

## Nomination Criteria

### 2020 Olympic Games, Tokyo, Japan

### Equestrian, Eventing

## 1 Definitions and Interpretation

### 1.1 Definitions

Unless otherwise defined below, capitalised terms in this Nomination Criteria have the meaning given to them in the AOC Olympic Team Nomination and Selection By-Law, certain of which have been reproduced below for the sake of convenience.

**Accreditation Deadline** means 9 April 2021.

**AOC** means the Australian Olympic Committee Inc. and any of its officers, employees or agents and any committee it convenes including the AOC Selection Committee.

**AOC Olympic Team Nomination and Selection By-Law** means the document adopted by the Executive which governs, among other things, the nomination and selection of Athletes to a team for an Olympic Games or Olympic Winter Games.

**AOC Selection Committee** means the committee established by the AOC to send athletes and appoint officials to the Australian Olympic Team for the Games.

**AOC Selection Criteria** means the criteria adopted by the AOC in respect of the Games, which outlines the requirements for an athlete to be selected by the AOC to participate in the Games.

**Athlete** means a person who:

- (a) participates in the Sport; and
- (b) is recognised by the National Federation or the AOC as eligible for nomination to the AOC for selection to the Team pursuant to this Nomination Criteria.

**Combination** means an Athlete and Horse combination.

**Eventing Selection Panel** means the Panel of Selectors<sup>1</sup> charged with the responsibility of identifying Combinations to be nominated to the AOC to represent Australia at the Games.

**Executive** means the Executive of the AOC.

**Extenuating Circumstances** means:

- (a) injury or illness;
- (b) equipment failure;
- (c) travel delays;

<sup>1</sup> Georgia Widdup (Chair) and Nigel Nichols. This panel may be amended at any time.

- (d) 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
- (e) any other factors considered by the National Federation to constitute extenuating circumstances.

**FEI Rules** means the FEI Regulations for Equestrian Events at the Olympic Games (24<sup>th</sup> Edition) published by the International Federation, as updated from time to time.

**FEI Qualification Period** means 01 January 2019 to 21 June 2021.

**Games** means Games of the XXXII Olympiad, Tokyo 2020.

**High Performance Panel** means the Committee with delegated responsibility for oversight and guidance of Equestrian Australia's high performance program.

**Horse** means the horse to be nominated as part of the Combination.

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

**Minimum Eligibility Requirements or MER** has the meaning given in the Qualification System

**National Federation** means Equestrian Australia (EA).

**Nomination Date** means 23 June 2021.

**P Alternate Athlete and Horse** has the meaning in the Qualification System.

**Pre-Competition Change** means a change of a Combination that is made during the period between 21 June 2021 and two (2) hours before the scheduled starting time of the Dressage test as set out in Article 609 of the FEI Rules.

**Qualification System** means the eligibility, participation and qualification criteria for the Sport in respect of the Games issued by the International Federation.

**Sport** means Equestrian, Eventing.

**Sport Entries Deadline** means the date on which entries to the Games must be submitted by the AOC 5 July 2021.

**Team** means the team of athletes and officials selected by the AOC to participate in the Sport at the Games.

**TOCOG Long List** has the meaning given in clause 3.3

## 1.2 Interpretation

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

## 2 General

- 2.1 This Nomination Criteria is issued by the High Performance Panel pursuant to the delegations provided to it by the board of the National Federation. The National Federation will provide, or otherwise make available, this Nomination Criteria to all Athletes.
- 2.2 The National Federation may only nominate Athletes to the AOC in accordance with this Nomination Criteria.
- 2.3 This Nomination Criteria will take effect on and from 1 July 2020 and will cease to have effect at the conclusion of the Games.
- 2.4 This Nomination Criteria applies to:
  - (a) all Athletes;
  - (b) the National Federation; and
  - (c) the AOC.
- 2.5 The terms of the AOC Olympic Team Nomination and Selection By-Law are incorporated by reference into this Nomination Criteria. The National Federation must provide, or otherwise make available, the AOC Olympic Team Nomination and Selection By-Law to all Athletes.

## 3 Long List

- 3.1 For the purpose only of identifying prospective members of the Team, the National Federation or AOC may maintain a Long List of Athletes.
- 3.2 Subject to clause 3.3 below, membership of the National Federation's or the AOC's Long List does not increase, decrease or otherwise affect an Athlete's prospects of being nominated by the National Federation, or being selected by the AOC, to the Team.
- 3.3 As required under Article 607.3 of the FEI Regulations for Olympic Games, the AOC will provide the Tokyo Olympic Games Organising Committee (TOCOG) with a list of all Athletes who could possibly be entered for the Olympic Games by the Accreditation Deadline (TOCOG Long List). Athletes who are not included on the TOCOG Long List are unable to be selected to the Team.

