

Interschool NT Selection Policy

2024

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1.0	December 2023	Nicole Paas	First Version
1.1	January 2024	Vicki Martin	Formatting Changes

Acronyms	Full form
ENT	Equestrian Northern Territory
EA	Equestrian Australia
The Board	Equestrian Northern Territory branch management board
The Squad	Equestrian Northern Territory Interschool Squad
The Team	The Equestrian Northern Territory Interschool Team
Table A	Events run in accordance with Articles 236 – 238 of the EA National Jumping rules. (In general terms, scoring for Table A events is where faults are penalised with points. Rounds can be against or not against the clock.)
Table C	Events run in accordance with Article 239 of the EA National Jumping Rules. (In general terms, scoring for Table C events is where faults are penalised with time penalties).
HC	Hors Concours. Competes but results are not eligible for consideration.
NT	Northern Territory of Australia including regions recognised being a part of the Northern Territory for the purposes of Equestrian NT.
Interschool NT	Interschool NT is a sub committee of the ENT Board.

Contents

1. Important Information	4
2. Rider Requirements	5
2.1. Dressage.....	6
2.2. Jumping	6
2.3. Interschool Show Horse	6
2.4. Combined Training.....	7
2.5. Eventing.....	7
3. Selection	7
3.1. Regional Selection.....	7
3.2. Special Consideration.....	7
4. Further Information	8

1. Important Information

Please read the selection policy in detail. Changes have been made to this year's selection policy qualification period. All riders/parents will need to understand the new qualification period and how this affects selection for the 2024 National Interschool Team

An application fee of \$30.00 is required at the time of applying to be a member of the Squad. Please pay into the following bank account.

Account Name: EA NT Interschools Fundraising Squad
BSB Number: 633-000
Account Number: 152171153

Please note: the application fee is non-refundable and will not be reimbursed if the rider is not successful in the final team selection. Interschool NT will retain the application fee to be utilised toward the Interschool team.

In accordance with EA National Rules, riders may compete at the Australian Championships event in more than one sport (discipline).

Where the selected rider is unable to take their own horse/s, riders will have the option of:

- finding their own suitable horse (e.g.: borrowing a suitable horse through their own contacts) as endorsed by the Interschool NT, or
- seeking a pool horse from the host state (requested through the Interschool NT) – if pool horses are offered.

It must be noted that the supply of pool horses is not guaranteed. The supply of pool horses is at the sole discretion of the host state.

Riders will only be permitted to compete in classes for which they been selected and in accordance with the EA Australian Interschool Championship entry terms and conditions.

Please note: the host state determines the entry terms and conditions and remain silent until the entries are published.

Horses are required to hold current EA registration to attend the Australian Interschool Championship.

The qualifying period is **1 April of the previous year to 31 July of the championship year**. This incorporates two local competition seasons.

Any member of the Squad who has achieved the qualification requirements for a class, or classes, as set out in this policy may, at any time, apply to Interschool NT for acceptance to the 2024 Team. Interschool NT will review the application, make a decision and seek ENT Board endorsement of the outcome.

Team members may continue to compete during the qualification period if they wish to qualify for selection including at a higher level in their selected discipline, for which they have yet to qualify or in other disciplines.

For example: If a rider qualified for the 90cm jumping class in May 2024 and is accepted onto the team. The rider wants to jump at 100cm and compete in dressage, the rider can continue to compete to achieve qualification in the desired classes/disciplines up to the close of the qualifying period.

Once qualified the rider may submit an application for selection for the new classes to –Interschool NT at any time up until 6pm, 31 July 2024. Each state/territory can nominate up to 4 riders in each class.

Riders must have at least one qualifier in the relevant class between 1 August of the previous year and 31 July of the current championship year.

It is the responsibility of the rider and/or parent to supply Interschool NT with the rider's application for selection, including mandatory qualifying results correctly completed on the specified result form prior to 6pm on 31 July of the competition year. Late, incorrect, or incomplete nominations will not be accepted.

All riders must be accompanied by a parent/guardian at the Australian Interschool Championship. The rider must be a current competitor member of ENT. The nominated guardian must be a current member of ENT and/or another state branch. All parties, including spectators and supporters must adhere to the EA Code of Conduct.

To be considered for selection, the minimum standard described below must be achieved during the qualifying period.

Qualifying classes may be official EA classes or classes at events conducted by an ENT affiliate and/or another state branch affiliate, these events may include unofficial classes and may be held anywhere in Australia. For Pony Club events to be considered the Pony Club event must be affiliated with ENT and conducted under EA Rules and Regulations with EA officials.

Qualifications can be achieved on one or more days of a multi-day event. ie Gala, Championships, Royal Show

Training, practice, freshman's days and any virtual activities/competitions are not eligible to be considered as qualifying classes for the purpose of this policy.

2. Rider Requirements

Riders must be a current ENT member (any level of membership) at the time of applying to be a member of the squad. Riders must be current ENT Junior/Senior Competitor member at the time of accepting selection on the team.

