

## ATHLETE SELECTION CRITERIA AND GUIDELINES - EQUESTRIAN

Sport Inclusion Australia (SIA) will manage the Australian Team across all sports at the Virtus Global Games (VGG). Athletes wishing to nominate for the 2023 Equestrian Team will be considered based on VGG Sport Specific Minimum Eligibility Requirements, SIA General Selection Criteria plus Australian Equestrian Sport Specific Criteria which will be based on competition results, ability to adapt to riding borrowed horses and ability to travel and work in a team environment.

**SIA 2023 Global Games General Selection Criteria** can be found here:  
<https://sportinclusionaustralia.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/2023-Global-Games-General-Selection-Criteria.pdf>

General Selection Criteria Exception: Equestrian Athletes who don't have experience competing and travelling with state or national teams but who have competed at state or national championships where overnight stays away from home were required should also apply.

### Equestrian Selection Panel

- A representative from Sport Inclusion Australia (Chairperson)
- A representative from Equestrian Australia High Performance
- Head Equestrian Coach

### Australian Team Equestrian Sport Athlete Eligibility

- Must be a current financial member of Equestrian Australia
- Have at least 2 results with a minimum score of 60% in any of the following FEI Grade IV tests in video or live competition:
  - 2022 FEI Introductory (A or B)
  - 2022 FEI Novice (A or B)
  - 2023 FEI Novice B
  - 2023 FEI Intermediate A
- At least one result must be achieved in a Virtus Video competition organised by Virtus in Round 1 or 2 in 2022 or Round 1 in 2023. Entries for the Round 1 2023 competition close 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023 however Athletes can request an early test judging if they are nominating for competition at the 2023 Global Games
- 2023 Virtus online competition information: <https://www.virtus.sport/eventsvs/2022-para-dressage-video-competition-round-1#toggle-id-1>
- One test result may be submitted after the close of EOI but must be submitted before the 16<sup>th</sup> March 2023.
- Demonstrate an ability to adapt to unknown horses and work in a team environment with minimal support during the Training Camp at Tooradin Estate in March 2023.
- Able to travel with the Australian Team (planned departure 1<sup>st</sup> June – return 12<sup>th</sup> June 2023) with minimal support as family members or personal support workers will not be travelling or staying with the athletes during the Virtus Global Games.
- Athletes must be able to work with the Equestrian Team Manager, Coaches and SIA staff who will support athletes during the Games.

## Australian Equestrian Team Selection Process

Team selection process will be over 3 stages:

### STAGE 1

- On or before the 27<sup>th</sup> February 2023 Athletes are to submit an Expression of Interest (EOI) to Sport Inclusion Australia for attending the 2023 Virtus Global Games as part of the Australian Team. The Expressions of interest will include:
  - The athletes' results in Virtus video and live competitions prior to 27<sup>th</sup> February 2023.
  - A commitment to meet the costs of entering the Virtus Global Games
  - Availability to attend the 3-day training camp at Tooradin Estate, 300 Lynes Road, Tooradin, Victoria on 17-19 March 2023.
- On or before the 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2023 the GG Australian Equestrian Team Selection Panel (GGAETSP) will review the EOIs and invite Athletes to attend the Training Camp.

### STAGE 2

- On or before 4<sup>th</sup> March 2023 SIA will submit long list teams to the GG Organising Committee, this will not be a confirmation of selection but a list of riders who are under consideration for team selection.
- On or before 5<sup>th</sup> March invited Athletes will confirm their attendance at the Training Camp.
- Athletes may submit their best 2 additional test results achieved between the 27<sup>th</sup> February and 16<sup>th</sup> March 2023 for consideration. No more than 6 test results in total (from the time EOI close until 16<sup>th</sup> March will be considered for any athlete).
- 17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> March the invited Athletes will participate in the training camp. Included in the camp will be test riding under competition conditions as well as training and team building exercises.
- After the 19<sup>th</sup> March the GGAETSP will meet to discuss the invited Athletes' performance during the training camp. Test results during the training camp and feedback from the judge(s) will also be included.

### STAGE 3

- On or before 24<sup>th</sup> March 2023 the GGAETSP will recommend to SIA up to 4 athletes plus a non-travelling reserve who have:
  - met the required minimum performance results
  - met the requirements of adapting to riding unknown horses and working with different coaches at the Tooradin Training Camp and in the opinion of the GGAETSP could achieve a min score of 60% on borrowed horses.
  - met the requirements for athlete behaviour in working as part of a team. (see SIA code of conduct)
  - can show evidence of their ability to meet the financial costs of participating in the 2023 Virtual Global Games.

## Announcement of Australian Team for the 2023 Virtus Global Games

- Sport Inclusion Australia will announce the Australian Equestrian team and advise athletes of their selection once athlete agreements have been finalised.
- Sport Inclusion Australia will complete Team Entry requirements with Virtus Global Games Organising Committee.
- Virtus Global Games Australian Equestrian Team announcement is expected to take place in early April 2023.