#### 4 Athlete Quota Positions

- 4.1 The National Federation may only nominate Athletes to the AOC for selection to the Team where, pursuant to the Qualification System, the International Federation has awarded the AOC or the National Federation athlete quota positions.
- 4.2 A National Federation may not nominate more Athletes than are permitted to be nominated by the AOC under the Qualification System.
- 4.3 Each Athlete must be selected as part of a Combination.

#### 5 Eligibility Criteria

##### *Athlete*

- 5.1 The National Federation will not nominate an Athlete as part of a Combination unless, as at the Nomination Date, the National Federation is satisfied on reasonable grounds that the Athlete:
- (a) is an Australian citizen;
  - (b) is a member of the National Federation;
  - (c) satisfies the Qualification System;
  - (d) was included on the TOCOG Long List;
  - (e) is likely to satisfy the AOC Selection Criteria;
  - (f) has not breached the AOC Anti-Doping By-Law, unless the Athlete has been sanctioned for the breach and has completed the sanction imposed;
  - (g) together with the Horse does not, and is not likely to in the foreseeable future, suffer from any physical or mental impairment that would prevent the Athlete from competing at the Games to the highest possible standard for that Athlete;
  - (h) is part of a Combination with a Horse that is registered with the International Federation and eligible to compete for Australia under FEI General Regulations Art. 113 – Registration and Eligibility of Athletes and Horses and Art. 119 – Sport Nationality Status of Athletes;
  - (i) is willing to make the Horse 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 Eventing Selection Panel and accept and implement the reasonable recommendations of the Team Veterinarian;
  - (j) fulfils the requirements of always maintaining an up to date FEI Medication Logbook;
  - (k) has not used nor administered any substance to the Horse 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;

- (l) provides accurate and up-to-date information of their whereabouts on a regular basis to the National Federation;
- (m) satisfies any reasonable additional precondition(s) prior to the Nomination Date that have been advised in writing to the Athlete by the National Federation; and
- (n) has acted at all times in such a manner (including in their use of social media), so as to not bring the Athlete, the discipline of eventing or the National Federation into public disrepute or censure.

#### *Horses*

- 5.2 The National Federation will not nominate a Horse unless, at the Nomination Date, the National Federation is satisfied on reasonable grounds that the Horse:
- (a) together with the Athlete to be nominated as part of the Combination, has achieved the Minimum Eligibility Requirements (MER), as set by the International Federation;
  - (b) is registered with the National Federation (or the corresponding federation of the nation in which the Horse is domiciled);
  - (c) holds a current FEI passport or FEI recognition card;
  - (d) has been registered with the International Federation as property of owners of Australian nationality by 15 January 2021;
  - (e) has been examined to the satisfaction of the Team Veterinarian (or Veterinarian nominated by the Team Veterinarian); and
  - (f) is not subject to a current sanction under the EA or FEI Equine Anti-Doping and Controlled Medication Regulations.

#### *Horse Owners*

- 5.3 In order for the Combination to be considered for nomination to the Team, the National Federation must receive from the owner(s) of the nominated Horse a signed copy of the EA Horse Owner Agreement at least one week prior to the Nomination Date.

## **6 Nomination Criteria**

### **Threshold Criteria**

- 6.1 The National Federation only will consider for nomination Combinations who have achieved within the FEI Qualification Period the following minimum eligibility requirements (MER) within the qualification period (as specified in the Qualification System), either:
- (a) 1 qualifying result<sup>2</sup> at a CCI 5\*-Long or 5\* Major; OR
  - (b) 1 qualifying result in a CCI4\*-Long AND 1 qualifying result in a CCI4\*-Short.

<sup>2</sup> An FEI qualifying result is achieved by completing the above Competitions within the minimum parameters of an all-round performance, with:

- **Dressage test:** minimum 55% percent;
- **Cross-Country test:** clear (0) round or 11 penalty points on Cross-Country Obstacles, not more than 75 seconds over the optimum Cross-Country phase time. At CCI 5\*, the maximum time by which the optimum time may be exceeded is 100 seconds;
- **Jumping test:** not more than 16 jumping penalties.

