

# WAIS Rowing Program Selection Guidelines, Criteria and Process

**Approved by:** PPMG

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## **1. Introduction**

WAIS Rowing scholarships will be offered to eligible athletes under one of the following two programs;

- a) "Rowing Sport Program" scholarships
- b) "Individual Athlete Scholarship (IAS)" as per the "Individual Athlete Program (IAP)" guidelines and IAP selection criteria.

The Goals of WAIS athletes' scholarships are to support enhanced athlete performance with the aim to:

- 1) Maximise the WA contribution to Australian podium performances and
- 2) Maximise WA representation on National teams at selected international competitions.

The WAIS Rowing Program is a three-way partnership between Rowing Australia (RA), Rowing Western Australian (RWA) and WAIS to support the agreed National Elite Athlete Pathway and has the following overall objectives:-

The key role that WAIS performs in the Rowing Australia National Program pathway is:

- Develop and prepare identified athletes for national and international success in line with the program structure in Western Australia
- Facilitate the delivery of an effective elite program for athletes and coaches in conjunction with RWA and targeted clubs that links to the requirements of the National Program
- Support the Daily Training Environment for the preparation of Nationally Categorized "Emerging" Athletes to "Developing" athletes to achieve their goals as prescribed in their agreed Individual Athlete Performance Enhancement Plans.
- Enhance the WA underpinning programs through athlete development and coach education initiatives.

The WAIS Rowing Program Selection Guidelines, Criteria and Process will be ratified by the Performance Planning and Monitoring Group (PPMG) of representatives from WAIS, Rowing Australia and Rowing Western Australia.

## **2. Selection Process**

### **2.1 Scholarship Timeframe**

Athlete scholarships are from 1 October to 30 September, unless otherwise agreed by the program partners. Athletes will be provided a schedule of the key review dates for the scholarship year.

### **2.2 Selection Process**

Athlete selections will be considered and recommended by a Selection Panel consisting of:-

- WAIS Performance Team Director (Chair)
- Deputy Performance Director (Rowing Australia), and a,
- Rowing WA HP Delegate

The RA annual athlete AWE categorisation process conducted during the August to September period annually informs the WAIS athlete scholarship process. All athletes categorised and nominated by RA to WAIS for scholarship will automatically be considered by this process. Any athlete wishing to be considered for RA athlete categorisation must nominate through the RA defined process (<https://www.rowingaustralia.com.au/>).

The WAIS Head Coach may nominate non RA categorised athletes for WAIS scholarship.

The WAIS Head Coach will present all athlete scholarship recommendations to the selection panel against the athlete categorisation criteria and selection criteria (WAIS athlete Key Result Areas: as defined in the WAIS Athlete Performance Management Framework) for all nominated athletes.

The selection panel will evaluate and confirm scholarship recommendations based on the WAIS Head Coach Recommendations report and in discussion with the Head Coach. They may also consider any other information relevant to evaluation of an athlete against the selection criteria.

The Chair, on behalf of the panel will recommend scholarship offers to the WAIS Chief Executive Officer for approval.

Athletes may be nominated for Training Agreement consideration through any member of the selection panel. Training Agreements are approved by the Performance Team Director.

An athlete may be considered for scholarship by the Selection Panel at any time outside of the annual process if nominated by any program partner.

A scholarship to the Program is not confirmed until the athlete has signed the WAIS Athlete Agreement and complied with the relevant medical, musculoskeletal screening and scholarship process.

### **3. Athlete Selection Criteria**

Athlete selection criteria includes the following;

- Rowing Australia Athlete Categorisation performance standards based on International Benchmark Competition outcomes and Potential to progress to International standard performances based upon.
- Competition Performances including
  - Selection to U23/U21/Junior National team
  - National and State Championships and State based Time Trials
- Commitment to training and achieving required goals and targets
- Physical and physiological benchmarks
- Technical assessment
- Health, fitness and injury status
- Assessment of training age and history

#### 4. Athlete Categories

All athletes are categorised according to the WAIS athlete categorisation framework (WAIS athlete selection and categorization policy). This categorisation framework is part of a national standard endorsed by the state institutes and academies of sport.

Podium Pathway category	Description	Other category	Description
<b>Podium</b>	Athlete who had a medal performance at a world championship (or equivalent) event in the previous 24 months and is considered capable of a medal at the next world championship (or equivalent) event.		
<b>Podium Ready</b>	Athlete who placed fourth to eighth at the most recent world championship (or equivalent) event and is considered capable of progressing to Podium in the next two years		
<b>Commonwealth Gold</b>	Athlete who does not fit into the categories above but is considered capable of a gold medal at the 2018 Commonwealth Games.	<b>International</b>	Athlete who does not satisfy any of the <b>Podium Pathway</b> category criteria but has earned selection for the national senior team or squad preparing for the NSOs benchmark event.
<b>Podium Potential</b>	Athlete who is considered capable of progressing to at least Podium Ready in the next two years.		
<b>Developing</b>	Athlete who is considered capable of progressing to at least Podium Potential in the next two years.		
<b>Emerging</b>	Athlete who is considered capable of progressing to at least Developing in the next two years.		

#### 5. Cancellation of scholarship

An athlete scholarship may be cancelled via the following 3 methods:

*Athlete initiated - An athlete wishing to withdraw from the Program may do so at any time by informing their WAIS Performance Team Director and/or WAIS Rowing Coach in writing.*

*Coaches initiated - The WAIS Coaches may recommend to the Selection Panel the withdrawal of an athlete's scholarship after a formal review, scheduled post National selection events namely 5 & 2km ergometers, December time-trial, NSW small boat selection, National Championships & final selection, based on the athlete's current and future performance, commitment and potential to achieve the program's objectives.*

*WAIS initiated - An athlete's program scholarship may be suspended or terminated where he or she breaches the WAIS Athlete Code of Conduct or the Athlete Scholarship Terms and Conditions.*

**In each instance;**

- The Performance Team Director will recommend cancellation of scholarship to the WAIS Chief Executive Officer.
- The Chief Executive Officer will confirm cancellation of scholarship in writing to the athlete.

**6. Queries on Selection**

Any questions concerning any aspect of selection must be in writing and addressed to the **WAIS Performance Team Director – Pathway within 14 days of the notification process.**

**7. Appeal Process**

If an athlete wishes to lodge an appeal about the selection outcome, this appeal is to be submitted in writing to the Performance Team Director.

Appeals will be reviewed thoroughly by the Selection Panel. The athlete will be advised of the outcome of the appeal in writing.

In the event that the athlete is unsatisfied with the outcome of an appeal, the appeal can be escalated by the athlete to the Chief Executive Officer, in writing. In this instance, the Performance Team Director will review the process followed by the selection panel and provide a further recommendation to the Chief Executive Officer. The Chief Executive Officer will then notify the athlete of the outcome of the appeal.