



Dressage NSW – Team Selection Criteria

Purpose

This document outlines the principles, eligibility requirements, and selection criteria for Dressage New South Wales (DNSW) teams competing at State, National, and representative events. It ensures transparency, consistency, and alignment with the DNSW Squad Structure and AOR Strategy.

DNSW Squad Structure

DNSW operates a tiered squad structure supporting athletes at various stages of development:

- Silver Squad - Elite / Performance Squad-FEI Combinations
- White Squad - Emerging Athlete / Talent Squad
- Blue Squad - Development Squad

Squad membership does not guarantee team selection, however; team members should be sought from squad membership in the first instance.

Eligibility Requirements

- Current member of ENSW member (horse and rider).
- Meet all event eligibility requirements to compete as a team member at the identified team event including horse and rider fitness.
- A history of compliance with EA and FEI rules and codes of conduct with no outstanding integrity investigations.
- Availability for all team commitments.

Selection Principles

- Performance-based and merit-based. Current DNSW Squad members will be selected in the first instance with any outstanding vacant team positions being filled by DNSW not currently on a squad.
- Transparent and documented decisions will be made
- Equitable opportunity across NSW with consideration being given to eligible riders from all regions.

Performance Criteria

Selectors will consider results from previous State Championships, National Championships, EA-recognised competitions, Regional and Club Championships, FEI junior and FEI youth competitions, consistency of scores, and performance trends.

Squad Considerations

Squad athletes are assessed on current performance, readiness and commitment. DNSW riders not currently on a squad may be selected based on benchmark results, readiness, previous state and national championships results and regional and club championship performances.

Horse Considerations

Assessment includes soundness, welfare, fitness, reliability, and suitability for championship environments.

Conduct and Professionalism

Athletes must demonstrate professionalism, compliance with codes of conduct, and commitment to horse welfare.

Team Balance

Selectors may consider team balance, and development for pathway progression within the pathways structure.

Selection Panel

Teams are selected by a DNSW-appointed panel. Conflicts of interest must be declared by all panel members. The selection panel will consist of the following members:

- 1 x DNSW Regional Delegate
- NSW Riders Representative
- 1 x member of the DNSW Squads working group
- 1 x DNSW Vice President
- Chair of the DNSW Squads working group

Communication and Appeals

Selections are communicated in writing. Feedback may be requested. Appeals are managed in accordance with DNSW and EA policies.

Review

This document will be reviewed periodically to ensure alignment with DNSW strategy.