## 7 Additional Provisions related to the Postponement of the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games to 2021

- 7.1 An Athlete/Horse combination that has achieved the full MER only during the period 1 January 2019 to 31 December 2019 (inclusive) must achieve an additional confirming result (the "Confirmation Result") according to the conditions set out in paragraph 8 below during the period 1 January 2020 – 21 June 2021.
- 7.2 An Athlete/Horse combination that has achieved the full MER during the period 1 January 2020 – 21 June 2021 does not need to achieve a Confirmation Result.
- 7.3 An Athlete/Horse combination that has achieved a partial MER during the period 1 January 2019 to 31 December 2019 must complete their MER by the MER Deadline (21 June 2021). Such Athlete/Horse combination does not need to achieve a Confirmation Result.
- 7.4 An Athlete/Horse combination that has not achieved any MER (either full or partial) during the period 1 January 2019 to 31 December 2019 must achieve their MER by the MER Deadline (21 June 2021). Such Athlete/Horse combination does not need to achieve a Confirmation Result.

## 8 Confirmation Result Criteria

- 8.1 Athlete/Horse combinations must achieve the Confirmation Result at a CCI4\*-S event or higher:
- (a) An FEI Confirmation Result is achieved by completing the above Competitions within the minimum parameters of an all-round performance, with:
- Dressage test:** minimum 55%percent;
- Cross Country test:** clear (0) round at Cross Country Obstacles (activating a maximum of one frangible device will maintain the Confirmation Result on Cross Country), not more than 75 seconds over the optimum Cross Country phase time. At CCI-5\*L, the maximum time by which the optimum time may be exceeded is 100 seconds;
- Jumping test:** not more than 16 jumping penalties.

## 9. Subjective Criteria

- 9.1 The National Federation will nominate the three (3) Combinations who satisfy the threshold criteria in clauses 6 to 8 and who, in the opinion of the National Federation operating through its EA High Performance Panel and the Eventing Selection Panel, in its absolute discretion:
- (a) will be most likely to achieve the highest competitive results at the Games; and
- (b) are, and will remain until the conclusion of the Games, positive ambassadors for the Sport, the National Federation and the Games.

- 9.2 The Eventing Selection Panel will consider the following in relation to any Combination under consideration for nomination:
- (a) Competition Considerations
    - (i) The Eventing Selection Panel will consider competition results achieved by the Combination.
    - (ii) The Eventing Selection Panel will primarily consider competition results achieved at international competitions at CCI4\*-S, CCI4\*-L and CCI5\*-L levels and/or national competitions at CCN4\*-S and CCN4\*-L levels during 2019, 2020 and 2021.
    - (iii) Competition results achieved at 4L and 5L level (or the equivalent) prior to 2019 may be considered to demonstrate the experience of the Combination.
    - (iv) In exceptional circumstances, the Eventing Selection Panel will consider competition results achieved at 3L level during 2019, 2020 and 2021.
  - (b) Objective Considerations
    - (i) In assessing the performances achieved by Combinations, the Eventing Selection Panel will consider the following objective measures:
      - (A) the final score (across all three phases of the competition);
      - (B) the scores achieved in each individual phase; and
      - (C) the final placing of the Combination (provided that the final score and placing of each Combination will be considered but does not automatically place one Combination above another for nomination purposes).
    - (ii) The Eventing Selection Panel may, in its sole discretion, consider (but not rely upon) data and analysis provided by external providers including (but not limited to) the Australian Institute of Sport and EquiRatings. Any ranking or ratings provided by external providers will not automatically position one Combination ahead of another for nomination purposes.
  - (c) Discretionary Considerations
    - (i) In assessing the performance of Combinations, the Eventing Selection Panel will consider competition-based factors. These factors include, but are not restricted to:
      - (A) the performance of each Combination in relation to the quality and number of competitors; and
      - (B) the technical features of the competition, in particular (but not limited to):
        - (1) dressage judging (including the breakdown of scores across multiple judges);
        - (2) cross-country fences and terrain;
        - (3) relative difficulty of the show jumping;

