

2021 DNSW Young Rider Squad Selection Guidelines & Obligations



The aim of the DNSW Young Rider squad program is to nurture and mentor high achieving and talented young riders by building a culture of support and teamwork among young riders, providing a clear pathway into senior ranks and providing opportunities for young riders to build networks within senior ranks. DNSW Young Rider Squad combinations will be named prior to the beginning of the competition season each year.

Initial squad selection is based on performances in the preceding competition year (2020). Riders who achieve the qualifying scores within the year will be placed on the squad progressively. Squad selection is from specific rider/horse combinations who have attained qualifying scores. Riders must be Australian citizens and be current financial members of Equestrian New South Wales and Dressage NSW. (Junior membership applies only to rider 18yrs and under)

The Squads will comprise of the most consistent, high performing combinations at major events, including CDI's, State and National Championship (open and Interschools) and Clarendon competitions. Performance of squad members will be tracked throughout the competition season and announcements/changes to the squad may occur throughout the year, allowing for new combinations to be added to the Squad if and when they achieve three qualifying scores.

Squad riders are role models for the sport and must abide by Equestrian Australia Codes of Conduct and Social Media Policy and the FEI Code of Conduct and the principals for the Welfare of the Horse. This is essential for all positions on the squad.

Young Rider High Performance Squad inclusion criteria:

Only combinations competing at novice level and above will be considered for the High Performance Squad. Only Official competitive scores obtained at the following events in 2020/2021 will be considered for inclusion on the squad.

- Australian Youth Dressage Championships
- Boneo Classic (Boneo Park)
- Willinga Park CDN/I's (Willinga Park)
- Sydney CDN/I (SIEC)
- NSW Interschools Championships*
- Brisbane CDN/I
- NSW Dressage Championships
- Australian Interschools Championships*
- Australian Dressage Championships
- DNSW Clarendon competitions
- DNSW may add other scheduled CDN/I events throughout the year.

** Interschool Championships results are considered as long as they follow the requirements of the number/level of judges required for competition (refer to EA Dressage Rules 3.21) judges.*

Novice – 3 scores of **over 69%** obtained at any of the events listed above.

Elementary – 3 scores of **over 67%** obtained at any of the events listed above.

Medium/CDI-P – 3 scores of **over 66%** obtained at any of the events listed above.

Advanced – 3 scores of **over 65%** obtained at any of the events listed above.

FEI J/FEI P – 3 scores over 65% obtained at any of the events listed above.

FEI Small Tour, Young Rider FEI Tour – 3 scores of **over 64%** obtained at any of the events listed above.

Medium & Big Tour – 3 scores over 62%

A combination's 3 scores may be achieved from more than one level. For example, combinations may achieve 2 x qualifying elementary scores and 1 x qualifying medium score to be invited onto the squad in 2019. To remain on the squad in subsequent years, riders must demonstrate progression through the grades by demonstrating qualifying scores at higher levels. Where riders remain in the same FEI level (eg, small tour) they must achieve rising average scores to demonstrate progression.

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In addition, DNSW reserves the right to add combinations who have achieved two qualifying scores and have a 3rd score within 0.5% of a qualifying score, at the discretion of the DNSW committee.

Important Information for Riders:

1. The age for riders is 10 to 21 years on horses and from 8 years on ponies. Rider age is determined from the beginning of the year a rider turns ten (10), or eight (8) (on ponies) up until the end of the calendar year the rider reaches the age of twenty one (21)
2. The combinations (horse and rider) must remain the same throughout the year to retain their position on the squad.
3. Combinations can be added at the discretion of DNSW at any time, subject to meeting the published criteria.
4. It is the expectation that combinations nominated on squads will attend the three young rider clinics conducted by the Young Rider committee on behalf of DNSW at their own cost, including attendance at all unmounted sessions.
5. Where a selected horse is unavailable due to injury, riders may make a request to selectors to substitute another horse for that clinic – each application will be considered on its merits.
6. Combinations are expected to make every effort to attend each clinic - failure to attend may result in exclusion from the squad – extenuating circumstances, injury, significant prior commitments (eg, HSC exams) will be taken into consideration.
7. Young Rider Squad members may be asked to participate in special workshops/seminars or judges clinics – if invited, it is expected that every effort will be made to attend.
8. If at any time a horse and/or rider become unavailable to continue as a member of a squad for any reason, DNSW must be advised in writing. These combinations may be placed on 'hold', rather than removed from the squad, if the unavailability is due to injury of horse or rider. This will depend on the circumstances and is at the discretion of DNSW.
9. Riders may be included on the squad on more than one horse (subject to the combination meeting the published criteria) but may only register one horse for the clinic. If places are available the organisers may offer places to riders with a 2nd Squad horse.

Squad Benefits –

Young Rider High Performance Squad members will be provided with the following benefits:

- Squad cap, t-shirt, and saddlecloth
- Complimentary hard copy of the Current EA Dressage Rules
- Squad presentation at Sydney CDI (in combination with the Senior squads)
- One free protocol test at a DNSW Clarendon competition (riders choice)
- Free entry to the CDI judges workshop with FEI5* judges
- Opportunity to be selected onto NSW teams at State and Australian Championships
- Additional opportunities to work with senior squad members as they become available
- Eligibility to be selected as the DNSW Young Rider Ambassador
- Inclusion in senior squad activities and clinics with overseas judges and trainers where possible
- Other opportunities as they arise

All enquiries –

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