

## Nomination Criteria

### 2020 Olympic Games, Tokyo, Japan

#### Equestrian, Dressage

## 1 Definitions and Interpretation

### 1.1 Definitions

Unless otherwise defined below, capitalised terms in this Nomination Criteria have the meaning given to them in the AOC Olympic Team Nomination and Selection By-Law, certain of which have been reproduced below for the sake of convenience.

**Accreditation Deadline** means 10 April 2020.

**AOC** means the Australian Olympic Committee Inc and any of its officers, employees or agents and any committee it convenes including the AOC Selection Committee.

**AOC Olympic Team Nomination and Selection By-Law** means the document adopted by the Executive which governs, among other things, the nomination and selection of Athletes to a team for an Olympic Games or Olympic Winter Games.

**AOC Selection Committee** means the committee established by the AOC to send athletes and appoint officials to the Australian Olympic Team for the Games.

**AOC Selection Criteria** means the criteria adopted by the AOC in respect of the Games which outlines the requirements for an athlete to be selected by the AOC to participate in the Games.

**Athlete** means a person who:

- (a) participates in the Sport; and
- (b) is recognised by the National Federation or the AOC as eligible for nomination to the AOC for selection to the Team pursuant to this Nomination Criteria.

**Combination** means an Athlete and Horse combination.

**Dressage Selection Panel** means the Panel of Selectors<sup>1</sup> charged with the responsibility of identifying Combinations to be nominated to the AOC to represent Australia at the Games.

**Executive** means the Executive of the AOC.

**Extenuating Circumstances** means:

- (a) injury or illness;
- (b) equipment failure;
- (c) travel delays;
- (d) bereavement or disability arising from death or serious illness of an immediate family member, which means a spouse, de facto partner, child, parent, grandparent, grandchild or sibling; or
- (e) any other factors considered by the National Federation to constitute extenuating circumstances.

**FEI Rules** means the FEI Regulations for Equestrian Events at the Olympic Games (24<sup>th</sup> Edition)

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<sup>1</sup> Maryjane Crabtree (Chair), Jan Smith and Connie Murray. This panel may be amended at any time.

published by the International Federation, as updated from time to time.

**FEI Qualification Period** means 01 January 2019 to 1 June 2020.

**Games** means Games of the XXXII Olympiad, Tokyo 2020.

**High Performance Panel** means the Committee with delegated responsibility for oversight and guidance of Equestrian Australia's high performance program.

**Horse** means the horse to be nominated as part of a Combination.

**International Federation** means Federation Equestre Internationale (FEI).

**Minimum Eligibility Requirements or MER** has the meaning given in the Qualification System.

**National Federation** means Equestrian Australia (EA).

**Nomination Date** means 14 June 2020.

**P Alternate Athlete and Horse** has the meaning given in the Qualification System.

**Pre-Competition Change** means a change of a Combination that is made during the period between 14 June 2020 and two (2) hours before the scheduled starting time of the Grand Prix test as set out in Article 609 of the FEI Rules.

**Qualification System** means the eligibility, participation and qualification criteria for the Sport in respect of the Games issued by the International Federation.

**Sport** means Equestrian, Dressage.

**Sport Entries Deadline** means the date on which entries to the Games must be submitted by the AOC [6 July 2020].

**Team** means the team of athletes and officials selected by the AOC to participate in the Sport at the Games.

**TOCOG Long List** has the meaning given in clause 3.3.

## 1.2 Interpretation

- (a) Unless the context otherwise requires, reference to:
  - (i) a clause is to a clause of this Nomination Criteria;
  - (ii) the singular includes the plural and the converse also applies;
  - (iii) persons include incorporated and unincorporated bodies, partnerships, joint ventures and associations and vice versa and their legal personal representatives, successors and permitted assigns and substitutes; and
  - (iv) a party includes the party's executors, administrators, successors and permitted assigns and substitutes.
- (b) If a person to whom this Nomination Criteria applies consists of more than one person, then this Nomination Criteria binds them jointly and severally.
- (c) A reference to time, day or date is to time, day or date of Sydney, Australia.
- (d) Headings are for convenience only and do not form part of this Nomination Criteria or affect its interpretation.

