



## 1. OBJECTIVE

To select athletes and horses for the Australian team to achieve the best possible results at the FEI 2011 World Championships Endurance for Juniors and Young Riders.

## 2. PROCESS OF SELECTION

**2.1** The initial process of selection will commence with the current endorsed EA Selection Panels selecting a long list of horses and athletes from which the 2011 World Championships Endurance for Young Riders will be primarily selected ("Long List"). The Long List will be announced on **July 30 2011**,

**2.2** The EA Endurance Selection Panel will choose the list of athlete and horse combinations primarily, but not necessarily exclusively, from the Long List. The Short List will be announced prior to 2011 World Championships Endurance for Juniors and Young Riders Nominated Entries.

**2.3** The EA Endurance Selection Panel will choose the 2011 World Championships Endurance for Juniors and Young Riders Team from the Short List. The Team will be announced on or about **September 30 2011**

**2.4** These criteria 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 these criteria.

## 3. CONDITIONS OF SELECTION FOR THE LONG LIST/SHORT LIST GAMES TEAM

**3.1** **Athletes** To be eligible for selection, all athletes must:

- (a) be current members of EA, a State Division of the AERA and the Australian Endurance Squad;
- (b) be eligible to compete for Australia as per FEI regulations Art. 119;
- (c) attend and participate in training clinics and camps as notified in writing, unless a written exemption has been granted by a specifically appointed National Committee representative, in response to a timely written request from the athlete for an exemption;
- (d) where requested by the National Coach, undertake the training and competition program recommended by the National Coach after consultation with the athlete; **where a National Coach has not been appointed any requests and directions to the athletes will be directed by the Endurance Selection Committee**
- (e) if required under the specific discipline selection criteria, make their horse(s) available for examination at the request of the Vet nominated by the National Committee and accept and implement the recommendations of the Vet;
- (f) 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;

- (g) provide accurate and up-to-date whereabouts information on a regular basis to EA; **for this purpose "up to date whereabouts information" will be provided to the Endurance Selection Committee**
- (h) sign the applicable Team Membership Agreement for that Team;
- (i) satisfy any additional preconditions advised in writing to the athlete by EA and the **Selection Committee** prior to or at the time of selection;
- (j) demonstrate to the satisfaction of EA and the **Selection Committee** 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
- (k) have acted and at all times act in such a manner so as to not bring the athlete, the discipline of Equestrian or EA and **AERA** into public disrepute or censure.

3.2 **Horses** To be eligible for selection, all horses must:

- (a) be registered with EA or another FEI-recognised National Federation;
- (b) have gained a veterinary clearance from the Vet as nominated by the National Committee;
- (c) not have breached the requirements of the EA or FEI Anti-Doping & Medication Control Policies.

3.3 **Owners**

- (a) In order for the horse and athlete combination to be selected, EA must have received from the owner(s) of the nominated horse a signed copy of the 2011 EA Horse Owner Agreement not later than one week prior to the date of the announcement of the Short List, or earlier if requested by EA **and the Selection Committee**. This agreement defines the rights and obligations of the owner(s) of the selected horse(s) and EA. Owners of horses on the Short List will be provided with the 2011 EA Horse Agreement prior to the date for selection. 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 2011 World Championships Endurance for Juniors and Young Riders.
- (b) The horse owner(s) must make their horse available for examination at the request of the Team Vet and accept and implement the recommendations of the Team Vet.

**General Requirements for Selection**

- 3.4 Subject to the terms of this policy, the EA Endurance Selection Panel will select athlete and horse combinations according to the selection criteria for each discipline. Reserve combinations will also be identified by EA and may be part of the 2011 World Championships Endurance for Juniors and Young Riders Team, where reserve horses may be included in the Team as permitted by the FEI Participation and Qualification Criteria.
- 3.5 The Short List for the 2011 World Championships Endurance for Juniors and Young Riders will consist of athlete and horse combinations nominated by EA to the FEI as Nominated Entries as per FEI qualification and entry requirements.