- (4) quality of riding by an Athlete; and
  - (5) general conditions under which the performance is achieved, such as the weather, surface and footing.
- (ii) In assessing the performance of Combinations, the Eventing Selection Panel will give consideration to general factors. These general factors include, but are not limited to:
- (A) The suitability of the Combination for the expected conditions of the Games (taking into account the primary objective of the team and the secondary objective of the individual competition);
  - (B) The role that a P Alternate Athlete and Horse can play under the scoring system to be used at the Games;
  - (C) The overall balance of the Combinations that have been selected; and
  - (D) The ability and experience of the Combination to compete successfully at high-level international competition. Consideration will be given to:
    - (1) current or recent form;
    - (2) demonstrated experience and/or success at Championship level;
    - (3) ability, or potential ability, of a Horse and/or Athlete to perform under the stress and pressure of an Olympic Games;
    - (4) ability of the Athlete to prepare their Horse to peak condition for a major campaign;
    - (5) ability of the Athlete to contribute towards an effective team environment;
    - (6) consistency of performance and the likelihood of a suitable performance to contribute towards a team outcome; and
    - (7) exceptional ability of a Combination (and the potential to achieve an individual medal). This factor may, in the Eventing Selection Panel's sole discretion, place a Combination with less experience or consistency ahead of another Combination.
- (iii) The Eventing Selection Panel has the discretion to place greater or lesser emphasis on any one or more of the Competition, Objective or Discretionary Considerations outlined above.

9.3 In determining whether a Combination has satisfied the criteria set out in clauses 6.1 to 9.2 above, the National Federation will not have regard to Extenuating Circumstances.

#### **P Alternate Athletes**

9.4 As Australia has received a team quota place in accordance with the Qualification System, the National Federation may identify one Combination as the P Alternate Athlete and Horse (in



addition to the Combinations nominated for selection). The High Performance Panel, in its sole and absolute discretion, will decide whether or not to identify a P Alternate Athlete and Horse.

- 9.5 The Combination (if any) to be identified as the P Alternate Athlete and Horse will be determined based on the criteria set out in clauses 6.1 to 9.3 above.
- 9.6 For the avoidance of doubt, the Combination nominated as the P Alternate Athlete and Horse will not be part of the Team unless, and until, they are selected to replace a previously selected Combination.

## 10 Pre-competition change

- 10.1 The National Federation may make a Pre-Competition Change following nomination of the team to the AOC, if
- (a) in the opinion of the Eventing Selection Panel (in consultation with the Team Veterinarian and/or the High Performance Director), there has been a loss of form or fitness by any member of a nominated Combination that is assessed to be likely to be sustained and affect performance at the Games; or
  - (b) any member of a nominated Combination contravenes FEI Veterinary Regulations or the AOC policies;

by excluding that Combination from the nominated Combinations or (if the Team has already been selected) requesting that the AOC remove that Combination from the Team. The National Federation may nominate another Combination that meets the Eligibility and Nomination Criteria set out in this document to the AOC for selection in the Team in place of the excluded Combination.

- 10.2 In accordance with the FEI Rules, an Athlete cannot be nominated for selection as part of a Pre-Competition Change unless they were included on the TOCOG Long List. For the avoidance of doubt, the Combination nominated to replace a Combination already nominated to the Team as part of a Pre-Competition Change may or may not be the P Alternate Athlete.
- 10.3 At any time after the Pre-Competition Deadline (as defined in the FEI Rules), the National Federation may request that the AOC replace a selected Combination with the P Alternate Athlete and Horse if, in the opinion of the Eventing Selection Panel (in consultation with the Team Veterinarian and/or the High Performance Director), the criteria for replacement under the FEI Rules and the 'IOC/Tokyo 2020 Late Athlete Replacement policy' are satisfied.

## 11 Submission of Nominations

- 11.1 The National Federation must notify Athletes of the Nomination Date in writing.
- 11.2 The AOC may, in its absolute discretion extend the Nomination Date for the National Federation for any reason.
- 11.3 The National Federation must nominate Athletes to the AOC by the Nomination Date. The National Federation must inform Athletes of their nomination or non-nomination by no later than:
- (a) 48 hours prior to the Nomination Date, where such written notice would be received by the Athlete 14 days prior to the Sport Entries Deadline; or

- (b) 24 hours prior to the Nomination Date, where such written notice would be received by the Athlete within 14 days of the Sport Entries Deadline,  
or such later date as the AOC advises the National Federation.
- 11.4 Nominations submitted to the AOC must be in the form prescribed by the AOC or in a form that is otherwise acceptable to the AOC and include any such information that is required pursuant to the AOC Olympic Team Nomination and Selection By-Law.
- 11.5 The AOC may, in its absolute discretion, accept a nomination submitted after the Nomination Date where it is submitted by the National Federation as a result of an appeal brought in accordance with the AOC Olympic Team Nomination and Selection By-Law.
- 12. Amendments**
- This Nomination Criteria may only be amended with the written consent of the AOC Selection Committee.
- 13. Governing Law**
- This Nomination Criteria is governed by the laws of the State of New South Wales.