

FEI Driving World Championship for Four-In-Hand Horses

This selection policy ('the policy') covers the discipline of Driving (four-in-hand horses).

1. OBJECTIVE

To select combinations for the Australian Driving Team to achieve the best possible result for Australia at the 2024 FEI World Driving Championships for Horse Four-In-Hand. The term "best possible result" encompasses both a team and an individual result.

2. PROCESS OF SELECTION (Entries)

Subject to the terms of this Policy, relevant National and FEI Athlete and Horse membership requirements, Equestrian Australia (EA) Code of Conduct and Anti-doping policies and any relevant additional FEI qualification/entry requirement including:

2.1 FEI General Regulations

- Article 116.2

2.2 FEI Driving Rules and Para Driving Rules (1 January 2024)

- Article 913.2
- Article 914

This 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. DETERMINATION OF PLACES

A maximum of six Four-in-Hand Athletes with a maximum of ten Horses per Four-in-hand on the nominated entry list and a maximum of three Four-in-hand Athletes with a maximum of five Horses per Four-in-hand on the Definite Entry list.

Should Australia only be able to send two Athletes, they will be entered as a Team.

Should Australia only be able to send one Athlete, they will be sent as an Individual (Article 919).

Therefore, the allocated places will be issued to those combinations that the Driving Selectors deem to be the most competitive under the FEI Driving World Championship for Four-in-hand Horses, and the most likely to advance Australian Driving. The Selectors may also select a Chef d'Equipe.

4. NOMINATION CRITERIA

4.1 Qualification period:

Start: 1 January 2023

End: FEI Nominated Entry date (TBA)

4.2 General Criteria

Open to Athletes that meet the following criteria and have obtained the 3* Status as per Article 913.2, prior to obtaining the following qualifying results at two (2) different International Driving events. 3* Drivers must:

- Achieve a score of 70 points or less in the Dressage test 3*B H4 during a CH-EU-A4, CAIO4*, CAI3* OR CAI3* World Cup Qualifier; and
- Successfully complete (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 1 January 2024.

5. SUBSTITUTION

Following selection of the World Championship Team or Individual, if:

- 5.1 In the opinion of the NDSP (in consultation with the High-Performance Director, Chef d'Equipe and Veterinary consult) there has been a loss of form or fitness by a member (the loss of form to be assessed as likely to be sustained and affect performance at World Championship); or
- 5.2 A member contravenes their athlete's agreement, FEI Vet Regulations or EA Rules and Policies; or
- 5.3 A member does not meet the requirements in outlined in the athlete's Agreement;

That member of the World Championship Team may be replaced by another athlete previously selected for the World Championship Nominated entries (a 'Substitution').

6. APPEALS

- 6.1 Appeals concerning non-selection of athletes and their Horses for the World Championship will be heard by an EA Appeal Tribunal in accordance with EA Appeal By-Laws.
- 6.2 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 announcement of the World Championship Team.
- 6.3 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 6 including, without limitation, clause 6.1.

7. REMOVAL FROM A LIST

Athletes who:

- 7.1 by reason of illness or injury or soundness problems to either their horse or themselves are unable to perform to the required standard as determined by the NDSP (after having received advice from a medical practitioner or Veterinary consult); 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 Athletes 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. TIMING

Those combinations interested in applying for a position at this competition must adhere to the following timeline:

Date (on or before)	Function/Event	Comments
1 January 2023	FEI Qualification Period Starts	
1 January 2024	One Qualifying result required	
TBA	FEI Qualifying Period Ends	
TBA	FEI WC Nominated Entry Date	NDSP Announce as Long List
3 days before Def	NDSP select Team/Ind places	All nominations contacted
TBA	FEI WC Definite Entry Date	NDSP Announces WC Team/Ind
1 September 2024	FEI WC Definite Entry Date	EA Estimate this date, please note FEI Schedule not available March 2024 when policy compiled.
4 – 8 September 2024	FEI Driving World Championship for Four-in-hand 2024: Szilvasvarad (HUN)	CH-M-A 4 Dressage Test 3*B H4