



香港賽馬會
The Hong Kong Jockey Club

Hong Kong Equestrian Performance Plan Youth Development Programme 2023/24

SELECTION POLICY

Hong Kong Equestrian Performance Plan - Youth Development Programme 2023/24

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Youth Development Programme Mission

To provide a developmental pathway that supports junior and young riders to make the transition to international FEI competition and ultimately become successful senior riders who represent Hong Kong on the world stage.

Aim of Selection Policy

The specific aim of the selection policy is to select athletes on to the 2023-2024 Children's Squad, Youth Squad, Overseas Youth Squad, and Mainland Squad that have the perceived ability to go on and represent Hong Kong in international competitions in the future.

Youth Development Programme Background

All four squads will run from 1 September 2023 until 31 August 2024.

Children's Squad

Designed to support children, aged 10 - 14 years, who are showing early talent. The squad is designed to nurture those who show potential for progression to the Youth Squad. Regular coaching in all disciplines, stable management sessions and an annual camp will be offered plus advice and guidance to parents as well as opportunities to compete.

Youth Squad

Young talented athletes, aged 12 – 25 years benefit from the Youth Squad; supporting young riders based in Hong Kong with regular coaching, competition mentoring, an annual overseas camp and use of facilities and expertise at HKSI.

Overseas Youth Squad

An extension of the Youth Squad, designed to support young talented athletes, aged 12 – 25, who would benefit from the Youth Development Programme but who are based overseas. Support offered includes funded lessons, mentoring from the Performance Managers and support with competition planning.

Mainland Squad

An extension of both the Children's Squad and Youth Squad, designed to support young talented athletes, aged 10 – 25, who would benefit from the Youth Development Programme but who are based full time in the Mainland. Support offered includes funded lessons, mentoring from the Performance Managers and support with competition planning.

To enable Hong Kong to develop talent in each of the FEI Olympic disciplines, the 2023-2024 squads will include the disciplines of show jumping, eventing and dressage. Therefore, the following places will be available:

Children's Squad – 12 places, not discipline specific. Athletes will receive training in all three Olympic disciplines.

Youth Squad – 12 places; Show Jumping (4), Eventing (4), Dressage (4); places will be allocated according to demand.

Overseas Youth Squad – 5 places; places will be allocated according to demand.

Mainland Squad – 8 places; places will be allocated according to demand.

In the event there are not enough athletes of the required level to fill the above discipline places, they will be distributed to the other disciplines, dependent on demand.

Athletes can apply for more than one discipline, but must submit separate applications, per discipline. Athletes will only be accepted on to one discipline, so if they have a preference, it must be stated on the application.

Athletes on all Youth Squads (Hong Kong, Overseas and Mainland) will focus their training on the discipline that they have been selected for, although they will have an opportunity to develop their skills in the other disciplines should they wish.

Application Process

Athletes interested in applying for one of the squads will be asked to submit an application form which must include the information detailed in Annex A.

Athlete application forms must be sent by email to: natasha.s.rose@hkjc.org.hk or mailed to Ms. Natasha Rose, Equestrian Affairs Department, Hong Kong Jockey Club, 8/F Central Complex, Shatin Racecourse, Shatin, N.T, Hong Kong.

Applications must be submitted by Friday 2nd June at 17:00 (Hong Kong time). Late applications will not be considered.

Eligibility for Selection and Minimum Criteria

In order to ensure that the Youth Development Programme focuses on nurturing talented athletes who demonstrate an ability to progress on in to FEI International competition, the following minimum criteria are required to be eligible for the squads:

Children's Squad: Applicants should have experience of training and competing in any of the Olympic disciplines (any relevant competition results will be considered, including online competitions).

Youth Squad: All applicants must be training and competing at the relevant level (see below). Relevant and recent competition results should be submitted with the application. More details can be found at Annex A.

Show Jumping Athletes must be competing and training regularly and be able to demonstrate ability at the following show jumping level:

12 – 17 years old: competing at 1.0m or above and achieving one clear round and one round of 4 faults or less on at least 2 occasions.

18 years and over: competing at 1.10m or above and achieving one clear round and one round of 4 faults or less on at least 2 occasions.

