

2022 OCEANIA CHAMPIONSHIPS SELECTION POLICY

1. OBJECTIVE

To select athletes and horses who are able to:

- a. Achieve the best possible result at the Oceania Championships; and/or
- b. Contribute to the future development of the Australian Eventing Team as it prepares for the World Championships, Paris 2024 and future championships.

2. SELECTORS

For the purposes of selecting the team to compete at the Oceania Championships, the NESP will comprise:

- Georgia Widdup
- Nigel Nichols
- Stephen Bow
- Claudia Hodson
- Will Enzinger

3. PROCESS OF SELECTION

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

- 3.1 EOI Nominations are required before 8 April 2022 on the EA application form.
- 3.2 On or before 20 May 2022 the NESP will select a Squad of 18 combinations (**'the Oceania Squad'**). The Oceania Squad will comprise:
 - a. the eight (8) Senior Rider combinations to compete at the Oceania Championships (**'the Senior Team'**);
 - b. four (4) Young Rider combinations to compete at the Oceania Championships (**'the Young Rider Team'**)
 - c. four (4) Senior reserve combinations (**'the Senior Team Reserves'**); and
 - d. two (2) Young Rider reserve combinations (**'the Young Rider Reserves'**).
- 3.3 Together, the Senior Team and the Young Rider Team will be known as the Oceania Team.
- 3.4 Together, the Senior Team Reserves and the Young Rider Reserves will be known as the Oceania Squad Reserves.

- 3.5 Following the training camp for the Oceania Championships, the NESP will confirm which of the combinations from the Oceania squad will form each team of four (4) combinations, including the specification of those combinations that will participate as the three (3) team combinations and one (1) individual combination ('the Oceania Individual') at the Oceania Championships.
- 3.6 Following the first horse inspection (or earlier as deemed appropriate by the Chef d'Equipe), members of the Senior Team will be allocated to either the 'Gold' team or the 'Green' team.
- 3.7 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 criteria. Any variation, amendment or supplement to the Policy, must be in writing. EA will endeavor to give as much notice as possible to all persons affected by any variation, amendment or supplement to the Policy.

4. SUBSTITUTION

- 4.1 Following selection of the Oceania Team if:

- 4.1.1 In the opinion of the NESP (in consultation with the High Performance Director or Consultant, Chef d'Equipe and Team Veterinarian), there has been a loss of form or fitness by a member of the Oceania Team that is likely to be sustained and affect performance at the Oceania Championships; or
- 4.1.2 A member of the Oceania team contravenes their athlete agreement, FEI Veterinary Regulations or EA Rules and policies; or
- 4.1.3 A member of the Oceania team does not meet the requirements outlined in the athletes agreement;

that member of the Oceania team may be replaced by one of the Oceania Squad Reserves ('a **Reserve Substitution**')

5. ELIGIBILITY FOR SELECTION FOR THE OCEANIA SQUAD LIST

- 5.1 For athletes to be eligible for selection for the Oceania Squad List, all athletes must:
 - 5.1.1 be a current member of EA
 - 5.1.2 be eligible to compete for Australia as per FEI regulations Art 119;
 - 5.1.3 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;

- 5.1.4 be able and willing to undertake an agreed training and competition program recommended by the High Performance Director after consultation with the athlete;
 - 5.1.5 be willing to make their horse(s) available for examination at a time and locations reasonably requested by the Team Vet and accept and implement the reasonable recommendations of the Team Vet;
 - 5.1.6 have signed the Eventing National Squad Agreement or Australian Equestrian Team member agreement;
 - 5.1.7 satisfy any additional preconditions advised in writing to the athlete by EA prior to or at the time of selection for the Oceania SquadList;
 - 5.1.8 demonstrate to the satisfaction of EA that they are not suffering any physical or mental impairment that would prevent them from competing in the Championships to the highest possible standard; and
 - 5.1.9 have acted and at all times act in such a manner so as to not bring the athlete, the discipline of Equestrian or EA into public disrepute or censure.
- 5.2 For Horses to be eligible for selection for the Oceania Squad List, all horses must:
- 5.2.1 be registered with EA or another FEI-recognised National Federation;
 - 5.2.2 have passed a veterinary examination¹ to the satisfaction of the Team Vet
 - 5.3.3 hold a valid FEI passport

6. NOMINATION CRITERIA

The Nomination Criteria combines both Competition Criteria and General Criteria.

