



FEI VAULTING WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP for JUNIORS & YOUNG VAULTERS 2027 – Verolanuova (ITA)



NATIONAL DISCIPLINE SELECTION POLICY 2027 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

VAULTING

Version 02

Effective Date: 1 October 2026

Review and Approval: Reviewed and approved by the Equestrian Australia Board.

1 Policy

This selection policy (the 'policy') covers the discipline of Vaulting.

- 1.1 The selection criteria have been approved by the High-Performance Committee (HPC) and the Board of Equestrian Australia (EA) and will take effect on and from the date of approval by the Board. It will cease to have effect at the conclusion of the Championships.
- 1.2 This selection criteria applies to:
 - a) All Athletes; and
 - b) EA

2 Objective

To select Athletes that in the absolute discretion of EA operating through the National Vaulting Selection Panel (the **NVSP**) will be most likely to achieve the highest Competition results at the Championship.

3 Eligibility Criteria

3.1 Athletes

For Vaulters to be eligible for selection for the World Championship Nominated Entries, all Vaulters and Horses selected must adhere to the following.

EA will not select a Vaulter and Horse as part of a Combination, Squad or Pas-de-Deux unless, as at the Nominated Entries Date, EA is satisfied on reasonable grounds that the Athlete:

- a) is a national of Australia and eligible to compete for Australia as determined by International Federation (FEI) General Regulation **Article 119- Sport Nationality Status of Athletes** which can be [accessed here](#);
- b) is and will continue to be, eligible to participate in the Championships as an Australian Athlete;
- c) is a member in good standing with EA;
- d) satisfies the Qualification system;
- e) has not committed any offence under the anti-doping policies of Sport Integrity Australia, the World Anti-doping Authority or EA for which a sanction imposed has not been discharged;
- f) has not committed any offence under any other policies of Sport Integrity Australia, the World Anti-doping Authority or EA for which a sanction imposed has not been discharged;
- g) has achieved all the Minimum Eligibility Requirements (MER), as set out in the Qualification System;

- h) does not, is not likely to in the foreseeable future, suffer from any physical or mental or physical impairment that would prevent the Athlete from competing at the Championship to the highest possible standard for that Athlete;
- i) agrees to complete any education models requested by the FEI or EA;
- j) be able and willing to prepare an agreed training and competition program recommended by the High Performance Director and NVSP after consultation with the Athlete;
- k) be able and willing to provide NVSP with competition video and test papers as and when requested by the HP Vaulting Sport Manager;
- l) is nominating Horse(s) that are registered with the International Federation and eligible to compete for Australia under **FEI General Regulation Article 113-Registration and Eligibility of Athletes and Horses**. For more information, click [here](#);
- m) is willing to make their Horse(s) 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 Vaulting Selection Panel and accept and implement the reasonable recommendations of the Team Veterinarian;
- n) has notified the Team Veterinarian, Chef d'Equipe and High Performance Director of any change in their Horse(s) health status or of any veterinary issues when they first become apparent;
- o) has not used or administered any substance to the Horse(s) 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;
- p) satisfies any reasonable additional precondition(s) prior to the nomination date that have been advised in writing to the Athlete by EA;
- q) has not by their actions or omissions brought the Athlete, the discipline of Vaulting or EA into public disrepute or censure, unless such conduct is disclosed to EA in the EA Athlete Agreement and EA decides to confirm the Athlete's eligibility notwithstanding such conduct;
- r) will sign a EA Athlete Agreement when required by EA;
- s) will consent to an EA Integrity Check (refer to Clause 7, Integrity);
- t) accepts that EA requires all those members involved in international equestrian competition sport to accept that at all times the welfare of the horse must be paramount. All Athletes must adhere at all times to the [FEI Code of Conduct for the Welfare of the Horse](#); and
- u) has a current passport with a expiry date no less than six (6) months after the final date of the World Championship competition.

