

Pony Club WA State Dressage Squad

An opportunity for Dressage combinations to be supported by mentoring and to assist with increasing skills, knowledge and experiences with the aim to increase participation in the Dressage discipline and to encourage participation at the Pony Club Nationals 2021.

INFORMATION

2021 qualification minimum requirements for Squad selection

Level	Score	Number of Qualifying tests
Preliminary	65%	A minimum of 3 tests at this percentage
Novice, Elementary, Medium, Advanced, PSG & above	63%	A minimum of 3 tests at this percentage

AIM

1. Increase awareness and participation in the discipline of Dressage.
2. Support and develop a Squad of riders who have the capacity to learn, compete and possibly represent Western Australia at the highest pony club levels.
3. Provide high calibre Coaches to oversee, instruct and mentor Squad members.
4. Hold 4 Dressage Squad clinics and 2 Dressage Development Squad clinics in 2021. These may include innovative virtual lessons. We will endeavour to hold several of these clinics in regional areas. If there are vacancies in the Dressage Squad Clinics they may be offered to riders in the Dressage Development Squad.
5. Encourage Squad riders to participate in Officials Training. This may be as participants and or demonstration riders for clinics and examinations.
6. Provide the Squad riders with access to an educational program that covers topics such as: Dressage rules; The Training Scale; Understanding the levels of Dressage; Sports Psychology & Goal setting; Nutrition (of both horse & rider); Prevention of injury and Injury management (of both horse & rider); Long distance travel.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- **A maximum of 20 riders will be selected for the Dressage Squad. A Dressage Development Squad will also be offered to up to 12 riders.**
- The Dressage Squad Selectors will assess applications against the selection criteria and select riders to attend one of two selection clinics where final ranking and selection will take place.
- Riders will be notified of selection or non-selection. Any appeals against squad selection must be conducted in accordance with the Pony Club WA Handbook, Part 4 – Competition and Training. Appeals against Squad selection decisions must be made in writing within five days of the email notification regarding selection and be submitted to the State Dressage Committee who will consult with the Chief Executive Officer of Pony Club WA. Appeals can only be made regarding the selection process, that it was unfair and was not carried out in accordance with the selection criteria.
- Payment of a non-refundable fee of \$110 is required by successful applicants to secure their position on the Dressage Squad and the Dressage Development Squad. All Dressage Squad members will receive a Squad shirt, a Cap, a Badge for their saddle blanket and a Goals and Competition Diary (in print/online).
- Reserve Squad: if there is an over subscription of accepted applications, nominations may be placed on a waiting list to make a Reserve Squad. If there are places available at any clinic, Reserve Squad Members may be invited to participate. Non squad member charges may apply to participate in these clinics.
- Clinics will have fees to cover ground fees, coach fees, lunch and any other expenses. The (estimated to be approximately \$70-\$100 per clinic). Bookings will be taken on My Pony.
- Any squad clinics that are undersubscribed may be opened up to Pony club members riding at the appropriate level (non-squad member charges will apply).

SELECTION CRITERIA

- Riders must be current financial members of Pony Club WA

Qualification:

- All squad members must achieve a minimum of 3 competition performances with a score of 65% at Preliminary Level and 63% for Novice, Elementary, Medium, Advanced, PSG & above.
- New combinations that do not meet the above criteria are welcome to apply for the Dressage Development Squad but must supply a reference of recommendation from their regular Coach and a link to an unlisted YouTube video of them riding a Dressage test on the nominated horse/pony. Email the Pony Club WA State Dressage Committee to advise your intention and you will be supplied with the instructions.

SELECTION PROCESS

Round one:

Riders send in their application via email to dressage@ponyclubwa.asn.au This must include their application form and cover letter.

Riders may be contacted and asked to supply a link to an unlisted YouTube video of them riding a Dressage test on the nominated horse/pony. This would be to provide additional support for their application.

Round two:

Riders will be asked to take part in an informal Zoom interview where they will be asked to discuss their application, their willingness to represent Pony Club WA by joining the Squad and what they wish to gain from the Squad.

