



## **DRESSAGE SA 2022**

### **FOUNDATIONS FOR THE FUTURE SQUADS**

### **DOCUMENT**

#### **Purpose**

Dressage South Australia (DSA) is committed to encouraging, training and developing combinations through the levels towards SA's High Performance Squad and National competitions. The purpose of the "Dressage South Australia Foundations for the Future Squads" is to recognise talented combinations within the different categories of DSA riders and create squads to develop them. DSA's aim is to encourage dressage riders to reach their highest potential through forming a community of riders who can support each other as they strive for improved performance and better outcomes through training.

#### **The foundations for the Future Squads**

- will have express entry to, on and off-horse training programs
- successful squad applicants will be listed in Moving Forward and on the DSA Facebook page and website
- will be provided with a saddle cloth badge
- may be asked to be demonstration riders for judges clinics and master classes
- will have access to presale tickets to attend master classes as a spectator before opening to the general public
- will have the opportunity to attend judges update sessions

#### **Qualifying**

##### **General qualification process**

- squad selection will be based on the performance of the rider/horse combination from the preceding calendar competition year
- squads are open to all competitive combinations but riders must be Australian citizens and current financial members of Equestrian South Australia. The horses and riders must reside in South Australia
- should there be more applications than places, an average of the three highest submitted percentages will be used to determine the successful combinations by the selectors
- squad riders are role models for the sport and must abide by the Equestrian Australia Codes of Conduct, Social Media Policy and the principals for the Welfare of the Horse. This is essential for all positions on the squads

## Criteria and Scores

- the highest average of three scores will be used to determine which combinations receive priority
- this will be the highest three scores (can be over multiple levels) obtained between 1/1/21 and 31/12/2021 with no less than two judges for each test
- a minimum of two out of the three scores **must be from SA HOTY competitions**
- priority will be given to riders that can demonstrate a progression over the previous two years. Riders will be asked to provide three scores that either show a progression through the levels or an increase in the percentages at a single level. Results must be from competitive competitions with no less than two judges for each test
- If there are more applicants than places when comparing scores across levels the scores will be weighted by 2% for each level to provide an equal playing field.
  - Preliminary no weighting,
  - Novice +2%,
  - Elementary +4%,
  - Medium +6%,
  - Advanced +8% and
  - FEI +10%.

## Foundations for the Future Squads

### AOR Future Squad

This squad comprises a maximum of 8 rider/horse combinations and is open to ESA Adult AOR riders. The first 2 place getters in the previous year's HOTY (Foundation and AOR categories) will get an automatic invitation to join the squad. The remaining places will be filled using the qualifying criteria.

### EA/FEI Open Future Squad (non AOR)

This squad comprises a maximum of 4 rider/horse combinations and is open to ESA EA and FEI riders. The first 2 place getters in the previous year's EA HOTY will get an automatic invitation to join the squad. The remaining places will be filled using the qualifying criteria.

### Pony Future Squad

This squad comprises a maximum of 4 rider/pony combinations and is open to ESA pony riders. The first 2 place getters in the previous year's Pony HOTY will get an automatic invitation to join the squad. The remaining places will be filled using the qualifying criteria.

### Youth Future Squad

This squad comprises a maximum of 4 rider/horse combinations and is open to ESA youth riders. The first 2 place getters in the previous year's Youth HOTY will get an automatic invitation to join the squad. The remaining places will be filled using the qualifying criteria.

## **Important information for riders:**

- riders need to be current competitive members of ESA
- all owners need to be current members of ESA
- horses need to be registered with the EA and micro-chipped
- horses must have a current competition licence
- horses must be sound and fit to satisfy competition standards from the beginning of the squad year
- riders are role models for the sport and must conform to the EA Code of Conduct, Social Media Policy and Welfare of the Horse Policy
- poor sportsmanship and inappropriate behaviour by squad members will not be tolerated. Combinations can be removed from the Squad at the discretion of the DSA Committee or ESA Board at any time if poor sportsmanship or inappropriate behaviour has been verified. Combinations will be formally notified of the decision and reasons will be outlined. Mentoring will be offered if the situation is appropriate with the aim of re-instatement
- any rider that has disciplinary proceedings against them enforcing a term of suspension will automatically be removed from the squad for the remainder of the year
- if at any time a horse and/or rider become unavailable to continue as a member of a Squad for any reason, DSA 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 DSA
- where a selected horse is unavailable to attend a clinic due to injury, riders may make a request to DSA to substitute another horse, each application will be considered on merit
- riders may be included on the Squad on more than one horse (subject to the combinations meeting the criteria) but may only register one horse for clinics that are run, unless additional places are available and the organisers choose to offer places to riders with a second Squad horse.
- riders will receive a Squad badge.
- the senior riders will particularly be seen as role models to younger riders and their behaviour and adherence to the EA Code of Conduct must reflect this
- the young riders will be seen as role models to their peers and their behaviour and adherence to the EA Code of Conduct must reflect this
- riders may be asked to attend DSA events or Judges Clinics as demonstration rider/horse combinations from time to time
- riders may be invited to attend user pays training clinics and/or workshops conducted by DSA/DJSC and should make every effort to attend
- there will be no formal review scheduled however should positions become available combinations on the reserve list may be notified  
  
applications will be open on Nominate with the Squad announced once the selectors have reviewed the applications. Ratified decisions are final
- DSA reserves the right to review and amend the selection criteria and Squad numbers, as and when, required.

