



Hong Kong Equestrian Performance Plan 2024

SELECTION POLICY FOR ELITE AND POTENTIAL SQUADS

HKEPP Mission

The aim of the Hong Kong Equestrian Performance Plan (HKEPP) is to achieve success for equestrian athletes from Hong Kong competing on the world stage. This will be accomplished through a systematic approach to identify talent, develop potential and support successful athletes to achieve their goals.

Aims of the Selection Policy

This policy is designed to select athletes on to the Performance Plan who demonstrate the potential ability to represent Hong Kong in international competition, major equestrian Championships and Games, with the ultimate ambition of winning medals.

Introduction

The HKEPP was introduced by The Hong Kong Jockey Club (HKJC), in collaboration with The Equestrian Federation of Hong Kong, China in January 2016. This policy relates to the formal selection of athletes for the eighth year of the programme, running 1 January 2024 to 31 December 2024. Selection on to the programme will take place annually and eligibility criteria are subject to change in future years.

The number of places on the programme and the structure of available support are dependent on funding levels made available by The Hong Kong Jockey Club and therefore subject to change.

HKEPP Programme Commitment

Selection on to the HKEPP takes place annually. Athletes who are accepted on to the programme will undertake formal performance reviews and will only remain on the programme if they continue to reach key performance indicators as agreed with the Performance Manager. Failure to engage fully with the Performance Manager and work through a mutually agreed development plan may result in removal from the programme. Athletes will be required to sign an athlete agreement at the start of the programme, outlining their obligations to the HKJC and The Equestrian Federation of Hong Kong, China and their commitment to attend agreed competitions, squad sessions and home visits. The Athlete Awards and Target Payments for 2024 are detailed in Appendix One.

General eligibility for selection to the HKEPP – Elite Programme

To be eligible for consideration for the programme, all athletes must meet the following criteria:

1. All athletes must be Hong Kong Special Administrative Region passport holders and eligible to compete for Hong Kong in all FEI competitions, championships and major multi-sport Games.



2. All athletes must be current members of The Equestrian Federation of Hong Kong, China.
3. All athletes must maintain their sport nationality as Hong Kong so as to represent Hong Kong at all competitions.
4. Athletes currently serving a ban from FEI or national competition as a result of an equine or human doping or equine medication violation will not be eligible for selection.
5. Athletes must continue to have horse power available to them to continue to compete at the level of the relevant qualification results.
6. All Athletes must meet the Hong Kong Sports Institute minimum requirements of a top 2/3 position in at least one international FEI sanctioned competition in the previous 12 months.

General eligibility for selection to the HKEPP – Potential Programme

To be eligible for consideration for the programme, all athletes must meet the following criteria:

1. All athletes must either be Hong Kong Special Administrative Region passport holders or have an application for naturalization as a Chinese National registered by the Immigration Department of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region. Furthermore, athletes must meet the requirements laid down in Articles 7 and 8 of the Nationality Law of the People's Republic of China and satisfy the factors considered by the Immigration Department.

A receipt detailing the application reference from the Immigration Department of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region will be required as proof of application.

Furthermore, athletes will be required to commit to renounce any foreign nationality to enable them to claim a Hong Kong Special Administration passport prior to their acceptance on to the Elite Squad or any long-list for a team representing Hong Kong in competition that requires a HKSAR passport.

In the event that the application for naturalization as a Chinese National is rejected by the Immigration Department of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, the athlete becomes ineligible for the programme and will be removed immediately.

2. All athletes must be current members of The Equestrian Federation of Hong Kong, China.



3. All athletes must maintain their sport nationality as Hong Kong so as to represent Hong Kong at all competitions.
4. Athletes currently serving a ban from FEI or national competition as a result of an equine or human doping or equine medication violation will not be eligible for selection.
5. Athletes must continue to have horse power available to them to continue to compete at the level of the relevant qualification results.
6. All Athletes must meet the Hong Kong Sports Institute minimum requirements of a top 2/3 position in at least one international FEI sanctioned competition in the previous 12 months.

Specific Minimum Criteria for selection to the HKEPP

The HKEPP is divided into two distinct senior programmes:

HKEPP Elite Programme

This programme is designed to support senior elite athletes who compete regularly in international competition in the discipline of dressage, eventing and show jumping. Within the programme there are three levels, determining the level of athlete funding. Each level has a qualifying criteria established for selection.

Level 1

Dressage: Competing at FEI CDI Shows (not including CDI-Am – Amateur); Young Rider Tests or Small Tour or above Min of 4 scores at 65% (not including Freestyle)

Eventing: Competing at FEI CCI2* L or S format achieving *minimum* criteria (as detailed below) on at least 2 occasions.