Riders who are attending secondary school are required to undertake educational programs offered by EA. As a minimum the EA Introductory Riding and Horse Management courses for students over 12 years of age. Successful completion of these programs is a prerequisite to commencing the EA Coaching Program.

Commencement of these educational programs will not only assist with your application for inclusion on the team, but when also applying for other scholarship programs, and potential funding.

Education programs may be studied independently, and completion of the program is not required prior to selection.

The rider must provide proof of purchase of the introductory programs at the time of submitting their application for the team.

If the rider has already completed one or two of the mentioned EA educational programs, please provide proof at the time of submitting your application for the squad.

Riders and their appointed guardian over 18 years of age must attend the mandatory information session to understand the commitment of attending the Australian Interschool Championship and the Selection Policy. A date for the information session will be scheduled upon the squad nominations closing.

Riders must be attending either primary or secondary school. This can include boarding school, distance education or where the rider physically attends a school outside the NT and where the rider's primary place of residence remains in the NT.

2.1. Dressage

Riders must compete in a minimum of 3 separate* tests over at least 3 separate days, at or above the level the rider is seeking to be selected:

- Preliminary (Primary School) minimum scores of 62%
- Preliminary (Secondary School) minimum scores of 63%
- Novice (Primary School) minimum scores of 61%
- Novice (Secondary School) minimum scores of 62%
- Elementary, Medium, Advanced and PSG (Secondary School) minimum scores of 60%

When more than one judge is used to judge the test, the total combined score of all the judges is only to be used, and not each individual judges score i.e. that test will not count as 2 (two) separate tests, it will count as 1 (one).

Tests ridden HC or where the rider was eliminated (for any reason) will not count.

Only competitions judged by an EA Accredited Dressage Judge for the level will be eligible.

2.2. Jumping

Riders must compete in at least 3 qualifying jumping classes*.

*Qualifying jumping classes: must have a maximum first round starting height at or above the height that the rider is being considered for selection in, and be a combination of the following:

- at least two classes with no jumping penalties; and
- at least one class with no more than 4 jumping penalties.

Note: 'Class(s)' is defined by clear first round only and include Table A, Table C & 2 Round events but do not include Six Bar events, and do not include classes where the rider was riding HC or was eliminated (for any reason).

2.3. Interschool Show Horse

Riders must compete in:

- a minimum of 3 rider, and/or hack/hunter classes over a minimum of 3 separate days, with at least one first place obtained with more than 1 rider/horse in the class,
- a minimum of 3 led or handler classes over a minimum of 3 separate days,
- for Working Hunters, a minimum of 3 qualifying jumping classes* (refer to the Jumping Section) over a minimum of 3 separate days, and at least one first place attained where there is more than 1 rider/horse in the class.

2.4. Combined Training

Riders must compete in:

- a minimum of 3 tests over at least 3 separate days at or above (refer to the Dressage Section) the level the rider is seeking to be selected in, and
- a minimum of 3 qualifying jumping classes* (refer to the Jumping Section) over a minimum of 3 separate days.

2.5. Eventing

Riders must have competed in eventing at or above the level at which the rider is seeking to be selected. Due to the lack of eventing classes offered in the NT, riders are encouraged to submit for consideration by the Board, details of all Eventing classes in which they have competed during the qualifying period.

3. Selection

Consideration of selection will be based on the rider completing the requirements set out in this selection policy.

Interschool NT will consider and decide on applications received during the qualifying period. Candidate's will be notified in writing of the outcome of their applications.

Results of applications shall be provided to the candidate and the ENT board within 7 days of Interschool NT receiving the application.

Interschool NT will be responsible validating and assessing each rider's application against this policy and make a selection decision against this policy before the candidate is advised of the outcome.

A reason for decision must be recorded for each application.

Copies of all dressage tests riders are seeking qualification in must be provided.

3.1. Regional Selection

Where the rider is located outside the Greater Darwin region, riders can apply for special consideration for entry into the Interschool Team. Riders will still need to provide qualification scores at level before being considered for a class but can seek special consideration on the number of qualifying scores achieved.

3.2. Special Consideration

Riders may apply for special consideration on the grounds of rider or horse injury or illness during the selection period, outlining what qualifications they have obtained and why they should be considered when they have not achieved qualification requirements. If a rider was selected in the prior competition year under special consideration, this special consideration expires after the event in the prior year. Special consideration only relates to the current year.

Appropriate medical and/or veterinary evidence must be provided. Interschool NT may request further information.

Riders experiencing exceptional circumstances may apply for exemptions where they have been unable to meet the requirements set out in this policy. Riders will need to outline what qualifications they have

achieved and why they should be considered when they have not achieved qualification requirements. Exemption applicants are expected to have previous competition experience.

Applications for exemption from this policy MUST be submitted to the appointed selection panel seven (7) calendar days before the close of entries.

4. Further Information

Further information relating to interschool competition is available on the ENT website www.nt.equestrian.org.au/sports/interschool

Or contact Interschool NT via email interschool@ent.org.au

This policy is subject to change as agreed by the Board.