

SELECTION POLICY 2018 WORLD EQUESTRIAN GAMES EVENTING

This selection policy ('the Policy') covers the discipline of Eventing.

1. OBJECTIVE

To select athletes and horses who are able to achieve the best possible results at the 2018 World Equestrian Games. The term 'best possible result' encompasses both a team and an individual result.

2. PROCESS OF SELECTION

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

- 2.1 On or before **19 June 2018** the National Eventing Selection Panel ('**the NESP**') will select up to 12 horse and athlete combinations to be nominated to the FEI ('**the WEG Nominated Entries**').
- 2.2 On or before **26 July 2018** the NESP will select a Squad of 8 combinations ('**the WEG Squad**'). The WEG Squad will be selected from the WEG Nominated Entries. The WEG Squad will comprise the five (5) combinations to compete at WEG ('**the WEG team**') plus three (3) reserve combinations ('**the WEG Reserves**') that will not be ranked.
- 2.3 On or before **4 September 2018** the NESP will select one of the WEG Reserves to be the travelling Reserve combination ('**the Travelling Reserve**'). The Travelling Reserve will travel to the WEG with the WEG Team.
- 2.4 Following the First Horse Inspection at the WEG, the NESP, in consultation with the Chef d'Equipe, will select (from the WEG team) four (4) team combinations and one (1) individual combination ('**the WEG Individual**') to represent Australia at the World Equestrian Games.
- 2.5 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 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 WEG Squad, if:
 - 3.1.1 In the opinion of the NESP (in consultation with the Team Vet, the High Performance Director and the Chef d'Equipe), there has been a loss of form or fitness by a member of the WEG Squad that is assessed to be likely to be sustained and affect performance at WEG; or
 - 3.1.2 A member of the WEG Squad contravenes their athlete agreement, FEI Veterinary Regulations or EA Rules and policies; or

3.1.3 A member of the WEG Squad does not meet the requirements outlined in the athletes agreement;

that member of the WEG Squad may be replaced by another combination previously selected for WEG Nominated Entries (**' a Substitution'**).

3.2 Following selection of the WEG Team if:

3.2.1 In the opinion of the NESP (in consultation with the High Performance Director, Chef d'Equipe and Team Vet), there has been a loss of form or fitness by a member of the WEG Team that is likely to be sustained and affect performance at WEG; or

3.2.2 A member of the WEG Squad contravenes their athlete agreement, FEI Veterinary Regulations or EA Rules and policies; or

3.2.3 A member of the WEG Squad does not meet the requirements outlined in the athletes agreement;

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

3.3 Following arrival at the WEG, if:

3.3.1 In the opinion of the NESP (in consultation with the High Performance Director, Chef d'Equipe and Team Vet), there has been a loss of form or fitness by a member of the WEG Team that is likely to be sustained and affect performance at WEG; or

3.3.2 A member of the WEG Squad contravenes their athlete agreement, FEI Veterinary Regulations or EA Rules and policies; or

3.3.3 A member of the WEG Squad does not meet the requirements outlined in the athletes agreement;

that member of the WEG team may be replaced by the Travelling Reserve.

4. ELIGIBILITY FOR SELECTION FOR THE WEG NOMINATED ENTRIES

4.1 For athletes to be eligible for selection for the WEG Nominated Entries, all athletes must:

4.1.1 be a current member 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 an exemption has been granted by the High Performance Director or High Performance Advisor in response to a timely request from the athlete for an exemption;

4.1.4 be able and willing to undertake an agreed training and competition program recommended by the High Performance Director after consultation with the athlete;

- 4.1.5 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;
 - 4.1.6 not have used or administered any substance that, if it had been detected as being present in the Athlete's body tissue or fluids, would have constituted Doping as defined in the EA Anti-Doping Policy;
 - 4.1.7 have signed the Eventing National Squad Agreement;
 - 4.1.8 satisfy any additional preconditions advised in writing to the athlete by EA prior to or at the time of selection for WEG Nominated Entries;
 - 4.1.9 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
 - 4.1.10 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.
- 4.2 For Horses to be eligible for selection for WEG 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 examination¹ to the satisfaction of the Team Vet
 - 4.2.3 not have breached the requirements of the EA or FEI Anti-doping & medication control policies
- 4.3 Owners – In order for the horse and athlete combination to be eligible for selection for WEG Nominated Entries, EA must have received from the Owner(s)² of the nominated horse a signed copy of the 2018 EA Eventing National Squad Horse Owner Agreement.

5 APPEALS

- 5.1 Appeals concerning non-selection of athletes and horses for the WEG Squad 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 the 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 High Performance Director of EA within three (3) working days from the date of the announcement of the WEG Squad

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

² The term 'owner' refers to a person or persons registered as the official horse owner with the EA State Branch or the equivalent overseas NF. Where there are multiple owners, a representative nominated in writing to EA by the owners may act on behalf of all the owners, including the signing of the Horse Owner Agreement. It is the 'primary' owner registered with the EA State Branch, who has the onus to inform EA of any separate contracts that may impact on the EA Horse Owner Agreement prior to, during or following the 2018 World Equestrian Games

- 5.4 It shall be a condition of selection for the WEG 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 WEG Team Squad, all horses and athletes must have met the Minimum Eligibility Requirements for a championship pursuant to Article 521 Eventing Rules 2017³

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
 - (i) The NESP will primarily consider competition results achieved at CCI4*, CCI3*, CIC3*, and CNC3* during 2017 and 2018.
 - (ii) The NESP may also consider performances prior to 2017 but they will generally carry less weight.
 - (iii) In some limited circumstances the NESP will consider performances at CCI2* level during 2017 and 2018.

- (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.

³ Art 521 Eventing Rules 2017: provide that qualifications for a championship must be achieved as a combination. For the WEG, combinations are required to achieve a Minimum Eligibility Requirement at a CCI 4* OR at a CCI 3* AND a CIC 3*

(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:

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

(d) 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 Tryon World 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;

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- (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
TBC	FEI Qualification period ends	
19 June 2018	WEG Nominated Entries announced by NESP	Up to 12 combinations
26 July 2018	WEG Squad announced	5 WEG combinations to compete + 3 reserves
4 September 2018	Travelling Reserve announced	
Following first horse inspection WEG	WEG Individual announced	