2* Minimum Criteria	3* Minimum Criteria	4 and 5* Minimum Criteria
Dressage – 36 penalties or below	Dressage – 37 penalties or below	Dressage – 38 penalties or below
Cross Country – Clear at obstacles Cross Country – 10 time faults or less	Cross Country – Clear at obstacles Cross Country – 12 time faults or less	Cross Country – Clear at obstacles Cross Country – 15 time faults or less
Jumping – 4 penalties or less	Jumping – 8 penalties or less	Jumping – 12 penalties or less

Show Jumping: Achieving a minimum of 4 first round clear rounds (i.e. no faults at obstacles) over minimum 1.40m tracks at FEI CSI1* or CSI U25 or above, only in classes run under the following articles: Art 238, 261, 264, 273, 274, 275, 276 and 277.



Level 2

Dressage: Team Medal at Asian Games

or

Competing consistently at FEI CDI1* or above at Small Tour or above

Min of 4 scores at 67% (not including Freestyle)

or

Top 5 place in CDI 1* and above in Small Tour class or above #

or

Two top 10 placings in CDI1* and above in Small Tour class or above #

Minimum 20 starters

Eventing: Team Medal at Asian Games

or

Completing FEI CCI 3* or above and achieving minimum criteria (as detailed above)
on at least 2 occasions (1xL, 1xS format)

or

1 x top 15 placing at CCI2*S and top 15 place at CCI2*L #

or

Top 10 place in FEI CCI 3* S or L class #

Minimum 20 starters

Show Jumping: Team Medal at Asian Games 2023

or

Competing at FEI CSI2* or CSIU25 or above

4 first round clear rounds over a minimum of 1.45m or above

or

2 first round clear rounds over a minimum of 1.45m or above

and

4 clear rounds at 1.40m tracks only in classes run under the following articles: Art
238, 261, 264, 273, 274, 275, 276 and 277.

or

Top 8 place in a 2* Grand Prix (1.45m) #

or

Two Top 20 placings in a 2* Grand Prix (1.45m) #

or

Top 15 place in a 3* Grand Prix #

Minimum 20 starters



Level 3

Dressage: Individual Medal at Asian Games
or
Qualification for World Cup Final, Olympic Games
or
Top 5 place in FEI CDI 3* Big Tour #
or
Top 8 place in FEI CDI 4* Big Tour #
or
Top 10 place in FEI CDI-W or CDI 5 #
Minimum 10 starters

Eventing: Individual Medal at Asian Games
or
Qualification for Olympic Games
or
Completing FEI CCI 4* or above and achieving minimum criteria (as detailed above)
on at least 2 occasions (1xL, 1xS format)
or
Top 10 place in FEI CCI 3* S and top 10 place in 3* L # meeting minimum criteria
or
Top 10 place in FEI CCI 4* S or L # meeting minimum criteria
or
Top 50% of finishers in FEI CCI 5* # meeting minimum criteria
Minimum 20 starters

Show Jumping: Individual Medal at Asian Games 2023
or
Qualification for World Cup Final, Olympic Games
or
Top 8 place in FEI CSI 3* Grand Prix #
or
Top 10 place in FEI 4* Grand Prix #
or
Top 15 place in FEI 5* Grand Prix #
Minimum 20 starters

Athletes accepted on to the Elite Programme will remain at the designated level for the remainder of the year, even in the event of achieving results for the next level during the year. They may apply for the higher level at the next available Round One application process.



HKEPP Potential Programme

This programme is designed to support senior or under 21 elite athletes who compete regularly in international competition in the discipline of dressage, eventing or show jumping. It supports riders who are showing potential to progress on in to the Elite programme. The qualifying criteria for selection are:

Dressage: Competing at FEI CDI shows in Children, Pony, Junior or Young Rider Tests or Prix St Georges with min of 4 scores at 64% (not including Freestyle)

Eventing: Completing at least one FEI CCI1* and also one FEI CCI2* S or L format and achieving the following:

- Dressage – 38 penalties or less
- Cross Country - Clear at obstacles
- Jumping – 8 penalties or less

Show Jumping: Minimum of 4 first round clear rounds over minimum 1.35m tracks at FEI CSI1* or CSI-Am or above shows

General requirements on qualifying results

These general requirements are applicable to both elite and potential programme selection:

- All qualifying results must have been achieved between 1 January 2023 and 9 November 2023 (round one qualifying period) or 1 July 2023 and 13 June 2024 (round two qualifying period).
- All qualifying results must be verifiable on the FEI website results database. Athletes are responsible for liaising with the FEI with regards to any missing or incorrect results.

