



2012 Australian Paralympic Team



Nomination Criteria

Para - Equestrian

1. Introduction

The objective of these Nomination Criteria is to identify and nominate to the Australian Paralympic Committee ("**APC**") those athletes who will achieve the best possible medal results at the 2012 Paralympic Games ("**Games**").

These Nomination Criteria may be amended or supplemented by Equestrian Australia ("**EA**"), specifically where matters arise which have not been provided for in these Nomination Criteria. Any amendment or supplement to these Nomination Criteria must be first approved by the APC. Any such amendment or supplement must be in writing given by the Chief Executive Officer of EA who will endeavour to give as much notice as possible to all persons affected by any amendment or supplement to these Nomination Criteria.

2. The Shadow Squad

EA will nominate athletes from within its sport to be members of the APC Shadow Squad. The APC may recognise other athletes from within this sport to also be members of the Shadow Squad. All athletes nominated to be members of the Shadow Squad must be members of the EA Paralympic Preparation Program ("**PPP**").

The EA Paralympic Preparation Program ("**PPP**") Equestrian Squad ("**Squad**") is comprised of those athletes who meet the criteria circulated by EA and who are invited to join the Squad by the National Para-Equestrian Selectors.

EA may only nominate members of the Shadow Squad to the APC for selection in the 2012 Australian Paralympic Team.

EA will nominate to the APC athletes for inclusion into the Shadow Squad at such time as required by the APC.

In order to be nominated by EA as a member of the Shadow Squad each athlete must have satisfied the Athlete Eligibility standard described in the London 2012 Paralympic Games Qualification Guide

3. Process of Nomination and Selection

3.1. The EA Paralympic Preparation Program ("**PPP**") Equestrian Squad ("**Squad**") is comprised of those athletes who meet the criteria circulated by EA and who are invited to join the Squad by the Para-Equestrian National Selectors

3.2. Subject to clause 3.2, athletes will be nominated to the APC for selection to the Australian Paralympic Team ("**Team**") in accordance with the following:

3.2.1. Notwithstanding the other provisions of these Nomination Criteria, individual athletes will be nominated on the basis of section 2 of this selection policy.

3.2.2. As the Games are an "own horse" competition, a major criterion for nomination will be horse/rider combination. Combinations will be selected as outlined in section 2 of this policy.

- 3.2.3. Athletes must have achieved an Federation Equestre Internationale (“FEI”) Paralympic Games qualification at an FEI sanctioned international dressage competition during the qualification period as outlined in the qualification procedure in section 2 of this policy.
- 3.2.4. Be internationally classified with either a “review” or “confirmed” grade stratus
- 3.2.5. To be eligible to be nominated to the APC for selection to the Team an athlete must have:
 - 3.2.5.1. Achieved the requirements as outlined in the competition criteria of section 2 of this selection policy.
 - 3.2.5.2. Demonstrated consistent performance outcomes identified in individual training programs and met specific training and performance goals as outlined by the EA Para-Equestrian National Performance Director on a consistent basis.
- 3.2.6. Athletes must maintain individual training programs and, upon request, provide such programs to the EA Para-Equestrian National Performance Director or the APC for monitoring purposes.
- 3.2.7. Athletes must demonstrate a personal commitment to setting goals and achieving those goals in consultation with the EA Para-Equestrian National Performance Director.
- 3.2.8. Athletes must maintain regular communication with the EA Para-Equestrian National Performance Director.
- 3.2.9. Athletes must have a valid current FEI equestrian classification and be registered athletes with the FEI. Athlete’s horses must be registered with the FEI and be able to meet all required vaccination and identification criteria for transport to the Games.
- 3.2.10. Athletes must be medically fit to complete all obligations. All injuries or medical conditions that may affect performance must be reported to the EA Para-Equestrian National Performance Director as soon as the athlete is, or should reasonably be aware of, such injury or medical condition
- 3.2.11. Each nominated horse must be medically fit to complete all obligations. All injuries or medical conditions that may affect performance of the horse must be reported to the EA Para-Equestrian Team Veterinarian as soon as the athlete is, or should reasonably be aware of, such injury or medical condition.
- 3.2.12. Athletes to be considered for nomination to the APC for selection to the Team will be identified by the EA Para-Equestrian National Performance Director in consultation with the National Para-Equestrian Selection Panel. The nomination of athletes to the APC for selection to the Team will be ratified by the EA National Board prior to submission.
- 3.3. Unless otherwise stated, EA may give such weight to any or all of these Nomination Criteria as it sees fit. For the avoidance of doubt, EA need not have regard to all of the requirements in this clause 3.
- 3.4. EA will nominate athletes to the APC for selection to the Team by no later than 28 May 2012.
- 3.5. EA will nominate the number of athletes against the number of slots received plus no more than two reserves. Reserves will be nominated in order of merit. Reserves will be non-travelling reserves.
- 3.6. To be eligible to be nominated to the APC for inclusion in the Team, athletes must comply with the requirements set out in the General Selection Criteria. The fact that an athlete is nominated to the APC for selection to the Team by EA does not guarantee the APC will select the athlete as a member of the Team.
- 3.7. Athletes will be selected to the Team at the sole discretion of the APC. The APC will determine the date it will announce the selection of athletes to the Team and this date will be advised.