Eventing Athletes must be competing and training regularly and able to demonstrate ability at the following eventing level:

12 - 17 years old: competing at the level of 80cm competition standard or above (as detailed below) on at least 2 occasions:

XC: 80cm

Jumping: 80cm

Dressage: preliminary

Minimum Criteria - Dressage – 40 penalties or less, Cross Country - Clear at obstacles and Jumping – 8 penalties or less.

18 years old and above: competing at a level of 1.0m competition standard or above (as detailed below) on at least 2 occasions:

XC: 1.0m

Jumping: 1.0m

Dressage: novice

Minimum Criteria - Dressage – 40 penalties or less, Cross Country - Clear at obstacles and Jumping – 8 penalties or less.

Dressage Athletes must be competing and training regularly and able to demonstrate ability at the following dressage level:

12 - 17 years old: Competing at Elementary level achieving scores of 65% or more in graded (affiliated) competition on at least 2 occasions

18 years and over: Competing at Medium level achieving scores of 65% or more in graded (affiliated) competition on at least 2 occasions

Overseas Results

In all disciplines, results gained from competing overseas will be considered but only when it is achieved in an affiliated / graded competition recognised by the relevant National Federation (NF). Proof of results from the NF must be submitted with the application.

Overseas Youth Squad: All applicants must have access to horsepower at the relevant level and have either been placed in the top one third of a graded (affiliated) or international competition at the relevant level (see below). :

Show Jumping Athletes must be achieving recent and consistent results, training regularly and able to demonstrate ability at the following show jumping level:

12 – 17 years old: results / training at 1.10m or above and achieving one clear round and one round of 4 faults or less in graded (affiliated) or international competitions on a minimum of 2 occasions.

18 years and over: results / training at 1.20m or above and achieving one clear round and one round of 4 faults or less in graded (affiliated) or international competitions on a minimum of 2 occasions.

Eventing Athletes must be achieving recent and consistent results, training regularly and able to demonstrate ability at the following eventing level:

12 - 17 years old: completing competitions and training at 1.0m or above achieving *minimum criteria* (as detailed below) in affiliated competitions on a minimum of 2 occasions.

18 years old and above: completing competitions and training at FEI CCI1* or Affiliated Novice level events and achieving *minimum criteria* (as detailed below) on a minimum of 2 occasions.

Minimum Criteria - Dressage – 38 penalties or less, Cross Country - Clear at obstacles and Jumping – 8 penalties or less

Dressage Athletes must be achieving recent and consistent results, training regularly and able to demonstrate ability at the following dressage level:

12 - 17 years old: achieving / demonstrating ability at a minimum of 65% in graded (affiliated) Medium level classes or above, or FEI International Competitions on a minimum of 2 occasions.

18 years and over: achieving / demonstrating ability at a minimum of 65% in graded (affiliated) Advanced-Medium level classes or above, or FEI International Competitions on a minimum of 2 occasions.

Mainland Squad: All applicants must have access to horsepower at the relevant level and have either been placed in the top one third of a graded (affiliated) or international competition.

Show Jumping

Athletes must be achieving recent and consistent results, training regularly and able to demonstrate ability at the following show jumping level:

10 – 17 years old: results at 1.10m or above and achieving one clear round and one round of 4 faults or less in graded (affiliated) or international competitions on a minimum of 2 occasions..

18 years and over: results at 1.20m or above and achieving one clear round and one round of 4 faults or less in graded (affiliated) or international competitions on a minimum of 2 occasions.

Eventing

Athletes must be achieving recent and consistent results and be training regularly and able to demonstrate ability at the following eventing level:

10 - 17 years old: results at the level of 80cm competition standard or above on a minimum of 2 occasions (as detailed below):

XC: 80cm

Jumping: 80cm

Dressage: preliminary

Minimum Criteria - Dressage – 40 penalties or less, Cross Country - Clear at obstacles and Jumping – 8 penalties or less.

18 years old and above: results at a level of 1.0m competition standard or above on a minimum of 2 occasions (as detailed below):

XC: 1.0m

Jumping: 1.0m

Dressage: novice

Minimum Criteria - Dressage – 40 penalties or less, Cross Country - Clear at obstacles and Jumping – 8 penalties or less.

