2019.
- 2.3 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 test¹ and have successfully completed (without Elimination, Disqualification or Retirement) all three competitions (Dressage, Marathon² and Cones³), in their own class at two (2) different International Combined Driving Events

One of the qualifying results as defined above, must be achieved no earlier than the 1st January of the year in which the Championships take place and no later than the end of the Qualification Period

¹ Pony Four-in-Hand: dressage tests 3*D P4 or 3*B HP4

¹ Pony Pairs: dressage tests 3*C HP2 or 3*B HP2

¹ Pony Singles: dressage tests 3*C HP1 or 3*B HP1

² Marathon Pony Four-in-Hand: 7 obstacles **115** penalty points or less, 8 obstacles **120** penalty points or less

² Marathon Pony Pairs: 7 obstacles **110** penalty points or less, 8 obstacles **115** penalty points or less

² Marathon Pony Singles: 7 obstacles **110** penalty points or less, 8 obstacles **115** penalty points or less

³ Cones – time penalties and penalty points less than **20** penalties and completion.

- 2.3.2 The Competitive unit (Driver, Ponies and Groom/Backstepper) must compete and complete a CAI 3* lead up event of the 2019 FEI World Championships for Combined Ponies on the European Continent.

2.3.3 Copies of original score sheets from a minimum of two competitions during the qualifying period (since 1st January 2018) of FEI CAI events or events that have had 2 FEI Judges officiating.

2.3.4 Based on the evidence available, the NCDSP will select athletes who are most likely to meet the selection objectives (Short List) by 1st August 2019.

- 2.4 The short list will consist of athletes nominated by EA to the FEI as Nominated Entries as per FEI qualification and entry requirements
- 2.5 The NCDSP will select and announce the Australian Carriage Driving Team and Individuals for the 2019 FEI World Championships prior to definite entries for the event.
- 2.6 This process, including published dates, may be varied, amended or supplemented by EA from time to time, including where matters arise for which there is no explicit provision in the process. Any variation amendment or supplement must be made in writing. EA will endeavour to give as much notice as possible to all persons affected by any variation, amendment or supplement to these criteria.
- 2.7 The NCDSP may request further evidence to assist decisions within the selection process. Evidence may be requested from multiple sources, including but not limited to:
 - The Athlete;
 - Coaches, and officials;
 - Equestrian Australia

3. ELIGIBILITY FOR SELECTION FOR THE LONG LIST, SHORT LIST AND 2017 FEI WORLD CARRIAGE DRIVING CHAMPIONSHIPS FOR COMBINED PONIES TEAM AND INDIVIDUALS

- 3.1 For **Athletes and Horses** to be eligible for selection, all athletes must:
 - 3.1.1 Athletes be a current member of EA; Ponies to be registered with EA or Country of Origin.
 - 3.1.2 be eligible to compete for Australia as per FEI regulations Art. 119;
 - 3.1.3 attend and participate in training clinics and camps as notified in writing, unless a written exemption has been granted by the NCDSP in response to a timely written request from the athlete for an exemption;

In making the selections the NCDSP will only select drivers and pony combinations who have;

Not have breached the requirements of the EA or FEI Equine Anti-Doping & Medication Control Policies.

Not have breached an applicable anti-doping policy, including 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;

- 3.1.4 Provide accurate and up-to-date whereabouts information on a regular basis to the EA;

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- 3.1.6 satisfy any additional preconditions advised in writing to the athlete by EA prior to or at the time of selection for 2019 FEI World Championships for Combined Ponies Nominated Entries;
- 3.1.7 sign the Team Member Agreement

4. APPEALS

- 4.1 Appeals concerning non-selection of athletes and horses for the 2019 FEI World Championships for Combined Ponies Squad will be heard by an EA Appeal Tribunal in accordance with the EA Appeal By-Laws.
- 4.2 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.
- 4.3 Only athletes may appeal their non-selection. 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 2019 FEI World Championships for Combined Ponies Team and Individuals.