**4. DISCRETIONARY CONSIDERATIONS**

#### 4.1 **Giving Consideration to Extenuating Facts and Circumstances**

- (a) 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 extenuating factors.
- (b) Athletes unable to compete at events, trials, training camps or other attendances required under this policy must advise the nominated National Committee representative of this fact, and the reasons, in writing, before the commencement of the activity or as soon as practicable.
- (c) 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.
- (d) In the case of illness or soundness problems of the horse, the horse may be required to undergo a veterinary examination by a Vet nominated by the National Committee.
- (e) In the case of bereavement, equipment failure, travel delays, quarantine factors or other extenuating circumstances, the Selection Panel will make a decision on an individual basis.

#### 4.2 **Interpretation, Application and General Discretion**

The terms of this policy are to be interpreted and applied in order to best achieve the Objective stated in paragraph 1; and the Selection Panel has an overriding discretion to dispense with compliance with any term of the Policy, by any athlete, horse, or owner, in order to best achieve that Objective.

#### 4.3 **Additions to Long List**

The EA Selection Panels may, in their absolute discretion, add a horse and athlete combination to the Long List at any stage subject to the combination satisfying the relevant selection criteria.

#### 4.4 **Removal from Long List**

Athletes who:

- (a) 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
- (b) contravene the FEI or EA Codes of Conduct, FEI Veterinary Regulations or EA Rules and policies; or
- (c) do not sign the National Team Athlete or Horse Owner Agreement; or
- (d) do not meet any other stated requirement,

may be removed from the Long List.

#### 4.5 **Additions to Short List**

The EA Selection Panels may, in their absolute discretion, add a horse and athlete combination to the Short List at any stage up to the closing of Nominated Entries, subject to the combination satisfying the relevant selection criteria.

### **5. OFFICIALS**

- 5.1 The EA Board will appoint officials from nominations received by application and/or recommendation from the National Committee.
- 5.2 The appointment of the individual Discipline National Coach is as per 5.1.
- 5.3 The appointment of the Chef de Mission will be made by the EA Board.
- 5.4 The nominated Vet and any Assistant Coach/s appointments will be made by the respective National Committee for each discipline.
- 5.4 Officials will be appointed based on their experience and expertise working with horses and/or athletes and teams and skills and knowledge applicable to supporting horses and athletes and teams to achieve success at an international level.

## **6. SELECTION PANEL**

- 6.1 The EA Selection Panels will comprise the National Selectors of the individual Disciplines. Unless otherwise stated, the National Selectors are elected in accordance with EA By-Laws.
- 6.2 If a member of the Selection Panel has 'an interest' in a potential athlete or horse, such interest must be declared, and that member will take no part in discussion or decision as to that athlete's or horse's inclusion (or otherwise). An "interest", for the purposes of this clause, shall be taken to mean cases where a selector, or family member of a selector, has a relationship, including personal, financial, contractual, business, ownership or possessory interest, or other relationship, direct or indirect, with a potential athlete or horse that may be reasonably considered to affect the panel member's impartiality.

## **7. APPEALS**

- 7.1. Appeals concerning non-selection of athletes and horses will be heard by an EA Appeal Tribunal in accordance with the EA Appeal By-Laws. 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. Athlete and/or horse substitutions made in accordance with the rules of the competition, following definite entries to the FEI, cannot be appealed.
- 7.2. Appeals may only be made against the selection of the team to be submitted by EA for 'Definite Entries' as per FEI Guidelines. Athletes may not appeal their non-inclusion on the Long or short-list.
- 7.3. Only athletes may appeal their non-selection. Owners cannot appeal any decision.
- 7.4. 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 selection decision against which the appeal is made. Appeal hearing dates are listed in Annexure A for each discipline.
- 7.5. There is no right of appeal against selection or non-selection of Team officials.

