

WAIS Sailing Program Selection Guidelines, Criteria and Process

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WESTERN AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE *of* SPORT

1. Background

The Western Australian Institute of Sport (WAIS) is part of a national network of elite training centres across Australia designed to create (or add value to) the daily training environment for talented Western Australian athletes. The WAIS Sailing Program caters for the development and support of WA athletes currently or identified as capable of progressing to the highest representative levels of their sport. The Program provides world-class coaching, training, facilities and support services to improve athlete competitive performance based on their level of Scholarship.

The WAIS Sailing Program is a partnership between Australian Sailing (AS) and WAIS.

Scholarship Objectives

The goals of WAIS athlete scholarships are to support enhanced athlete performance with the aim to:

- 1) Maximise WA representation on National teams;**
- 1) Maximise the WA contribution to Australia's international success at targeted competitions.**

The key role that WAIS performs in the Australian Sailing National Program 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 YWA and targeted clubs that links to the requirements of the National Program
- Enhance the WA underpinning programs through athlete development and coach education initiatives.

2. Selection Guidelines, Criteria & Process

2.1 Selection criteria

There are a maximum of 15 WAIS Sailing scholarships available each year. Athletes will also be reviewed for scholarship (in addition to this scholarship number) if their coaching is primarily delivered by National Coaches.

2.2 Scholarship Timeframe

Athlete scholarships will commence on **1st March to 28th February** annually.

2.3 Selection Process

The WAIS Sailing Program Selection Guidelines, Criteria and Process will be ratified by the Joint Management Committee representatives from WAIS, Australian Sailing and Australian Sailing WA.

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

- WAIS Performance Team Director (Chair)
- Australian Sailing High Performance Director
- Australian Sailing Performance Manager
- Australian Sailing Talent Development Manager (Representing SSO)

The Selection Panel will select athletes against a criteria comprising of Competition outcomes, Potential to progress and Personal Excellence. Once the panel has considered these factors, athlete names will be recommended to the WAIS Executive Director for endorsement. The WAIS Executive Director will offer scholarships directly to successful athletes. Upon receiving the offer, athletes will be required to complete a variety of administration and medical requirements within 4 weeks.

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

Athletes may be offered a scholarship, spaces permitting, at any time, if the Selection Panel agrees athletes meet relevant performance criteria as set out in the Selection Criteria.

2.4 Queries on Selection

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

2.5 Appeal Process

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

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

2.6 De-selection Process

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 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 or at any other time deemed necessary, 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 Agreement.

3. Athlete Selection Criteria

Athletes will be selected on the following factors:

- Performances – selection to ASS & AST team
- 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
- Potential to Progress*
- Personal Excellence*

* As defined in the WAIS Athlete Performance Management Framework Policy

NOTE – FOR ALL CATEGORIES, SATISFACTION OF THESE CRITERIA DOES NOT AUTOMATICALLY GUARANTEE A WAIS SCHOLARSHIP OFFER.

4. Athlete Categories

Athletes are offered scholarships, as per the defined categories as listed below.

Podium Pathway category	Description	Other category	Description
Podium	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.		
Podium Ready*	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		
Commonwealth Gold **	Athlete who does not fit into the categories above but is considered capable of a gold medal at the Commonwealth Games.	International	Athlete who does not satisfy any of the Podium Pathway category criteria but has earned selection for the national senior team or squad preparing for the NSOs benchmark event.
Podium Potential***	Athlete who is considered capable of progressing to at least Podium Ready in the next two years.		
Developing	Athlete who is considered capable of progressing to at least Podium Potential in the next two years.		
Emerging	Athlete who is considered capable of progressing to at least Developing in the next two years.		