## **2 General**

- 2.1 This Nomination Criteria is issued by the High Performance Panel pursuant to the delegations provided to it by the board of the National Federation. The National Federation will provide, or otherwise make available, this Nomination Criteria to all Athletes.
- 2.2 The National Federation may only nominate Athletes to the AOC in accordance with this Nomination Criteria.
- 2.3 This Nomination Criteria will take effect on and from 1 July 2019 and will cease to have effect at the conclusion of the Games.
- 2.4 This Nomination Criteria applies to:
  - (a) all Athletes;
  - (b) the National Federation; and
  - (c) the AOC.
- 2.5 The terms of the AOC Olympic Team Nomination and Selection By-Law are incorporated by reference into this Nomination Criteria. The National Federation must provide, or otherwise make available, the AOC Olympic Team Nomination and Selection By-Law to all Athletes.

## **3 Long List**

- 3.1 For the purpose only of identifying prospective members of the Team, the National Federation or AOC may maintain a Long List of Athletes.
- 3.2 Subject to clause 3.3 below, membership of the National Federation's or the AOC's Long List does not increase, decrease or otherwise affect an Athlete's prospects of being nominated by the National Federation, or being selected by the AOC, to the Team.
- 3.3 As required under Article 607.3 of the FEI Regulations for Olympic Games, the AOC will provide the Tokyo Olympic Games Organising Committee (TOCOG) with a list of all Athletes who could possibly be entered for the Olympic Games by the Accreditation Deadline (TOCOG Long List). Athletes who are not included on the TOCOG Long List are unable to be selected to the Team.

## **4 Athlete Quota Positions**

- 4.1 The National Federation may only nominate Athletes to the AOC for selection to the Team where, pursuant to the Qualification System, the International Federation has awarded the AOC or the National Federation athlete quota positions.
- 4.2 A National Federation may not nominate more Athletes than are permitted to be nominated by the AOC under the Qualification System.
- 4.3 The National Federation may nominate less Athletes than are permitted under the Qualification System, in its absolute discretion
- 4.4 Each Athlete must be selected as part of a Combination.

## 5 Eligibility Criteria

### *Athlete*

- 5.1 The National Federation will not nominate an Athlete as part of a Combination unless, as at the Nomination Date, the National Federation is satisfied on reasonable grounds that the Athlete:
- (a) is an Australian citizen;
  - (b) is a member of the National Federation;
  - (c) satisfies the Qualification System;
  - (d) was included on the TOCOG Long List;
  - (e) is likely to satisfy the AOC Selection Criteria;
  - (f) has not breached the AOC Anti-Doping By-Law, unless the Athlete has been sanctioned for the breach and has completed the sanction imposed;
  - (g) together with the Horse, does not, and is not likely to in the foreseeable future, suffer from any physical or mental impairment that would prevent the Athlete from competing at the Games to the highest possible standard for that Athlete;
  - (h) is part of a Combination with a Horse that is registered with the International Federation and eligible to compete for Australia under FEI General Regulations Art. 113 – Registration and Eligibility of Athletes and Horses and Art. 119 – Sport Nationality Status of Athletes;
  - (i) is willing to make the Horse available for examination at a time and location reasonably requested by the Team Veterinarian, or a Veterinarian nominated by the Team veterinarian, High Performance Director or Chair of the Dressage Selection Panel and accept and implement the reasonable recommendations of the Team veterinarian;
  - (j) fulfils the requirements of always maintaining an up to date FEI Medication Logbook;
  - (k) has not used nor administered any substance to the Horse that is in contravention of the EA Medication Control Policy and/or the FEI Anti-Doping and Controlled Medication Regulations unless they have been sanctioned for the breach and completed the sanction imposed;
  - (l) provides accurate and up-to-date information of their whereabouts on a regular basis to the National Federation;
  - (m) satisfies any reasonable additional precondition(s) prior to the Nomination Date that have been advised in writing to the Athlete by the National Federation; and
  - (n) has acted at all times in such a manner (including in their use of social media), so as to not bring the Athlete, the discipline of dressage or the National Federation into public disrepute or censure.