Application Process

There are two opportunities to apply for places on the programme in 2024. The intake of athletes for January 2024 will be determined by round one of the application process. A second intake will take place in July 2024 for athletes entering the programme (i.e. not currently on the programme). In this instance, this can be athletes entering the programme at potential or elite level. For avoidance of doubt, athletes on potential can apply for the elite programme in round two of the process, however, athletes already on the elite programme are not able to move levels.

Details of the application process will be published on The Equestrian Federation of Hong Kong, China website. The application process will involve the completion of the HKEPP Application Form, which will be available as follows:

Round One Monday 30 October 2023

Round Two Monday 27 May 2024



The HKEPP Application Form must be fully completed and submitted by the deadline as follows:

Round One: 17:00 hours / 5:00pm Hong Kong time on Friday 10 November 2023

Round Two: 17:00 hours / 5:00pm Hong Kong time on Friday 14 June 2024

Late applications will not be considered. Applications must be submitted to The Equestrian Affairs Department by the following means:

Email at: canney.ky.cheng@hkjc.org.hk

Post or Hand Delivered to: Equestrian Affairs Office, 8/F Central Complex Building, Shatin Racecourse, New Territories, Hong Kong.

It is recommended that proof of postage or a copy of the email is kept for proof of submission.

Selection Process

Athletes who meet the general eligibility criteria and the specific qualifying criteria for their discipline and level at the time of application will be awarded a place on the programme. For athletes who compete in more than one discipline, they will be awarded a place on the programme relative to their most successful discipline. If they are successfully accepted on to a second discipline on the programme, they will receive 50% of the level one funding on top of their primary discipline funding, irrespective of the level they trigger in the second discipline.

Applications will be reviewed by the Performance Manager to verify they meet the necessary criteria and final places on the programme will be awarded by the HKEPP Performance Director. There will be no selection events / trials.

The HKJC also reserve the right to award places on the programme outside the application process detailed above, if it can be deemed in the best interests of achieving the Aims of the Selection Policy.

Notification of Selection Decisions

All applicants will be notified in writing (via email) of the selection decisions whether successful or not. Notifications will be sent as follows:

Round One: Friday 24 November 2023

Round Two: Friday 28 June 2024

Changes to Selection Policy

The HKJC reserves the right to change the Selection Policy where necessary at any time if it is in the best interests of achieving the aims of the Policy, only when the changes are communicated via The Equestrian Federation of Hong Kong, China website.



Enquiries on the Selection Policy

Enquiries on the Selection Policy or any matter in relation to the HKEPP should be directed to the HKEPP Performance Director, Ms. Amanda Bond via email at amanda.j.bond@hkjc.org.hk.

Confidentiality

At all times, confidentiality will be of the utmost importance to ensure the integrity of the selection process. All those involved, including but not limited to athletes, HKJC staff, Performance Management team and athlete support teams must uphold confidentiality on matters which may have a bearing on selection on to the programme.

HKJC's Privacy Policy

The Hong Kong Jockey Club is committed to ensuring the privacy and security of the personal data it holds and will collect and use personal data in accordance with the Club's Privacy Statement, which can be found here: https://www.hkjc.com/home/english/corporate/corp_privacy.aspx

Appeals Process

Any appeal to the Selection decisions should be made in writing within 48 hours of the selection announcement. Appeals should include full details for the reason for the appeal and should be addressed to the Performance Director, Ms. Amanda Bond.

In the event that the Performance Director cannot satisfy the appellant, the applicant has the right to request to refer the appeal to The Equestrian Federation of Hong Kong, China President. The Equestrian Federation of Hong Kong, China President may form a panel to consider the appeal.

End



Appendix One

HKEPP ATHLETE AWARDS AND TARGET PAYMENTS FOR 2023

For Applications Accepted in Round One

	Athlete Award	Target Payments*	Total Award*
Level One	On signing agreement \$200,000	June \$150,000 October \$150,000	\$500,000
Level Two	On signing agreement \$400,000	June \$300,000 October \$300,000	\$1,000,000
Level Three	On signing agreement \$600,000	June \$450,000 October \$450,000	\$1,500,000
Potential	On signing agreement \$100,000	June \$100,000 October \$100,000	\$300,000

For Applications Accepted in Round Two

	Athlete Award	Target Payments*	Total Award*
Level One	On signing agreement \$100,000 Less 50% of any athlete award already received	October \$150,000	Up to \$250,000
Level Two	On signing agreement \$200,000 Less 50% of any athlete award already received	October \$300,000	Up to \$500,000
Level Three	On signing agreement \$300,000 Less 50% of any athlete award already received	October \$450,000	Up to \$750,000
Potential	On signing agreement \$50,000	October \$100,000	\$150,000

* Subject to satisfactory achievement of targets as agreed by the Performance Manager