All riders will be notified of the outcome of their application by email by **Monday, 15 February 2021**.

To be submitted as part of application:

- A completed and signed application form.
- A completed and signed Statement of Compliance.
- A cover letter with a maximum of 500 words addressing the following points:
 - A brief overview of their horse and their riding history together (similar to the short discussion you would have with a new coach at the beginning of a lesson or clinic)
 - The Dressage level they are training and competing at, with particular reference to the 12-24 months.
 - What they aim to get out of their involvement in the squad.
 - How they plan to demonstrate their willingness and commitment to the Squad and the aims of the Squad.
 - Their involvement and how they currently give back to the sport, their club and the community.

SQUAD REQUIREMENTS:

- Squad members must continue to demonstrate that they meet the necessary standards during the year to justify their selection as a Squad Member. This includes behavior, presentation, team spirit and general conduct. They must complete and submit their Goals & Performance Diary as requested. Squad members must notify the Dressage Committee in the case of illness or injury to the horse or rider.
- Squad members must commit and attend a minimum of two Squad dates per annum.
- All squad members must reapply each year and previous attendance and commitment will be considered in the selection process.
- Riders must provide a minimum of 2 hours of service to the Dressage Committee. This may be at our Clinics, Officials Training or for the Pony Club WA State Dressage Championships.
- Riders are expected to keep informed on Squad related information by checking their emails, the Pony Club WA Newsletter and the Squad Facebook page.

Application Form

Pony Club WA State Dressage Squad and Pony Club WA Dressage Development Squad

Name			
Email			
Phone			
Date of Birth		Age as at 01/01/2021	
Member of Pony Club WA since			
Current Club			
Date of Joining Club		Number of Working Rallies attended in the previous 12 months	
Previous Clubs		Certificates Held	

We, the undersigned, do hereby declare that the above-named horse and rider combination are competent.

We acknowledge that the rider has a basic knowledge of the Pony Club Aims and Objectives, is an enthusiastic and cooperative club member and would be a good ambassador for their state and/or country.

Endorsement of Club:

<p>Club Signature <i>(please circle the applicable officer)</i></p> <p><i>Chief Coach</i> <u>or</u></p> <p><i>President</i> <u>or</u></p> <p><i>Secretary</i></p>	
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HORSE DETAILS

If you have more than one horse that is eligible, please fill out one form for each horse

Name		Horse Name	
Height		Age	

Three Best Dressage Results *(from the past 12 months)*

	Club / Event Name	Date	Class - Pony Club or EWA	Test & Level	Score	Judge(s) name
1						
2						
3						

Other Dressage Results *(from the past 12-24 months)*

	Club / Event Name	Date	Class - Pony Club or EWA	Test & Level	Score	Judge(s) name
1						
2						
3						
4						
5						

Statement of Compliance

SQUAD RIDERS, COACHES, MANAGER, PARENTS WITH PONY CLUB WESTERN AUSTRALIA INC.

This document is to be read and signed by every rider, coach, manager and parent who have nominated to participate in the Pony Club WA Dressage Squad.

I, (print name), as a representative of Pony Club WA acknowledge that I have read and understand the Pony Club WA Code of Conduct and undertake to comply with the requirements contained in this document and as defined in all other Pony Club WA policies.

Signature of Rider	
Date	

Name of Parent / Guardian <i>(if the rider is under 18)</i>	
Signature of Parent/ Guardian <i>(if the rider is under 18)</i>	
Date	

Please Note:

Squad members are representatives of Pony Club WA. Any Squad member that is found **NOT** to have upheld the Aims and Objectives of Pony Club WA or to have been in breach of the Pony Club WA Code of Conduct, will **NOT** be considered for selection for future Squads. This may also jeopardise their ability to be selected for Pony Club International and or National Events.

Please forward your completed application to dressage@ponyclubwa.asn.au by **Monday, 18 January 2021**