### *Horses*

- 5.2 The National Federation will not nominate a Horse unless, at the Nomination Date, the National Federation is satisfied on reasonable grounds that the Horse:
- (a) together with the Athlete to be nominated as part of the Combination, has achieved the Minimum Eligibility Requirements (MER), as set by the International Federation;
  - (b) is registered with the National Federation (or the corresponding federation of the nation in which the Horse is domiciled);

- (c) holds a current FEI passport or FEI recognition card;
- (d) has been registered with the International Federation as property of owners of Australian nationality by 15 January 2020;
- (e) has been examined to the satisfaction of the Team veterinarian (or veterinarian nominated by the Team veterinarian);
- (f) is not subject to a current sanction under the EA or FEI Equine Anti-Doping and Controlled Medication Regulations.

*Horse Owners*

- 5.3 In order for the Combination to be considered for nomination to the Team, the National Federation must receive from the owner(s) of the nominated Horse a signed copy of the EA Horse Owner Agreement at least one week prior to the Nomination Date.

## **6 Nomination Criteria**

### **Threshold Criteria**

The National Federation will only consider for nomination Combinations who have achieved within the FEI Qualification Period the following.

*FEI Qualification Criteria for Tokyo 2020*

- 6.1 The Combinations must achieve the Minimum Eligibility Requirements (MER) at selected Events which take place from 1 January 2019 until (and including) 1 June 2020 that being the date (5) weeks before the Sport Entries Deadline (the "MER Deadline").
- 6.2 The MER requires that a minimum 66% must be attributed twice to the Combination by both a 5\* judge and as an average from all judges in the competition, and the score must be achieved in a Grand Prix test at two different CDI3\*/CDI4\*/CDI5\*/CDI-W/CDIO events. The two 5\* judges must be of a nationality other than that of the Athlete. Scores achieved in Preliminary or Consolation Grand Prix classes judged by three judges do not count towards the MER.

*Competition Criteria for Tokyo 2020*

- 6.3 To be eligible for consideration for nomination, Combinations are to have achieved the following competition criteria:
- (a) Combinations must have achieved an overall percentage of 69% or higher in at least two Grand Prix tests at a CDI3\* or above or CDI-W event between 1 January 2019 and 14 June 2020; and
  - (b) if competing in a CDI3\*, there must be at least one 5\* judge on the Ground Jury. At least one of these scores of 69% or higher must have been achieved during 2020.

### **Subjective Criteria**

- 6.4 The National Federation will nominate the three (3) Combinations who satisfy the threshold criteria in clauses 0 to 6.3 who, in the opinion of the National Federation operating through its EA High Performance Panel and the Dressage Selection Panel, in its absolute discretion:
- (a) will be most likely to achieve the highest competitive results at the Games; and
  - (b) are, and will remain until the conclusion of the Games, positive ambassadors for the Sport, the National Federation and the Games.

## **Discretionary Considerations**

- 6.5 Combinations to be nominated for the Team will be identified by the Dressage Selection Panel in its sole and absolute discretion to achieve the best possible result at the Games. The Dressage Selection Panel may consider the following factors:
- (a) the level of competition and the depth of the field at which the result was obtained;
  - (b) the consistency of performance;
  - (c) an improving trend in performance;
  - (d) more recent results;
  - (e) the ability of the combination to compete successfully at high level international competition;
  - (f) demonstrated experience/success at international events;
  - (g) the ability or potential of the Combination to perform under the stress and pressure of an event such as the Games;
  - (h) the ability of the Athlete to prepare their Horse for a major campaign, and Championship Events, including the experience to perform in the Grand Prix Special;
  - (i) the ability of the Athlete to contribute to an effective and harmonious team;
  - (j) the physical form and fitness of the Athlete and their Horse; and
  - (k) the advice of the High Performance Director, the Chef d'Equipe, and the Team veterinarians, particularly concerning the fitness of the Combination to perform at the required level;
- 6.6 The Dressage Selection Panel has the discretion to place greater or lesser emphasis on any one or more of the Competition, Objective, Subjective or Discretionary Considerations outlined above.
- 6.7 For the avoidance of doubt, the Dressage Selection Panel will not approach their task as a pure numerical ranking of Combinations by scores alone.
- 6.8 In determining whether a Combination has satisfied the criteria set out in clauses 6.1 to 6.7 above, the National Federation will not have regard to Extenuating Circumstances.