5. NOMINATION CRITERIA

- 5.1 Selection Criteria
 - 5.1.1 All Athletes must meet current EA qualification requirements to be eligible for selection to the Australian Carriage Driving Teams.
 - 5.1.2 The NCDSP will select qualified and suitable Athletes to compete as:
 - Individual
 - Team
 - 5.1.3 The NCDSP will seek to select athlete/ponies combinations that they believe will achieve the best possible result for Australia at 2019 FEI World Championships for Combined Ponies.
 - 5.1.4 Athletes must show evidence that they are able to consistently score below the minimum EA qualifying score required for the 2019 FEI World Championships for Combined Ponies

- 5.2 General Criteria

In considering the performances of Athletes that have met the selection criteria, the NCDSP will take into account the following general criteria:

- 5.2.1 Where the aspect of current form is to be considered, performances at recent events may be taken into account in comparison with performances achieved

earlier. "Recent" will generally relate to performances in the three months prior to consideration.

- 5.2.2 Performance at all CAI, National and official competitions under 2 FEI Judges at each event within the selection period 12 months prior to the final selection date will be considered, with particular attention to the most recent competitions, but do not automatically position one athlete above another in terms of selection.
- 5.2.3 The NCDSP, in their discretion, may take into consideration the standard of competition, the number of competitors, the level of experience of the judges and the overall quality of the competition when scores have been achieved.
- 5.2.4 An athlete, ponies 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.
- 5.2.5 The NCDSP in their discretion may take into consideration the ability of an athlete to perform at major International Championships or Events or past performances at such events, even when these events fall outside of the selection period.
- 5.2.6 Unforeseen circumstances, including those outside of the control of the athlete, may also qualify for dispensation at the sole discretion of the NCDSP.

6. DISCRETIONARY CONSIDERATIONS

6.1 Extraordinary Factors

In considering the performances of athletes, and horses at events, training camps or other activities required under this policy, the Panel may in their discretion give weight to extraordinary factors applying to that athlete and horses.

- 6.1.1 Athletes unable to compete at events, trials, training camps or other attendances required under this policy must advise the High Performance Manager and relevant National Performance Director of this fact, and the reasons, in writing, before the commencement of the activity or as soon as practicable.
- 6.1.2 In the case of injury or illness, the athlete may be required to undergo a medical examination by a doctor or doctors nominated by EA.
- 6.1.3 In the case of injury or illness, the horse may be required to undergo a veterinary examination by a veterinarian or veterinarian nominated by EA.
- 6.1.4 In the case of bereavement, equipment failure, travel delays, quarantine factors or other extraordinary factors, the Panel will make a decision on an individual basis.

6.2 Additions to the 2019 FEI World Championships for Combined Ponies Long list and Short list

- 6.2.1 At the NCDSP's discretion, an Athlete who has satisfied the relevant selection criteria may be added to the 2019 FEI World Championships for Combined Ponies Long List.

When considering the selection of the long list for the 2019 FEI World Championships for Combined Ponies the NCDSP may under utilise their discretion to include additional members.

6.3 Removal from a list

Athletes who:

- 6.3.1 by reason of illness or injury are unable to perform to the required standard as determined by the NCDSP (after having received advice from a medical practitioner);
- 6.3.2 contravene the FEI or EA Codes of Conduct or EA Rules and policies;
- 6.3.3 fail to comply with the terms of their Athlete's Agreement; or
- 6.3.4 do not meet any other stated requirement communicated to them in writing by EA, may be removed from the 2019 FEI World Championships for Combined Ponies long List, Squad or 2019 FEI World Championships for Combined Ponies Team.

Ponies who:

- 6.3.5 by reason of illness or injury are unable to perform to the required standard as determined by the NCDSP (after having received advice from a Veterinarian);

Removal from the 2019 FEI World Championships for Combined Ponies Long List, Squad or 2019 FEI World Championships for Combined Ponies Team can be undertaken by the NCDSP but only with the prior written approval of the EA HPD.