

FEI Driving World Championship for Combined Ponies

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

1. OBJECTIVE

To select athletes and pony teams who are able to achieve the best possible results at the 2023 World Championship. The term 'best possible result' encompasses both a team and an individual result.

If the Driving Selection panel and High Performance Director does not believe the expectation of a team placing, or numbers less than required to participate as a team, they may choose not to select a team and only send an individual to represent Australia.

2. PROCESS OF SELECTION

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

- 2.1 On or before 1st June **2023**, the National Driving Selection Panel (**the 'NDSP'**) will select Athletes to form a Long List of possible **World Championship Entries**. Any athletes who have met the FEI qualifying criteria for World Championship will be eligible for this list.
- 2.2 On or before 1st August (TBC) **2023**, the NDSP will select up to six (6) Combined Ponies Athletes to be nominated to the FEI (**'the World Championship Nominated Entries'**).
- 2.3 On or before 23rd August (TBC) **2023** the NDSP will select a Squad of three (3) Combined Ponies Athletes (**'the World Championship Squad'**). The World Championship Squad will be selected from the World Championship Nominated Entries. The World Championship Squad will comprise the three (3) athletes to compete at the World Championship (**'the World Championship Team'**). If there are not a sufficient number of combinations available to constitute a team, in individual combination may be nominated for the World Championship.
- 2.4 The Policy 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 this Policy.

3. SUBSTITUTION

- 3.1 Following selection of the World Championship Squad, if:
 - 3.1.1 In the opinion of the NDSP (in consultation with the Team Vet, the High Performance Director and the Chef d'Equipe), there has been a loss of form or fitness by a member of the World championship Squad (the loss of form to be assessed as likely to be sustained and affect performance at World Championship); or

- 3.1.2 A member of the World Championship Squad contravenes their athlete's agreement, FEI Veterinary Regulations or EA Rules and policies: or
- 3.1.3 A member of the World Championship Squad does not meet the requirements outlined in the athlete's agreement:

That member of the World Championship Squad may be replaced by another athlete previously Selected for the World Championship Nominated Entries ('a **Substitution**').

4. ELIGIBILITY FOR SELECTION TO THE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS NOMINATED ENTRIES

4.1 For **Athletes** to be eligible for selection for the World Championship Nominated Entries , 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 to attend and participate in training clinics and camps as notified in writing, unless an exemption has been granted by the High Performance Director in response to a timely request from the athlete for an exemption;
- 4.1.4 be able and willing to undertake an agreed training and competition program recommended by the High Performance Director after consultation with the athlete;
- 4.1.5 Not have used or administered any substance that, if it had been detected as being present in the athlete's body tissue or fluids, would have constituted Doping as defined in the EA Anti-Doping Policy;
- 4.1.6 Provide accurate and up-to-date whereabouts information on a regular basis to EA;
- 4.1.7 Satisfy any additional preconditions advised in writing to the Athlete by EA prior to or at the time of Selection for World Championship Nominated Entries;
- 4.1.8 Have acted and at all times act in such a manner so as to not bring the athlete, the discipline of Driving, or EA into public disrepute or censure; and
- 4.1.9 Have signed the EA National Athlete agreement.

4.2 For **Ponies** to be eligible for selection to World Championship Nominated Entries, all Ponies must:

- 4.2.1 be registered with EA or should the pony be permanently domiciled in a country other than Australia, a current FEI passport administered by EA or the drivers host country;
- 4.2.2 have passed a veterinary examination to the satisfaction of the Team Vet;
- 4.2.3 not have breached the requirements of the EA or FEI Anti-Doping & Controlled Medication Policies.

5. APPEALS

- 5.1 Appeals concerning non-selection of athletes and Ponies for the World Championship Squad will be heard by an EA Appeal Tribunal in accordance with the EA Appeal By-Laws.
- 5.2 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 High Performance Director of EA within three (3) working days from the date of the announcement of the World Championships Team.
- 5.4 It shall be a condition of selection for the World Championship Nominated Entries that each Athlete expressly agrees to and accepts the provisions of this clause 5 including, without limitation, clause 5.1.

6. NOMINATION CRITERIA

To be considered for selection for the World Championship Team Squad, all Athletes and Ponies must have met the Minimum Eligibility Requirements for a Championship pursuant to Article 913 and 914 of the FEI Driving Rules 2023.

6.1 Qualification period:

Start: 1 January 2022

End: 1 August 2023 TBC (Nominated Entry Date)

6.2 General Criteria

Drivers:

Open to athletes who meet the following criteria and have obtained the 3* status.

The Athlete must obtain the 3* status as per Art 913.2, prior to obtaining qualifying results at two (2) different International Driving Events.

3* Drivers must achieve a score of 70 points or less in their respective Dressage Test (3* HP2 – P4 or Test 3* HP1) 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 2023.

The following Dressage Tests will be run in an 80x40m arena at the Championships:

Pony Four in Hand: Test 3* HP2 - P4

Pony Pairs: Test 3* HP2 – P4

Pony Singles: Test 3* HP1

7. REMOVAL FROM A LIST

Athletes who:

- 7.1 by reason of illness or injury or soundness problems to either their pony or themselves are unable to perform to the required standard as determined by the RSP (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 World Championship Nominated List, or World Championship Team. Decisions regarding removal from the World Championship Nominated List or Team will be made by The High Performance Director.

8. NOMINATION TIMELINE

Date (on or before)	Event	Comments
1 January 2022	FEI Qualification Period Starts	
1 June 2023	Long List announced by NDSP	
tba	FEI Qualification Period ends	
1 August 2023 (tba)	World Championship Nominated entries announced by NDSP	
23 August 2023 (tba)	World Championship Team Announced	
30 August – 03 2023	CH-M-P-A 1 CH-M-P-A 2 CH-M-P-A 4	Oirschot (NED)