3.2 Horses & Lungers

EA will not nominate a Horse or Lunger for the World Championship unless EA is satisfied on reasonable grounds that the Horse or Lunger:

- a) is registered with EA (or the corresponding Federation of the nation in which the horse is domiciled);
- b) holds a current FEI passport or FEI Recognition Card;
- c) has been registered with the International Federation as determined by FEI General Regulation **Article 113- Registration and Eligibility of Athletes and Horses**;
- d) has been examined to the satisfaction of the Team Veterinarian (or Veterinarian nominated by the Team Veterinarian); and
- e) is not subject to a current sanction under the EA or FEI Equine Anti-doping and Controlled Medication regulations.
- f) Horses starting for more than one National Federation must be entered on the Nominated Entries List of each Federation for which the Horse is to start, clearly indicating which Federation is responsible for the Horse.

3.3 Horse Owner/s

For a Combination to be considered for selection to the Team, EA must receive from the owner/s (if applicable) of the selected horse a signed copy of the Equestrian Australia Horse Owner Agreement when requested by EA.

4 Process of Selection

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

4.1 On or before Nominated Entries Date, the NVSP will announce:

- a) **Squad**, maximum of two (2) squads;
- b) **Individual**, maximum of six (6) Individual Females and six (6) Individual Males;
- c) **Pas-d-Deux**, maximum of eight Pas-de-Deux combinations;

To be nominated to the FEI (the **World Championship Nominated Entries**)

4.2 On or before Definite Entries Date, the NVSP will select;

- a) **Squad**, chosen from the Nominated Entries list for Squads:
 - i. 1 Squad of 6 Vaulters together with 1 Lunger and 1 Horse; plus
 - ii. 2 Reserve Vaulters, 1 Reserve Horse and 1 Reserve Lunger;
- b) **Individual**, chosen from the Nominated Entries List for Individuals:

- i. 3 Female Individual Vaulters together with 1 Horse and 1 Lunger for each Individual Female Vaulter; plus
- ii. 1 Reserve Female Individual Vaulter, 1 Reserve Horse and 1 Reserve Lunger; and
- iii. 3 Male Individual Vaulters together with 1 Horse and 1 Lunger for each Individual Male Vaulter; plus
- iv. 1 Reserve Male Individual Vaulter, 1 Reserve Horse and 1 Reserve Lunger;

c) **Pas-de-Deux**, chosen from the Nominated Entries list for Pas-de_Deux:

- i. 2 Pas-de-Deux of 2 Vaulters with 1 Horse and 1 Lunger for each Pas-de-Deux; plus
- ii. 1 Reserve Pas-de-Deux with 2 Reserve Vaulters, plus 1 Reserve Horse and 1 Reserve Lunger;

which, in the opinion of EA operating through its National Vaulting Selection Panel, in its absolute discretion, will be most likely to achieve the highest competitive results at the Championships (the '**World Championship Vaulting Team**').

4.3 The World Championship Vaulting Team will be selected from the World Championship Nominated Entries. If there are not a sufficient number of Combinations available to constitute a Team, an Individual Combination may be nominated by the NVSP.

5 Substitution

Following selection to the World Championship Vaulting Team and prior to Definite Entries Date:

- a) if a selected member or horse of the World Championship Vaulting Team is deemed unfit to travel or compete with by the NVSP (in consultation with the High Performance Director and the Team Veterinarian); or
- b) ceases to comply with the Athlete, Horse and Horse Owner eligibility in Clause 3; or
- c) breaches their EA Athlete Agreement;

that member of the World Championship Vaulting Team may be replaced by another previously selected for the World Championship Nominated Entries ('a **Substitution**'). In this instance, the World Championship Substitution:

- a) will be selected according to the criteria in Clause 4, 4.1-4.3 above.
- b) Will be nominated to the FEI completely at the discretion of the NVSP (and guided by the High Performance Director, Team Veterinarian and Chef d'Equipe).

6 Selection Criteria

The selection criteria combine pre-requisite FEI Minimum Eligibility Requirement (MER) followed by EA Competition Criteria and Discretionary Considerations.

6.1 Minimum Eligibility Requirement

To be able to participate in the Championship, Vaulters/Horses must achieve the MER set out under FEI Vaulting Championships Juniors and Young Vaulters Qualification Criteria which earn an **FEI Certificate of Capability** by 1 June 2027, listed [here](#).

