



Australian Talent Search Squad

Information Pack

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Introduction

The National High Performance Eventing program in partnership with the NSW Institute of Sport (NSWIS) has developed a new initiative to specifically identify and select talented combinations for the future that are outside the traditional selection process. Traditionally we select both the National and the NSWIS Squad on the basis of performance indicators in *** CIC's and CCI's and as such we may miss some promising horse rider combinations who are competing at lower levels. Maybe with the appropriate assistance these combinations could represent Australia at World Equestrian Games or Olympic Games. The Australian Talent Search Squad is an effort to spread the selection net and find the extraordinary horse/rider combination!

Australian Equestrian Talent Search Program – What is it?

Talent search is designed to help EA identify talented horse and rider combinations and prepare them for participation in domestic, national and eventually international competition. The program utilises information from veterinary science, sports science and key coaches, to identify riders and horses with characteristics associated with elite performance. Riders and horses are then guided to competition and clinics that provide them with the opportunity to realise their potential in a high-quality talent development program.

Why Search for Talent?

It is widely accepted by elite-level sporting coaches that it's no longer sufficient to rely on traditional club systems to deliver talent to top-end sport. Instead, to remain internationally competitive, we must actively seek to unearth the talent. National Sporting Organisations are becoming increasingly pro-active in instituting Talent Search-type programs to complement existing recruitment methods.

Similarly, the prudent adoption of multiple talent recruitment strategies will help ensure that Australia can maximise its relatively small talent pool, and continue to 'do more with less'. For instance, Australia has a relatively small population of only 20 million people, when compared with the USA who have approximately 300 million people, and China, who have almost 1300 million people.

Who are we looking for?

If you have a horse between 4 and 12 years old, and if you are over 15 yrs old, we want to know you. If you don't think you want to ride the horse at World Championship or Olympic level but your horse would do the job.....we still want to know you.

Physical and mental requirements for "Australian Talent Search Squad"

- Enjoy competition and challenges, is a good thinker (e.g. good at problem solving)
- Is a 'coachable' person (e.g. listens to advice and is prepared to try new skills)
- Is able to demonstrate persistence and determination (e.g. doesn't give up after failing the first time)

What can the participants expect to gain from this experience?

What you get out of registering your interest in this EA National initiative is the opportunity to introduce your horse to our National Eventing Coach, Wayne Roycroft and Assistant Coach, Prue Barrett. The assessment days will be scheduled in conjunction with the EA High Performance Clinics that are held in each State.

A data base will be established to track your performance over a period of twelve months. If selected you will be recognised as a member of "the Australian Talent Search Squad" by an insignia which can be attached to your saddle cloth. You will of course be encouraged to compete with your insignia on your saddle cloth.

As a squad member you will also be invited to EA National High Performance squad schools and costs associated to coaching will be covered by the Australian Talent Search program.

What does it cost?

Attendance fees are \$100 per horse & rider combination. Please complete the form below and submit with payment to the FA National Office prior to participation at an assessment day. On the assessment day you will have an individual dressage assessment followed by a show jumping/cross country assessment. The latter will be in group sessions. These sessions will be conducted by the National Coach, Wayne Roycroft.

Dates of assessment days and Coordinator contacts

Date	State	Coordinator	Contact
August 13th	QLD	Sue Niven	Phone: 0417 633 493 Email: sueniven@hotmail.com
October 13 th	NSW	Niki Chapman	Phone: 0413 433 131 Email: Niki.Chapman@nswis.com.au
October 20th	SA	Gill Rolton	Phone: 08 8383 6180 Email: ggrolton@bigpond.com
October 23rd	WA	Jenine Dilts	Phone: 08 9296 1200 Email: squads@equestrianwa.org.au
November 6th	VIC	Elaine Edwards	Phone: 03 9013 0707 ext 106 Email: eventing@equestrianvictoria.com.au
November 28-29 th	TAS	Jill Hart	Phone: 0408 126 897 Email: bha99251@bigpond.net.au

Registrations

To register, please complete the Registration form below and submit with payment to the Equestrian Australia National Office, PO Box 673 Sydney Markets, NSW 2129

Dress

Breaches, boots, clean and tidy gear is required. Competition gear is not required but it is recommended that competition type clothing and saddlery be used.

Dressage Assessment

Horses and riders will be asked to show their horse's paces by the Dressage Coach/Assessor. As part of this assessment you will be asked to perform a particular dressage test. The assessor may also make individual requests in order to accurately assess you and your horse as showing potential for Elite status. The assessor's will be looking at overall appearance, movement, paces, aptitude, attitude, trainability and give an overall assessment mark for each combination.

Jumping Assessment

The jumping assessment will take place in groups of three to five. You will be required to jump a competition type show jumping course and will be asked to perform various additional jumping tasks for the combination to show their potential. Combinations will be assessed on paces (particularly the canter), jumping technique, carefulness, scope, courage, trainability and potential towards elite status.

Assessment Results

Talent assessments will be recorded after consultation with the National Coach and a brief record will be emailed to you.

Contact with riders

All contact with riders participating in the Talent Search Program will be contacted via email from either your State Eventing Coordinator or the National Office on 02 8762 7777.



EQUESTRIAN AUSTRALIA

Australian Talent Search Squad EVENTING Registration form

Rider's information

Date:

Name:

Date of Birth:

EFA registration
number:

Address:

Contact number:

Email address:

Horse's information

Name:

Date of Birth:

EFA registration number:

Breeding:

Owner's name:

Owner's address:

Level currently competing: (Please circle)

Introductory Preliminary Pre Novice One Star Two Star Three Star Four Star

Clinic Registering for: (Please circle)

QLD
13/8/09

NSW
13/10/09

SA
20/10/09

WA
23/10/09

VIC
6/11/09

TAS
28-29/11/09

Payment Information

Attendance fees will be \$100 per horse rider combination.

Please send your credit card details or cheque/ money order to Mandy King payable to "Equestrian Australia Ltd"
PO Box 673 Sydney Markets, NSW 2129

Or fax this form including your credit card details to (02) 9763 2466.

CREDIT CARD PAYMENT DETAILS

VISA

MASTERCARD

BANKCARD

Credit Card Number _____ Expiry Date ____/____

Card Holder's Name _____ Signature _____