## **P Alternate Athletes**

- 6.9 As Australia has received a team quota place in accordance with the Qualification System, the National Federation may identify one Combination as the P Alternate Athlete and Horse (in addition to the Combinations nominated for selection). The High Performance Panel, in its sole and absolute discretion, will decide whether or not to identify a P Alternate Athlete and Horse.
- 6.10 The Combination (if any) identified as the P Alternate Athlete and Horse will be determined based on the criteria set out in clauses 0 to 6.8 above.
- 6.11 For the avoidance of doubt, the Combination nominated as the P Alternate Athlete and Horse will not be part of the Team unless, and until, they are selected to replace a previously selected Combination.

## **7 Pre-Competition Change**

The National Federation may make a Pre-Competition Change following nomination of the team to the AOC, if:

- (a) in the opinion of the Dressage Selection Panel (in consultation with the Team veterinarians and/or the High Performance Director), there has been a loss of form or fitness by any member of a nominated Combination that is assessed to be likely to be sustained and affect performance at the Games; or
- (b) any member of a nominated Combination contravenes FEI Veterinary Regulations or the AOC policies;

by excluding that Combination from the nominated Combinations or (if the Team has already been selected) requesting that the AOC remove that Combination from the Team. The National Federation may nominate another Combination that meets the Eligibility and Nomination Criteria set out in this document to the AOC for selection in the Team in place of the excluded Combination.

7.2 In accordance with the FEI Rules, an Athlete cannot be nominated for selection as part of a Pre-Competition Change unless they were included on the TOCOG Long List. For the avoidance of doubt, the Combination nominated to replace a Combination already nominated to the Team as part of a Pre-Competition Change may or may not be the P Alternate Athlete.

7.3 At any time after the Pre-Competition Deadline (as defined in the FEI Rules), the National Federation may request that the AOC replace a selected Combination with the P Alternate Athlete and Horse if, in the opinion of the Dressage Selection Panel (in consultation with the Team veterinarian and/ or the High Performance Director), the criteria for replacement under the FEI Rules and the 'IOC/Tokyo 2020 Late Athlete Replacement policy' are satisfied.

## **8 Submission of Nominations**

8.1 The National Federation must notify Athletes of the Nomination Date in writing.

8.2 The AOC may, in its absolute discretion extend the Nomination Date for the National Federation for any reason.

8.3 The National Federation must nominate Athletes to the AOC by the Nomination Date. The National Federation must inform Athletes of their nomination or non-nomination by no later than:

- (a) 48 hours prior to the Nomination Date, where such written notice would be received by the Athlete 14 days prior to the Sport Entries Deadline; or
- (b) 24 hours prior to the Nomination Date, where such written notice would be received by the Athlete within 14 days of the Sport Entries Deadline,

or such later date as the AOC advises the National Federation.

8.4 Nominations submitted to the AOC must be in the form prescribed by the AOC or in a form that is otherwise acceptable to the AOC and include any such information that is required pursuant to the AOC Olympic Team Nomination and Selection By-Law.

8.5 The AOC may, in its absolute discretion, accept a nomination submitted after the Nomination Date where it is submitted by the National Federation as a result of an appeal brought in accordance with the AOC Olympic Team Nomination and Selection By-Law.

## **9 Amendments**

This Nomination Criteria may only be amended with the written consent of the AOC Selection Committee.

## **10 Governing Law**

This Nomination Criteria is governed by the laws of the State of New South Wales.