6.2 Competition Criteria

In addition to Clause 6.1, to be eligible for consideration for selection, an Athlete is to have achieved the following competition criteria:

- a) Athletes should nominate a Horse and Lunger Combination who have previously demonstrated a horse score of at least 6.5 in the class in which it will be competing in the World Championship for Juniors or Young Vaulters.
- b) Scores must be obtained between 1 January 2026 until Nominated Entries Date, however, the NVSP will also observe performance results at all International, National and Official competitions within the selection period twelve (12) months prior to the Nominated Entries Date. The most recent results are favored, but do not automatically position one Athlete above another in terms of Selection.
- c) Combinations must be, and remain, until the conclusion of the Championship, positive ambassadors for the Sport, the National Federation and the Championship.

6.3 Discretionary Considerations

For the purposes of assessing Combinations that have achieved the criteria in Clause 6.2 the NVSP may consider the following factors in its sole and absolute discretion:

- a) evidence shown that the Athlete is able to consistently score above the minimum FEI qualification scores for the World Championship in the form of results from competitions where there are at least two (2) Judges with a minimum qualification comparable to EA Level 3 Vaulting Judge;
- b) the consistency of the Athletes' performances;
- c) an improving trend in the Athletes performances during 2027;
- d) more recent results, placing weight on scores in 2027;
- 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 Championships;
- h) the ability of the Athlete to contribute to an effective and harmonious national team;
- i) the advice of EA High-Performance Director, Chef d' Equipe and Team Veterinarians, particularly concerning the fitness to perform at the required level.

- 6.4 The NVSP has the discretion to place greater or lesser emphasis on any one or more of the factors outlined in Clause 6.3.
- 6.5 Consideration of unedited video of their performances in training when requested by the NVSP.
- 6.6 In determining whether a Combination has satisfied the criteria set out in Clause 3 and Clause 6, 6.2 to 6.3 above, EA may have regard to Extenuating Circumstances.

7 Integrity

As a condition of Selection and part of EA's commitment to upholding the highest standards of Integrity, EA will request Athlete consent for disclosure of any open integrity complaints or substantiated findings made against the Athlete in the past three (3) years. This information will be used solely for the purpose of evaluating eligibility and adherence to Integrity standards. Refer to Appendix 1 which outlines the framework and includes the formal consent form.

8 Appeals

A non-selected Athlete may only appeal against their non-Selection in accordance with the EA Selection Appeals Policy. For more information, [click here](#).

9 Selection Ombudsman

The High Performance Committee (HPC) will appoint a Selection Ombudsman to assist Athletes and the HPC to understand the process of selection and to explore resolution of potential disputes concerning selection and non-selection.

9.1 Powers of the Selection Ombudsman

- a) Investigate acts and omissions of the EA National Discipline Selection Panels in relation to the exercise of their powers under the Discipline Selection Policies where:
 - i. an Athlete has indicated that they are considering appealing a selection decision;
 - ii. a NDSP seeks clarification; and
 - iii. the Selection Ombudsman wishes to investigate on their own motion.
- b) For the purpose of promoting and monitoring compliance with the relevant Discipline Selection Policy the Selection Ombudsman:
 - i. may, and will be invited to, attend relevant meetings and have access to relevant materials and communications of the NDSP;
 - ii. communicates primarily with the High Performance Director and Chairs of Selectors of disciplines; and
 - iii. communicates directly to Athletes through explanatory and debriefing sessions arranged by the High Performance Director.

- c) The Selection Ombudsman is not required to investigate all complaints or inquiries. For example, the Selection Ombudsman may refuse to deal with a matter if the Selection Ombudsman considers:
 - i. it is trivial, frivolous, vexatious or not made in good faith; or
 - ii. it lacks substance or credibility; or
 - iii. the subject matter of the complaint or inquiry has already been investigated or otherwise dealt with by the Selection Ombudsman.
- d) Investigations by the Selection Ombudsman must be completed promptly and within the timeframes governing rights of appeal by non-selected Athletes.
- e) The Selection Ombudsman prepares timely written reports to the High Performance Director that address any acts or omissions of the relevant NDSP in relation to the exercise of their powers under the Discipline Selection policy and may make recommendations which must be given due consideration by the HPC and the relevant NDSP. The report may at the discretion of the High Performance Director be provided in full or in part to the Athlete but is otherwise confidential.