6.1 Competition Criteria

To be considered for selection for the Oceania Squad, all horses and athletes must have met the Minimum Eligibility Requirements for the level at which they will compete pursuant to Article 517 FEI Eventing Rules 2022 and Article 520.3 of the Equestrian Australia Eventing Rules 2022.

6.2 General Criteria

In evaluating the performances of combinations that have met the Competition Criteria, the NESP will take into account the following General Criteria:

- (a) Competition considerations

¹ The timing and form of each horse's veterinary examination will be at the sole discretion of the Team Vet

- (i) The NESP will primarily consider competition results achieved at CCI5*-L, CCI4*-L, and CC14*-S for the Senior teams, and CCI4*-L, CCI4*-S, CCI3*-L and CC13*-S for the Young Rider team during 2019 through 2022.
- (ii) The NESP may also consider performances prior to 2019 but they will generally carry less weight.

(b) Objective Considerations

In assessing the competition performances of Combinations, the NESP will consider the following objective measures:

- (i) The final score (across all three phases of the competition);
- (ii) The scores achieved in each individual phase; and
- (iii) The final placing of the Combination (the NESP note that the score and the placing of each Combination will be considered but do not automatically position one Combination above another for nomination purposes).
- (iv) The NESP will, in its sole discretion, consider (but not rely) on data and analysis provided by external providers including (but not limited to) the Australian Institute of Sport and EquiRatings. Any rankings or ratings provided by external providers will not automatically position one Combination ahead of another for nomination purposes.

(c) Discretionary Considerations

In assessing the performances of Combinations, the NESP will consider the following competition based factors. These factors include, but are not restricted to:

- (v) The performance of each Combination in relation to the quality and number of competitors;
- (vi) The technical features of the competition, in particular (but not limited to):
 - (A) the dressage judging (including the breakdown of scores across multiple judges);
 - (B) the technical difficulty and size of the cross-country fences;
 - (C) the cross country terrain;
 - (D) the relative difficulty of the show jumping;
 - (E) the quality of the riding by an Athlete;
 - (F) the atmosphere of the competition; and

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- (G) the general conditions under which the performance is achieved, such as the weather, surface and footing.

(c) General Factors

In assessing the performances of Combinations, the NESP will give consideration to general factors. These general factors include, but are not limited to:

- (i) The suitability of the Combination for the expected conditions of the Oceania Championships (taking into account the objective of the team and individual competition) including but not limited to:
 - (A) the anticipated technical difficulty and size of the cross country fences;
 - (B) the anticipated terrain; and
 - (C) the anticipated climatic conditions
- (ii) The overall balance of the Combinations that have been selected;
- (iii) The ability and experience of the Combination to compete successfully at international competition. Consideration will be given to;
 - (A) demonstrated experience and/ or success at Championship level;
 - (B) the ability, or potential ability, of a Horse and/or Athlete to perform under the stress and pressure of a Championship;
 - (C) the ability of the Athlete to prepare their Horse to peak condition for a major campaign;
 - (D) the ability of the Athletes to contribute towards an effective team environment;
 - (E) consistency of performance and the likelihood of a suitable performance to contribute towards a team outcome may be a consideration;
 - (F) exceptional ability of a Combination (and the potential to achieve an individual medal) may be a consideration and may, in the Eventing Selection Panel's sole discretion, place a Combination with less experience or consistency ahead of another Combination.
- (iv) The NESP has the discretion to place a greater emphasis on one or more of the nomination considerations in considering Combinations for nomination.

7. NOMINATION TIMELINE

DATE (ON OR BEFORE)	EVENT	COMMENTS
8 April 2022	EOI Nominations due	Return application to: di.saunders@equestrian.org.au
20 May 2022	Oceania Squad announced	8 x Senior combinations to compete + 4 reserves, 4 x Young Rider combinations to compete + 4 reserves
Prior to first Horse Inspection at Oceania Championships	Oceania team Individual Competitors announced	