

SELECTION POLICY 2022 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

PARA EQUESTRIAN

This selection policy ('the policy') covers the discipline of Para Equestrian.

1. OBJECTIVE

To select athletes and horse combinations who are able to achieve the best possible results at the 2022 World Championships.

Further to this, Equestrian Australia's High Performance department are committed to funding **only** genuine medal contention combinations to attend the World Championships.

Should there be (in the Para-Equestrian Selection Panel and Para Equestrian Manager's opinion) no genuine medal contenders, or numbers less than required to participate as a team, only individuals may be sent to compete.

2. PROCESS OF SELECTION

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

- 2.1 On or before **3 July 2022**, the National Para Equestrian Selection Panel ('**the PESP**¹) will select up to eight (8) qualified horse and athlete combinations to be nominated to the FEI ('**the World Championship Nominated Entries**').
- 2.2 On or before **11 July 2022**, the PESP will select individuals or up to four (4) combinations to compete at the 2022 World Championships. The combinations participating in the 2022 World Championships will be selected from the World Championship Nominated Entries. The PESP also have the discretion to name up to four (4) reserve combinations ('**the World Championship Reserves**') that will not be ranked.
- 2.3 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, must be in writing. EA will endeavour to give as much notice as possible to all persons affected by any variation, amendment or supplement to the Policy.

3. SUBSTITUTION

- 3.1 Following selection of the World Championship Individuals and/or Team, and prior to the Definite Entries Date, if:
 - 3.1.1 In the opinion of the PESP (in consultation with the Team Vet, the High Performance Director and the Para Equestrian Manager), there has been a loss of form or fitness by a member of the World Championship Team, that is assessed to be likely to be sustained and affect performance at 2022 World Championship; or

¹ Veronica Steward, Gary Lung, Elaine Greene

- 3.1.2 A member of the 2022 World Championship Team contravenes their athlete agreement, FEI Veterinary Regulations or EA Rules and policies; or
- 3.1.3 A member of the World Championship Team does not meet the requirements outlined in the Athletes Agreement, that member of the 2022 World Championship Team may be replaced by another combination who was included in the 2022 World Championship Reserves (**'a Substitution'**).

4. ELIGIBILITY FOR SELECTION FOR 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 current members of EA;
- 4.1.2 Be eligible to compete for Australia as per FEI regulations Art. 119;
- 4.1.3 Be able to attend and participate in training clinics and camps as notified in writing, unless a written exemption has been granted by the High Performance Director or Para-Equestrian Manager in response to a timely written request from the athlete for an exemption;
- 4.1.4 be able and willing to undertake the training and competition program recommended by the High Performance Director and Para-Equestrian Manager after consultation with the athlete;
- 4.1.5 be willing to make their horse(s) available for examination at a time and location reasonably requested by the Team Vet and accept and implement the reasonable recommendations of the Team Vet;
- 4.1.6 have signed the Para-Equestrian National Squad Agreement
- 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 CHAMPIONSHIPS Nominated Entries;
- 4.1.8 demonstrate to the satisfaction of EA that they are not suffering any physical or mental impairment that would prevent them from competing in the Games to the highest possible standard; and
- 4.1.9 have acted and at all times act in such a manner so as to not bring the athlete, the discipline of Para Equestrian or EA into public disrepute or censure.

4.2 For Horses to be eligible for selection for the World Championship Nominated Entries, all horses must:

- 4.2.1 be registered with EA or another FEI-recognised National Federation;

4.2.2 have passed a veterinary examination² to the satisfaction of the Team Vet;

5. APPEALS

- 5.1 Appeals concerning non-selection of athletes and horses for the World Championship Team will be heard by an EA Appeal Tribunal in accordance with the EA Appeal By-Laws.
- 5.2 There will be one level of appeal only with the sole grounds for an Appeal being that this 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 CEO of EA within three (3) working days from the date of the announcement of the WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS Squad.
- 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

The nomination criteria combines both Competition Criteria and General Criteria.

6.1 Competition Criteria

To be considered for selection for the World Championships Team, all horses and athletes must have met the Minimum Eligibility Requirement for a Championship pursuant to the FEI World Championships 2022 - Qualification Criteria for Para-Equestrian Dressage:

https://inside.fei.org/system/files/QualCrit_%20Seniors_2022.pdf

Qualification Period:

Start: 1 January 2021

End: 4 July 2022

In addition to the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games

Minimum Qualification Criteria (art 8451 Para-Equestrian Dressage Rules)

Qualifying Events: Any CPEDI 3* or above event during the qualification period in addition to the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games.

Qualification Score: All Athlete/Horse combinations must have attained (as a combination) a minimum 62 % score attributed by the Ground Jury in a Team Test or Individual Championship Test one time.

² The timing and form of each horse's veterinary examination will be at the sole discretion of the Team Vet

6.2 General Criteria

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

(a) Competition considerations

(i) Have achieved an overall percentage of 70% or above in the Team or Individual Test in at least two (2) nominated World Championship Observation Events in 2022.