# Selection Criteria

## ***Part A: Selection Criteria – ENDURANCE***

This Part A of the EA Selection Criteria must be read in conjunction with the requirements of the EA Selection Policy sections one to seven. Athletes should familiarize themselves with all the requirements of these documents.

### **1. Qualification period** (Ref. Art. 816.3.3 and 816.3.6)

Start: 24 months prior to December 2011 ( **December 2009** )

End: no later than 60 days prior to (**October 15 2011** )

### **2. Qualification criteria**

**815.1** Any person from the year in which he/she reaches his/her 14th birthday and who is duly authorised by his/her National Federation is eligible to take part in all Endurance Rides (CEIs, CEIOs and Championships), either as an individual or as a member of a team.

**815.2.4** For 4-Stars, CEIOs and Championships horses must be at least 8 years of age.

**815.2.5** Mares obviously in advanced pregnancies, meaning over 120 days, or with foal at foot cannot be entered in any CEI or higher event.

**815.2.6** All ages are determined as of the date of the event for which eligibility to participate is sought, and must be confirmed either through reliable registrations or written veterinary opinion, which may be recorded within Passports. Northern Hemisphere horses are deemed to have their birthday on the 1st January and Southern Hemisphere horses on the 1st August.

### **Junior/Young Riders**

**816.3.1** Horses must have graduated through the qualifying processes outlined above for Novice and CEI-Star qualifying up to, and including, the distance of the event for which a Certificate of Capability is sought.

**816.3.2** Horses must have successfully completed at least 2 CEI 2\* events or higher.

**816.3.3** Of these 2 CEI events, at least one must be at the same distance (120 km), minimum speed (12 kph) and time frame as the 4-Star Championship and achieved no earlier than 24 months prior to, no later than the close of nominated entries for Championship and/or 60 days prior to the event, whichever is the longest and must be in combination with the nominated rider.

**816.3.4** Riders must have graduated through the qualifying processes outlined above for Novice and CEI-Star qualifying up to, and including, the distance of the event for which a Certificate of Capability is sought.

**816.3.5** Riders must have successfully completed at least 3 CEI 2\* events or higher.

**816.3.6** Of those 3 CEI events, one must be at the same distance (120 km), minimum speed (12 kph) and time frame as the 4\* Championship and achieved no earlier than 24 months prior to, no later than the close of nominated entries for Championship and/or 60 days prior to the event, whichever is the longest and must be in combination with the nominated horse.

**816.3.7** *Recording and Proof of Qualification:* Approved records must be provided for Rider/Horse results for eventual insertion into FEI Database/Passports as required. However, the ultimate responsibility for proof still remains with each NF.

## **817.4 Teams and Individuals:**

**816.3.8** At Championships, the following applies to individuals and teams who are eligible to take part.

**816.3.9** Teams: If an NF starts three or more competitors, up to four shall all constitute members of their Team, but are also eligible for individual classification and placing/awards.

**816.3.10** Individuals: If an NF starts fewer than 3 competitors, they shall only be eligible for individual classification and placing/awards, but not as a Team.

**816.3.11** With regard to the number of teams required for Championships, Art. 108 of the General Regulations applies.

Proof of such results must accompany applications for Certificates of Capability.

**1.1 In addition to the above requirements (FEI Qualification procedures for 2011 World Championships Endurance for Juniors and Young Riders) the following shall be required** (see Australian Endurance Squad Qualifications and Criteria Document):

### **Level 4: Riders**

- 2 x 120klm with one placing within 20% of the winners time;
- Both rides must be a CEI 2\*;
- Minimum riding weight not required

To maintain Level 4 status the rider must succeed at the following:

- 1 x CEI 2\*\* or greater, placing within in 20% of the winners time;
- This to be achieved within a 24 month period, or the rider may have to return to Level 3 status.