Dressage

Athletes must be achieving recent and consistent results and be training regularly and able to demonstrate ability at the following dressage level:

10 - 17 years old: achieving and demonstrating ability at a minimum of 65% in graded (affiliated) Elementary level classes or above, or FEI International Competitions.

18 years and over: achieving and demonstrating ability at a minimum of 65% in graded (affiliated) Medium level classes or above, or FEI International Competitions.

N.B. Ages are as at start of programme – 1 September 2023

In addition, all athletes are required to meet all of 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 approved by the Immigration Department of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region. Documentation of approval is required.
2. Athletes must be between the ages of ten (10) and twenty five (25) for the relevant squad at the start of the programme (1 September 2023).
3. Athletes must be a Hong Kong resident for the Children's Squad and the Youth Squad. Athletes must be an overseas resident (i.e. not in Hong Kong) for the Overseas Youth Squad. Athletes must be a Mainland resident for the Mainland Squad.
4. Athletes must be registered with the Hong Kong Equestrian Federation and eligible to ride for Hong Kong in all competitions.
5. 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. Athletes returning from a ban will be considered on a case by case basis.
6. For the Overseas Youth/ Mainland Squad, athletes must continue to have access to horsepower able to continue to compete and train at the level of the relevant qualification results.

Selection Procedure

Selection for the Youth Development Programme 2023-2024 will be performance based, to be determined by:

- Competition results in the preceding year 2022 (online show results will be considered for children squad only).
- Attendance record for Children and/or Youth Squad practical and theory lessons in 2022/2023 (if applicable).
- The selection team will contact the applicants' coach directly to complete a coach evaluation form.

Current form and improving form will also be considered where an athlete is similar in the competition performances to another.

Selection Timeline

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| Applications Open | Tuesday 9 May 2023 |
| Applications Deadline | Friday 2 June at 17:00 hours |
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| Coach endorsement evaluation from | Friday 23 June 2023 |

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| submission | |
| Final selection decisions made and athletes informed | Wednesday 19 July 2023 |
| Programme commences / ends | 1 September 2023 / 31 August 2024 |

Selection Panel

The selection panel will comprise of:

- Corinne Bracken – Performance Manager (Jumping)
- Nick Burton – Performance Manager (Dressage & Eventing)

Selectors are required to be free from all vested interests / conflicts of interest, in so far as is possible. A register of conflicts of interests will be kept and all selectors will declare any potential or perceived conflicts as soon as they arise.

General

Post Selection Response

All athletes will be informed in writing by Wednesday 19 July 2023 whether or not they have been successfully accepted on to the programme.

Changes in policy

The Head of Equestrian Affairs (HoEA), in consultation with the senior management of the HKJC and HKEF have the right to amend or change this selection policy where necessary at any time in order to fulfil the objectives of the policy, as long as these changes are clearly communicated to all parties, via the HKEF website.

Anti-doping and Medication Control

All athletes must comply with the current Equine and Human Anti-doping rules as per FEI competition, regarding the use of medications and banned substances. For further information or advice visit <https://inside.fei.org/content/anti-doping-rules>

Point of Contact

Enquiries about this selection policy should be made in writing to Amanda Bond, HOEA of the HKJC at amanda.j.bond@hkjc.org.hk.

Appeals Process

Athletes have the right to appeal against the decision of the selectors. Appeals must be made in writing within 48 hours of the announcements. Appeals must be sent to the Secretary General of the Hong Kong Equestrian Federation. Appeals will be considered by the HKEF Training and Selection Sub-Committee whose decision will be final.

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

Annex A – Youth Development Programme Application Form (see attached separate file).
Please submit the required documentation ONLY.

Children’s Squad Applications must include:

1. Completed application form (see attached excel file).

Youth Squad (Hong Kong and Overseas)

1. Completed application form (see attached excel file).

Mainland Squad

1. Completed application form (see attached excel file).

Annex B – Nationality Requirements for the Youth Development Programme Selection

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 approved by the Immigration Department of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (copies of approval documentation and a receipt detailing the application reference will be required).
2. 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 Squad or any long-list for a team representing Hong Kong in competition that requires a HKSAR passport (including but not limited to Youth Olympic Games, Youth National Games, China National Games and Asian Games).