

DNSW High Performance Team Selection Guidelines 2024-2025



NSW High Performance Team 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 Team.

The aim of the DNSW High Performance Team program is to have NSW riders represent Australia on National Squads.

There have been major disruptions to Team activities and obviously to events over the past couple of years due to the Covid Pandemic but as things settle in this regard we felt it was important to set a strong policy of cohesiveness and authenticity for all High Performance riders.

BEING PART OF A TEAM – what does this mean?

The commitment to being part of the Team and all the activities and opportunities offered is something that we wish to focus on this year. Part of this is the commitment to being a team player. We are focusing on working together and supporting one another. We wish to show an example to the sport at large of the importance of respect and cohesiveness towards a common goal of being the best riders and people we can be.

With this in mind we wish to instigate a zero tolerance policy for bullying or harmful negativity of any kind to anyone involved in the sport. Differences of opinion are one thing but lack of compassion in the delivery of them towards others will not be tolerated. Respect towards each other and all involved in the sport particularly a sincere understanding that the sport is fundamentally run by volunteers is imperative. We therefore wish to stress that anyone that achieves the scores to be part of this team also agrees to the policy on good behaviour.

If there are breaches to the following list below the following will take place:

- The Team coordinator will discuss the behaviour with the team member in the hope that that team member will acknowledge the behaviour breach and rectify it
- If this is not agreed upon the team will meet to discuss it and decide on the action to rectify
- The team member has the right to meet with members of the Dressage NSW committee to discuss the issue
- If the team and the DNSW agree the behaviour is unacceptable the member will be removed from the team

Riders should also be aware that a yellow card system was introduced for dressage from 1st January 2017. Accordingly, anyone incurring a disciplinary suspension will automatically be excluded from the team for the full 12-month period and will need to requalify to join again.

TEAM BEHAVIOUR BREACHES

- Any comments on social media that are detrimental to an individual or the sport eg judges, officials
- Any comments on social media that illustrate a lack of sportsmanship that would be considered by the Team to threaten the policy of good behaviour
- Any behaviour that the team believe is harming the quality of the Team itself and making other members uncomfortable and compromised in their own goals or in the activities of the team
- Any behaviour of negativity towards Team activities. It is expected that as a team member you attend all activities with a “can do” attitude.

SELECTION

Selection will be based on performances. Team selection is from specific rider/horse combinations that have attained qualifying scores. Age of horse, equestrian and competitive background of riders may also be taken into consideration. Riders must be Australian citizens and be current financial members of Equestrian New South Wales and Dressage NSW. Owners must be members of ENSW (if living in NSW) and members of DNSW (regardless of state of residence).

The Team will be comprised of the most consistent, high performing combinations at major events, that is, CDI's/State/National Championships. Performance of team members will be tracked throughout the competition season and announcements/changes to the team may occur throughout the year, allowing for new combinations to be placed on a "Watch List" by the selectors. The "watch list" will comprise of those combinations that have attained two qualifying scores at the selection events and shown consistency at regular DNSW events. Those on the list will be invited to attend HP clinics at their own cost. There is a hope that being part of the clinics will help these riders to then gain the scores to join the team.

Riders are required to attend all scheduled clinics/protocols throughout the year to remain on the team. This is of course subject to approved absences due to injury of either you or your horse. We will endeavour to be very aware of timing with your show schedules and your personal commitments. We are mindful that there are many pressures to bear in running your businesses and your work commitments but DNSW feels very strongly that the opportunities we are offering need to be taken up with a positive outlook and a "can do" enthusiasm. We understand there can be stressful times but overall the Team commitment is only approximately 2 weeks out of a full year. Therefore, we do wish you to make it a priority to be involved and to work this around your schedules, and to embrace your commitment to the programme.

If it becomes difficult for you to take up the opportunities offered we certainly understand. In this case following consultation, plus any additional support you may need, it might be resolved to remove you from the team.

Combinations who reach the qualifying requirements for inclusion onto the team will be added progressively throughout the year. It is important that riders are aware of the Team Selection Policy and obligations associated with being on the Team. A copy is attached and is also available on the DNSW website. Team riders must advise the DNSW immediately of any change in circumstances such as a setback in training, an injury to either the horse or the rider or a pending sale of the horse. Failure to advise within a reasonable time frame may result in exclusion from the team. Riders will also be asked to outline their 2024/5 competition plan at the first of the 2024/5 clinics, including intention to compete at interstate events.

DRESSAGE HIGH PERFORMANCE TEAM

Combinations will be considered for the High Performance Team from scores obtained only at the following events in 2024/5: Sydney CDI, Australian Dressage Championships, NSW Dressage Championships, Australian AOR Championships, Willinga Park CDI, Boneo Classic, PSI Dressage and Jumping with the Stars, Boneo Park Spring, Dressage Festival and Brisbane CDI. DNSW may add other scheduled CDI events throughout the year if possible.

There is an expectation that performance will improve over the course of the year and in future years, the percentages required to be selected on the Dressage High Performance Team may be reviewed and revised.

Advanced - No horse older than 10. Horses must obtain at least 3 scores of 70% or above at the named selection events.

7 Year Old Horses – Horses must be 7 years old and selection comes from 7 Year Old young Horse classes at the named events below. This is a new category in recognition that the 7 year old horse technical tests are the same as advanced tests. We have a desire to seek out these young horses in this age group that show a High Performance future and to include them in the team to support their journey through the levels. Scores will only be counted from the Technical Test part of the scoring of the 7 year old [not the paces component]. Horses must gain 3 x scores of 69% or above in this technical element to be considered. If 2 scores have been achieved the “watch List” system applies. Consideration for inclusion will view the overall consistency of scoring in the 7 year old young horse classes.

FEI Small Tour – No horse older than 12. Horses must obtain at least 3 scores of 70% or above at the named selection events.

FEI Medium Tour – No horse older than 12. Horses must obtain at least 3 scores of 68% or above at the named selection events.

FEI Big Tour - This includes the GP, Inter 11 and The Special. Horses returning home after competing internationally may be exempt from this requirement. Horses must obtain at least 3 scores of 68% or above at the named selection events.

YR FEI Tour – No horse older than 12. Horses must obtain at least 3 scores of 68% or above at the named selection events.

NB No freestyle scores can be used for selection at any level.

2024/2025 SELECTION EVENTS:

- Boneo Classic
- Willinga Park CDI
- PSI Dressage and Jumping with the Stars
- Sydney CDI
- Brisbane CDI/CDN
- NSW Dressage Championships
- Australian Dressage Championships
- Australian AOR Dressage Championships
- Dressage Festival - Victoria
- Boneo Spring
- Other scheduled CDI/N events may be added

All enquiries –

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