



## Jumping Queensland Youth, Junior & Young Rider 2026 State Squad Selection Criteria



This criteria focuses on selection of Development, Junior and Young Rider squads (does not address Senior Squads). They are:

- **Youth Squad**
  - open to athletes from the calendar year they turn 10 until the end of the calendar year in which they turn 14 years old; and
  - open to athletes until the end of the calendar year in which they reach the age of 25 years.
- **Young Rider Squad** – open to athletes from the beginning of the calendar year in which they reach the age of 16 until the end of the calendar year they reach the age of 21
- **Junior Squad** – open to athletes until the end of the calendar year in which they reach the age of 18 years.

### Youth, Junior & Young Rider Jumping Queensland Squads

Jumping Queensland are committed to the ongoing development of young athletes within our sport and encourage athletes to strive for inclusion within the State Squad. To include as many events as possible which enable riders to qualify for inclusion (including those riders located in regional areas), for the 2026 squad the following selection process will take place:

### Qualifying Period

The annual squad will be selected from performances from the horse and athlete combination at squad selection events from 1 November, 2024 to 31 October 2025.

### Youth, Junior and Young Rider Qualifying Events

Qualifying events are as follows:

- Child's – any class run at an endorsed EA event, which has a published starting height in the first round for Children's classes is a maximum of 105cm . One (1) Result gained at Interschool competitions in the 100cm class may be included.
- Youth – any class run at an endorsed EA event, which has a published start height of 110cm or more. One (1) Result gained at Interschool competitions in the 110cm class may be included.
- Junior Squad – any class run at an endorsed EA event, which has a published start height of 120cm or more. One (1) Result gained at Interschool competitions in the 120cm class may be included.
- Young Rider Squad – any class run at an endorsed EA event, which has a published start height of 130cm or more.
- The rider must have eight faults or less to qualify;
- The class must be a two round jumping class. Acceptable article numbers include: 238 2.2, 238 2.2 245.3, 273, 274

**NOTE:** *If Junior or Young Rider class does not start at the required height, the rider may start in an open class at the equivalent height and list that class as a qualifier.*

### Squad Composition

There will be a maximum of 16 positions across the Youth, Young Rider & Junior Squads.

**Note:** if there are insufficient combinations with qualifying scores to fill the positions at each level then the selectors have the discretion to leave the positions vacant.

## **General Selection Criteria for Squads**

The following general requirements apply:

Automatic exclusion from the squad will apply under the following circumstances:

- Sale of squad horse
- Squad horse no longer being ridden by chosen athlete/horse combination
- Automatic exclusion from the squad will be updated immediately on the EQ website after informing the athlete of their exclusion via email. Additionally, it is the athletes' responsibility to inform Equestrian Queensland in writing in a timely fashion when horses are either sold or no longer being ridden by that athlete.
- Athlete selection and/or exclusion is subject to any yellow card, strict liability offence and/or medication control violations.
- Athletes must conform to the EA Code of Conduct, EA Social Media Policy and Welfare of the horse or be subject to disciplinary procedures.
- Athletes must commit to attending any Squad Performance clinics/camp on January 2026, to be held at Toowoomba Showgrounds. Should an athlete not be able to attend the any camp, clinic or seminars provided by EQ they may apply in writing for an exemption. If a squad member is named on the squad on more than one (1) horse than at Squad Performance Clinics the may be required to only nominate one (1) horse.
- Any squad horse that is injured when a squad clinic is being held may be substituted with another horse. Individual circumstances will be considered with applications being submitted in writing for substitutions at other levels to Jumping Queensland.
- If a substitute horse is not available, the squad member is required to attend all workshop/seminars during that clinic. Athletes are also welcome to attend squad clinics on foot.
- All squads may subject to a review period at the end of June 2024.
- Athletes must be Australian citizens or permanent residents.
- Athletes must be current financial members of Equestrian Queensland.
- Horses must be registered with Equestrian Australia and must have a current jumping competition licence.
- Athletes and/or their nominated representative e.g. owners of horse must be prepared to sign the Squad Contract by the due date or forfeit their position on the relevant squad.