

1. Objectives and Outline of the Program

The aim of the Dressage NSW High Performance Program, funded and delivered jointly by Dressage NSW and Equestrian NSW, is to provide the coaching, mentoring and support for NSW riders who are genuinely committed to progressing onto the Equestrian Australia National Squads and ultimately, to representing Australia at international level.

Selection will be based on performances at major events in the preceding competition year. Inclusion on the 2016 squads is based on results achieved at the following events in 2015:

- Boneo Classic
- Dressage with Altitude
- PSI Dressage and Jumping with the Stars
- Sydney CDI
- Brisbane CDI
- NSW Dressage Championships
- Boneo Spring CDI
- Australian Dressage Championships

Selection for the squads in 2017 will be based on the following events in 2016:

- Boneo Classic
- PSI Dressage and Jumping with the Stars
- Sydney CDI
- Brisbane CDI
- NSW Dressage Championships
- Boneo Spring CDI
- Australian Dressage Championships
- Dressage Festival & CDI-W (Werribee)
- Other CDIs as determined by the Selectors

Squad combinations and nominated major events will be named prior to the beginning of the competition season each year.

There is an expectation that performances will improve over the course of the year and in future years. The percentages required to be selected on squads will be reviewed each year and may be revised upwards, particularly for Grand Prix.

Performance of squad members will be tracked throughout the competition season, allowing for new combinations to be selected, having met the inclusion criteria. The Dressage NSW Selectors will submit a report to the Dressage NSW Committee and Equestrian NSW Board every three months on the progress of combinations.

Combinations already named on the National Squads will be indicated by an asterisk (*) on the DNSW Squads.

2. Dressage NSW High Performance Squad

Only combinations that have reached Big Tour (Grand Prix and Intermediate II) will be considered for the Dressage NSW High Performance Squad. For the 2016 squad, combinations must have competed in at least two of the nominated major events listed, with at least one score of 68% or higher at these events. The Grand Prix Special will be considered but the Grand Prix Freestyle result will not. A score of 68% or more will be required in each year to remain on the squad in the following year.

To be considered for the Squad in 2017, members of the Dressage NSW High Performance Squad must compete at a minimum of three of the nominated major events in 2016.

3. Dressage NSW Development Squad

The Dressage NSW Development Squad will be comprised of combinations competing from EA Medium Level to FEI Medium Tour. The Selectors must consider all selected combinations to have the potential to reach Grand Prix and be selected on the Dressage NSW High Performance Squad.

In 2016, members of the Dressage NSW Development Squad must compete at a minimum of three of the nominated major events to be considered for the Squad in 2017 (with the exception of medium level horses), with one score, as noted below, to remain on the squad the following year.

Medium - No horse older than 8 years of age. Horses must obtain at least one score of 70% or above at one of the nominated major events.

Advanced - No horse older than 10 years of age. Horses must obtain at least one score of 70% or above at one of the nominated major events.

FEI Small Tour and Medium Tour – No horse older than 12 years of age. Horses must obtain at least one score of 68% or above at one of the nominated major events.

Note: The age of horses is at the time of selection based on the horse's date of birth.

A program for young horses will also be developed and launched in 2016, with the inclusion criteria to be determined by the Dressage NSW Selectors and Dressage NSW Committee.

4. Important Information & Obligations for Riders:

- 4.1 Riders must be Australian citizens and be current financial members of Equestrian New South Wales and Dressage NSW.
- 4.2 Squad riders are role models for the sport and must comply with their obligations under FEI and Equestrian Australia Codes of Conduct, Policies and Regulations, with particular emphasis on Horse Welfare and Social Media.
- 4.3 The combinations (horse and rider) must remain the same throughout the year to retain their position on the squad.
- 4.4 Combinations nominated on squads are expected to attend six one-day squad clinics conducted by Equestrian NSW. Exceptions will be made for National Squad riders who find clinics conflicting with National arrangements.
- 4.5 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.
- 4.6 Combinations are expected to make every effort to attend each clinic - failure to attend a minimum of four squad clinics in a calendar year will result in exclusion from the squad – extenuating circumstances will be taken into consideration.
- 4.7 NSW Squad members may be asked to participate in special workshops/seminars or judges clinics. Riders must be aware that failure to accept such an invitation without sufficient and reasonable explanation may jeopardize their place on the squad.
- 4.8 NSW Squad members will be encouraged to participate in two Clarendon protocol days with interstate FEI judges – video feedback will be provided to riders.
- 4.9 NSW Squad members will be invited to participate at one post-NSW Championship clinic with Lilo Fore.
- 4.10 If at any time a horse and/or rider become unavailable to continue as a member of a squad for any reason, the Convener of Selectors 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 the selectors.

5. Dressage NSW Selectors

Please direct any enquiries that you may have in the first instance to the Dressage NSW Selectors:

- Pip Longworth (Convener): Ph 0419 690 980 email: philippa2@live.com.au
- Prue Spurrett: Ph (02) 9449 2318 email: prue@spurrett.com
- Suzanne Blair: Ph: 0403 395 305 email: suzanneKblair@hotmail.com

Alternatively, please contact: Bruce Farrar, Equestrian NSW CEO, Ph 0417 244 593 email: bruce@ensw.org.au