(ii) Target Scores for each grade to be taken into consideration when selecting the World Championships 2022 Team and/or Individuals are as follows:

Grade 1	79.01%
Grade 2	74.59%
Grade 3	77.24%
Grade 4	74.72%
Grade 5	75.31%

Target scores are based on the average of the gold, silver and bronze medal winning scores from the Team and Individual Tests in each Grade at the Tokyo 2020 Paralympics.

(ii) Athletes must provide at least two (2) Team and two (2) Individual test scores from selected CPEDN Events or CPEDI3* Events from 2022. These scores will be averaged to produce a final score then used to calculate a ranking list. The ranking list will be considered by the PESP as an indicator of performance standard.

(b) Observation Events - A list of three (3) Australian shows and any CPEDI3* Western European/UK shows which has been discussed with the Para-Equestrian Manager may be nominated as Observation shows.

The three (3) Australian Observation Events are as follows;

- CPH Para Dressage National Championships CPEDI3*: 6th – 9th April 2022
- Sydney CDI National Event: 26th – 28th April 2022
- Boneo CPEDI3*: 9th – 12th June 2022

(c) Discretionary Considerations

The PESP has the discretion to place a greater emphasis on one or more of the general criteria in considering combinations for selection. In assessing the performances of Combinations, the PESP will consider the following competition based factors. These factors include, but are not restricted to:

- (i) The performance of each Combination in relation to the quality and number of competitors;
- (ii) The technical features of the competition, in particular (but not limited to):
 - (a) The judging (including the breakdown of scores across multiple judges);
 - (b) the quality of the riding by an Athlete
 - (c) the atmosphere of the competition; and
 - (d) the general conditions under which the performance is achieved, such as weather, surface and footing.
- (iii) Where the aspect of ‘current form’ is to be considered, performances at most recent events may be taken into account as to how this relates to improving form
- (iv) Placing’s at all CPEDIs (or nominated CPEDNs) within the selection period will be considered but do not necessarily position one rider above another in terms of selection.
- (v) A rider and horse combination maintaining a consistent standard during the selection period may be selected ahead of a combination that may have achieved higher scores, but whose performances are less consistent. Performances demonstrating an improving trend will be considered favourably.
- (vi) Results achieved at CPEDI events in Europe may carry a greater weighting in selection than those results achieved by combinations at competitions in Australia, dependent upon factors such as the quality of the field, level and experience of the judges, and any other factors that may affect the competition (at the sole discretion of the Selectors)
- (vii) The PESP at their discretion will take into consideration each athlete’s ability to add to a positive team environment under the unique stressors of International Team Competition.

7. DISCRETIONARY CONSIDERATIONS

7.1 Extraordinary Factors

In considering the performances of athletes and horses at events, training camps or other activities required under this policy, the Selection Panel may in their discretion give weight to extraordinary factors applying to that athlete and/or horse.

7.1.1 Athletes unable to compete at events, trials, training camps or other attendances required under this policy must advise the High Performance Director and Para-Equestrian Manager of this fact, and the reasons, in writing, before the commencement of the activity or as soon as practicable.

- 7.1.2 In the case of injury or illness, the athlete may be required to undergo a medical examination by a doctor or doctors nominated by EA.
- 7.1.3 In the case of illness or soundness problems of the horse, the horse will be required to undergo a veterinary examination by the National Team Vet or by a vet nominated by the Team Vet.
- 7.1.4 In the case of bereavement, equipment failure, travel delays, quarantine factors or other extraordinary factors, the Selection Panel will make a decision on an individual basis.

7.2 Removal from a List

Athletes who:

- 7.2.1 by reason of illness, injury or soundness problems to either their horse or themselves are unable to perform to the required standard as determined by the Selection Panel (after having received advice from a medical practitioner or the Team Vet); or
- 7.2.2 contravene the FEI or EA Codes of Conduct, FEI Veterinary Regulations or EA Rules and policies; or
- 7.2.3 fail to comply with the terms of their Athletes agreement; or
- 7.2.3 do not meet any other stated requirement communicated to them in writing by EA,

may be removed from the World Championship Squad. Removal from the World Championship Squad by the EA Selection Panel may only be with the prior written approval of the HPD of EA.

8. POST SELECTION SUBSTITUTIONS

If, after team selection, the horse sustains an injury and/or exacerbates an earlier injury and/or shows symptoms of an illness at any time up to the point of competition, the horse will be subject to an assessment of the current form of the horse to compete at the expected level. This assessment will be conducted by the Team Veterinarian or a Nominated Representative. Results of this assessment would be forwarded to the PESP to carry out a decision on the suitability of the horse to retain their position in the team.

Any replacement must be made in accordance with this Selection Policy.

9. CLASSIFICATION

If, should an athlete's classification grade should be changed throughout the duration of the selection and qualification period, that athlete may still be eligible for selection at the new grade of classification if they fulfil the requirements for selection within their new grade.

ANNEXURE A

Para Equestrian Selection Timelines –

Date	Event	Comment
1 January 2021 – 4 July 2022	World Championship Qualifying Period	
3 July 2022	World Championships Nominated Entries announced by PESP	
4 July 2022	FEI Qualification period ends	
11 July 2022	World Championship Individuals and/or Team announced	
25 July 2022	World Championship FEI Definite Entries	
9 August 2022	World Championship commence Herning, Denmark	
14 August 2022	World Championship concludes Herning, Denmark	