### **Level 4: Horses**

The minimum standard required is:

- Minimum age 8 years (Horses must be 8 years old to compete in WEG/WC's);
- 2 x 120klm CEI2\*\*, placing within 20% of the winners time;
- The above to have been achieved in the preceding 24 months.

## **1.2 Australian Endurance Squad Membership requirements - Athletes and Horses**

- a. Only financial Squad members will be eligible for selection at World Championships and World Equestrian Games.
- b. Athletes must be financial Squad members for a period of 12 months before they can be considered for selection to WC's, WEG or any other International competition where Australian teams are represented.
- c. To be eligible for selection at World Championships and World Equestrian Games, or any other international event where Australian Teams are represented, horses must be financial Squad horses.

- d. Horses must be financial Squad members for a period of 12 months before they can be considered for selection to WC'S (this may vary from time to time depending on the dates of WC's).
- e. Only Squad horses will be eligible to represent Australia at Continental Championships (Pan Am and Euro) and Trans Tasman competitions.

## **2. Selection Criteria**

The objective is to select horse and athlete combinations that the Endurance Selection Panel believes will achieve the best possible result at the 2011 World Championships for Juniors and Young Riders. The term 'best possible result' covers both an individual and a team result but must be based on the realistic expectation that a team finishes in **Top Five placings** and individuals in the **Top Ten placing**. If selectors do not expect this to be achievable, they may choose not to select a team to represent Australia in the Endurance Team competitions

If there is not a sufficient number of combinations required to constitute a team meeting the selection criteria to the satisfaction of the Endurance Selection Panel, then individual combinations may be nominated for the 2011 World Championships for Juniors and Young Riders.

## **3. Competition Criteria**

To be eligible for consideration for selection, athlete and horse combinations are to have achieved the competition criteria as follows:

1. Have successfully qualified as per 1. (above) FEI Qualifications Procedure for 2011 World Championships for Juniors and Young Riders;
2. Preferably achieved Level 4 of the AES Qualification Criteria see 1.1 above.

A veterinary certificate issued by the National Committee Nominated Veterinarian or a medical certificate is required in order to receive dispensation by the Selection Panel from any of the above conditions. The veterinary or medical certificate must be received by EA PRIOR to the start of the competition.

Unforeseen circumstances, including those outside of the control of the athlete, may also qualify for dispensation in the sole discretion of the Selection Panel. (refer item 4.1.b of the Equestrian Australia Selection Policy).

In exceptional circumstances, the competition criteria may be modified.

## **4. General Criteria**

In considering the performances of combinations that have met the competition criteria, the Selection Panel will take into account the following general criteria. The Selection Panel has the discretion to place a greater emphasis on one or more of the general criteria in considering combinations for selection.

- a. Where the aspect of 'current form' is to be considered, performances at recent events may be taken into account in comparison with performances achieved

earlier. For the purpose of the selection criteria, 'recent' will generally relate to performances in **2010-2011** .

- b. Placings at all International competitions within the selection period **From December 10 2009** to the final selection date will be considered but do not automatically position one athlete above another in terms of selection.
- c. An athlete 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.
- d. Selectors in their discretion may take into consideration the ability of an athlete to perform at Major Championships or Events or past performances at such events.
- e. The age, soundness and fitness of the horse will be taken into consideration.

#### **Must attend events for long listed applicants**

- f. Athletes and Horses accepted onto the long list will be required to attend a ride especially selected for the purpose of observing performances. This will occur when notified to do so by the Selectors (See Section 4 Discretionary Considerations of this document).
- g. Athletes and Horses will be required to attend Training /Squad camps when notified to do so by the Selectors.
- h. Dates of these events will be notified at the same time as the announcement of the long list.

### **5. 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 would be conducted by a panel nominated by the National Committee.

Results of this assessment would be forwarded to the National Endurance Selection Panel for a decision on the suitability of the horse to retain their position in the team.

Any replacement, if required, would be at the sole discretion of the National Endurance Selection Panel.