10 Amendments

This Selection Criteria may only be amended with the approval of the Equestrian Australia Board. If amended, Equestrian Australia must publish the updated Selection Criteria to Equestrian Australia's Website and advise Athletes of the amendment.

11 Governing Law

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

12 Definitions and Interpretations

12.1 Definitions

Athlete means a person who:

- a) participates in the Sport of Vaulting; and
- b) is recognised by EA as eligible for Selection to the Team pursuant to this Selection Criteria.

Championships means the 2027 FEI World Championships for Junior & Young Vaulters.

Combination means an Athlete, Lunger and Horse

Definite Entries Date means the date on which definite entries to the Championships must be submitted to the FEI by EA and is generally four (4) days prior to the commencement of the event. The FEI is still to advise all National Federations of this date.

Extenuating Circumstances means:

- c) injury or illness;
- d) equipment failure;
- e) travel delays;
- f) 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
- g) any other factors considered by EA to constitute extenuating circumstances.

FEI Rules means the FEI Regulations for Equestrian Events at the World Championships published by the International Federation, as updated from time to time. For more information, [click here](#).

FEI Qualification Period means 01 January 2026 to the Nominated Entries Date.

High Performance Committee or HPC means the Committee with delegated responsibility for oversight and guidance of EA's High Performance Program.

Horse means the horse to be selected as part of a Combination, Squad or Pas de Deux.

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

Minimum Eligibility Requirements or **MER** is FEI terminology and has the meaning given in the Qualification System (EA General Regulations Article 117 refers to MER as Minimum Eligibility Standard or MES/they are one and the same).

National Vaulting Selection Panel (NVSP) means the [Panel of Selectors](#) approved via the relevant appointment processes by the High Performance Committee and EA Board and charged with the responsibility of selecting Combinations to represent Australia in the sport of Vaulting at the Championships.

Nominated Entries Date means the date on which nominated entries to the Championships must be submitted to the FEI by EA and is generally twenty-eight (28) days prior to the commencement of the event. The FEI is still to advise all National Federations of this date.

Qualification system means the eligibility, participation and qualification criteria for the Sport in respect of the Championships issued by the FEI. For more information, click [here](#).

Selection Appeals Policy means the EA policy which is available [here](#).

Sport means Vaulting.

Team means the team of Athletes and officials selected by EA to participate in the Sport at the Championships.

12.2 Interpretation

- a) Unless the context otherwise requires, reference to:
 - i. a clause is to a clause of this Selection 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 Selection Criteria applies consists of more than one person, then this Selection 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 Selection Criteria or affect its interpretation.



Appendix 1 – Sport Integrity and the National Integrity Framework

Sport Integrity Australia (SIA) and Equestrian Australia are committed to protecting our sport. Threats to sports integrity, which may include competition-manipulation, doping and behaviors that impact people's positive experience of sport are taken seriously.

More information on the National Integrity Framework can be found at:

<https://www.equestrian.org.au/content/ea-integrity>

EA Integrity Check Consent Form

The consent form will be treated as a confidential document.

All correspondence in relation to the Integrity Check must be directed to the EA Integrity Manager.

To enable confidentiality, once completed and signed by the Athlete and their Witness, the Equestrian Australia Integrity Check Consent Form must be returned via email to integrity@equestrian.org.au.

Sport Integrity Australia Education Module

It is a requirement for attending any EA Selection events, for example the upcoming World Championships, that the following modules must be completed by Athletes, EA Staff and Team Support persons. Proof of completion will require a copy of the SIA Certificate be returned to aet@equestrian.org.au:

- Anti-doping fundamentals (if not already completed)
- Annual update
- Illicit drugs in sport
- Safeguarding children and young people in sport induction

You can use this link:

[eLearning course overview | Sport Integrity Australia](#)

These courses help protect you and our sport by promoting understanding, compliance and ethical behaviour.

Please make sure you're checking all your medications and supplements:

[Global DRO - Home](#)