4. Appeals

- 4.1. All appeals concerning the nomination or non-nomination of athletes to the APC by EA will follow the process set out in the Equestrian Australia Appeals Process document which is available on the EA website www.equestrian.org.au
- 4.2. The EA Para-Equestrian National Selection Panel will determine which athletes shall be nominated to the APC to participate in the Teams event at the Paralympic Games. This may occur in the lead up or during the Games. An athlete may not appeal his or her nomination or non-nomination to the APC to participate in a Teams event.
- 4.3. All appeals concerning the selection or non-selection of athletes to the Team by the APC will follow the process set out in the APC Appeals Process document which is contained in Schedule 4 of the Athlete Deed of Agreement.

5. Interpretation

Words used in these Nomination Criteria have the same meaning ascribed to them in the APC's General Selection Criteria unless a contrary meaning appears from the context.

FEI Qualification Procedure for the London 2012 Paralympics (as outlined in the International Paralympic Committee London 2012 Paralympic Games Qualification Criteria, available at www.paralympic.org)

Qualification Period:	Start: 1 January 2010 End: 30 January 2012
Qualifying Events:	Any FEI Para-Equestrian 3* or above event
Qualification Score:	Minimum 60% score in Team Test or Individual Championship Test
Judges:	Minimum of three (3) FEI PE O or I-judges of different nationalities

6. Nomination Criteria

- 6.1. The objective is to nominate horse and rider combinations that the Para-Equestrian Selection Panel believes will achieve the best possible result at the London 2012 Paralympics. 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 the top 6 and individuals in the top 6. If selectors do not expect this to be achievable, they will not nominate a team to represent Australia in the Para-Equestrian Team competitions.
- 6.2. While the team must be nominated according to FEI regulations, the National Selection Panel will take into consideration the overall percentage achieved by combinations against the target scores as outlined in the competition criteria, to nominate the best possible team. These target scores are based on the average overall scores that achieved medals in each grade at the 2010 World Equestrian Games in Kentucky.

7. Competition Criteria

- 7.1. To be eligible for consideration for nomination, rider and horse combinations are to have achieved the competition criteria as follows at the nominated Selection Events
- 7.2. Have achieved an overall percentage of 65% or above in the Team or Individual test in at least three of the four nominated Paralympic Selection Events as listed below:-
 - 2012 Paralympic Nomination event, Tamworth, NSW (8-10 September 2011)
 - The CPEDI 3* Paralympic Qualifier and Oceania Paralympic Team Qualifying Event, Werribee, VIC (8-11 December 2011)
 - The Paralympic Nomination Event, Werribee, VIC (April 2012)
 - The National Para Equestrian Championships and Nomination Event SIEC (11-13 May 2012)

- 7.3. Combinations who are based outside Australia may also be considered for nomination upon producing Selection Scores achieved by attending approved PE international events as an agreed program with the EA Para-Equestrian National Performance Director.
- 7.4. A veterinary certificate issued by the EA National Team 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.
- 7.5. Unforeseen circumstances, including those outside of the control of the rider, may also qualify for dispensation in the sole discretion of the Selection Panel.

8. General Criteria

8.1. In considering the performances of combinations that have met the competition criteria, the EA Para-Equestrian National Selection Panel will take into account the following general criteria:-

- 8.1.1. Where the aspect of 'current form' is to be considered, only performances at the four (4) events nominated in the competition criteria will be taken into consideration
- 8.1.2. Results achieved at borrowed horse CPEDI events in Europe will not be taken into consideration
- 8.1.3. The age, soundness and fitness of the horse may be taken into consideration.
- 8.1.4. The Australian EA Para-Equestrian Team Veterinarian will be consulted in regard to selection.

8.2. Target Scores for each grade to be taken into consideration for selection of the AUS Team are:

Grade 1A	71.78%
Grade 1B	71.95%
Grade 2	69.7%
Grade 3	70.88%
Grade 4	69.88%

- 8.3. Nomination Scores for each rider will be calculated by averaging the top three team scores and the top three individual scores (i.e. 6 scores in total) from the four eligible selection competitions above. These Nomination Scores will be compared to the Target Scores published for each grade. *Note: Target Scores were calculated by averaging the medal scores for both team and individual events at WEG Kentucky.*
- 8.4. If a combination is unable to attend the Nomination Events nominated in the competition criteria, and have been granted dispensation as outlined under clause 7.5 of the competition criteria, the Selectors may take into consideration performances from Events nominated by the EA Para-Equestrian National Performance Director for this purpose.

9. Post Selection

- 9.1. In addition to the rules allowing substitutions of combinations as permitted with the Paralympic competition rules, if, in the opinion of the EA Para-Equestrian National Performance Director and if agreed with the High Performance Manager, Team Veterinarian (horse issues), Team Medical Officer (rider issue) and Chair of the National Para-Equestrian Selection Panel, should there be a loss of form by a selected horse or an illness to a rider following the final team selection that may impact on the overall results of the team (including individual results), a substitution may be made.
- 9.2. Any such replacement must meet the requirements of the Para-Equestrian and Paralympic competition rules. The replacement/s will be identified at the sole discretion of the National Para-Equestrian Selection Panel.

10. Nomination Timelines

Date	Event	Comments
8-10 Sep 2011	Paralympic Nomination Event # 1, Tamworth	
8-11 Dec 2011	CPEDI3* Werribee	Paralympic Nomination Event # 2
26 January 2012	EA Selectors announce Paralympic Shadow Team	Up to eight (8) combinations to be named
30 January 2012	FEI Paralympic Qualification ends	
12 April	Paralympic Nomination Event # 3. Werribee	Date TBC
11-13 May	Para-Equestrian National Championships, SIEC	Paralympic Nomination Event # 4
24 May 2012	EA Nominates Para-Equestrian Team to APC	
28 May 2012	APC Deadline for Nomination of Para-Equestrian Team	