## Information on the Virtus Global Games

The Games will be held at various venues around Vichy France. The Equestrian competition will be Stade Equestre du Sichon.

Opening ceremony 4<sup>th</sup> June, Equestrian Team horse training 5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> June and competition 8<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> June. Closing ceremony 10<sup>th</sup> June.

### Expenditures, responsibilities, and conditions

- Virtus general team costs: travel, accommodation and entry fees are the responsibility of each Athlete. At the time of development of the selection criteria the estimate of these costs is approximately AUD\$7,000 subject to currency exchange rates.
- Equestrian team expenses (per athlete) approximately Euro €750 minimum estimate but is subject to currency exchange rates and will include horse hire and transport, stable, bedding and feed costs.

Based on these costs athletes should budget for around AUD \$10,000 for this trip.

Sport Inclusion Australia will coordinate travel and accommodation bookings for the Australian Team and collect fees from team members once team selection has been finalised.

### Behaviour

- Athletes will travel and stay with the Australian Team which will be managed by SIA. The team will include Equestrian Team Manager and Coaches, support workers and medical staff.
- Athletes must be able to travel and compete with minimal support as family and personal support workers will not be travelling or staying with the team.

### Family and Friends

- Family and friends are welcome to come and support the team at the event and other designated activities. This will be at their own expense. There is no accommodation available with the Australian Team.

### Training Camp in Victoria 17<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> March 2023

- This camp will be conducted under competition team conditions. Only Athletes and team officials will be accommodated at Tooradin Estate.
- In line with the Global Games in France no accommodation will be provided for family or personal support workers at Tooradin.
- Minimal support will be available during the riding sessions at the 3-day camp. Parents will be included in some team activities during this camp.
- Fees for attending this training camp, including travel and accommodation will be met by the Athlete. Some expenses at Tooradin may be subsidized.
- Athletes must demonstrate that they are able to manage independently while riding borrowed horses. Equestrian Team staff will be available to assist athletes to prepare for riding. Athletes are expected to assist with care of horses and stable chores as required by Tooradin Estate and Equestrian Team staff.
- Athletes are to display the appropriate behaviour associated with elite equestrian athletes in a team situation.
- Additional training activities for the equestrian team may be arranged by Virtus Equestrian Australia before the team departs Australia.

### More information:

- For equestrian team information please make all initial inquiries to the Virtus Global Games Australian Equestrian Team contact: Jenny Carroll [jacarroll2009@2009.com](mailto:jacarroll2009@2009.com)
- For Virtus International athlete registration please contact Sport Inclusion Australia [mail@siasport.org](mailto:mail@siasport.org)

**EXPRESSION OF INTEREST - EQUESTRIAN**

<b>NAME</b>			
<b>ADDRESS</b>			
<b>PHONE</b>	HOME		MOBILE
<b>EMAIL</b>			
<b>AUSTRALIAN PASSPORT NUMBER</b>		<b>EQUESTRIAN AUSTRALIA MEMBERSHIP NUMBER</b>	
<b>CONTACT PERSON/ GUARDIAN</b>			
<b>PHONE</b>			
<b>EMAIL</b>			
<b>PLEASE OUTLINE ANY HEALTH CONDITIONS THAT YOU NEED TO MANAGE (PLEASE INCLUDE ANY MEDICATIONS USED and TREATMENTS/CARE REQUIREMENTS)</b>			
<b>COMPETITION RESULTS</b>			
(Minimum of 2 and no more than 6 results between 1 <sup>st</sup> January 2021 and 27 <sup>th</sup> February 2023 including at least 1 Virtus online competition in 2022 or 2023)			
<b>DATE</b>	<b>EVENT</b>	<b>TEST</b>	<b>RESULT (%)</b>
			<b>JUDGE (if known)</b>
<b>EXPERIENCE TRAVELLING WITH SPORT TEAMS AT STATE, NATIONAL OR INTERNATIONAL EVENTS</b>			
<b>DATE</b>	<b>EVENT</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>WHAT WAS YOUR ROLE?</b>
<b>ATHLETE: I wish to submit an expression of interest for the Australian Equestrian Team for the 2023 Virtus Global Games.</b>			
The information I have provided is true and I agree:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ I am an Australian Citizen</li> <li>○ I am a current financial member of Sport Inclusion Australia and Equestrian Australia</li> <li>○ I am eligible for Virtus International equestrian sport competition</li> <li>○ I can meet the self-funded costs (estimated to be \$10,000) to participate in the games</li> <li>○ I am available to attend the Equestrian Team Training Camp 17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> March 2023</li> <li>○ I can participate in team training camp activities with minimal support from my family/personal support worker</li> <li>○ I will follow team staff directions, assist with the care of horses and work with other athletes to achieve the best team outcomes during the Training Camp and other selection activities.</li> </ul>			
Athlete Name:		Signature of Athlete:	
<b>GUARDIAN: I agree to follow the directions of Australian Team Management and the policies/protocols of SIA and Virtus for the Australian Team in preparation for and during the 2023 Global Games.</b>			
Guardian Name:		Signature of Guardian:	