



Queensland
Academy of Sport
Queensland Government

QUEENSLAND ACADEMY OF SPORT

Elite Athletes with a Disability

Individual Scholarships Selection Criteria

1. INTRODUCTION

The Queensland Academy of Sport (QAS) is committed to supporting elite athletes with a disability. QAS Athletics, Cycling and Swimming programs are inclusive of athletes with a disability. The Individual Elite Athletes with a Disability (EAD) Scholarship Program supports athletes competing in Paralympic Sports other than Athletics, Cycling or Swimming.

This document contains the selection policy for the Queensland Academy of Sport (QAS) Individual Elite Athletes with a Disability (EAD) Scholarship Program.

Please note that this selection policy covers the period from 1st January 2009 up to 31st December 2009 and relates to the selection of athletes for Individual Scholarships only.

2. OBJECTIVE

- 2.1 To select athletes with the potential to achieve National Team selection at the relevant 2010 World Championships or equivalent event.
- 2.2 Of those selected, to maximise medal winning performances.

3. PROCESS OF NOMINATION AND SELECTION

All athletes wishing to be considered for selection must:

- 3.1 comply with the selection criteria for the QAS EAD Individual Scholarship Program;
- 3.2 complete and sign an application form and submit this to the Selection Committee by the return date specified; and
- 3.3 sign the QAS EAD individual Scholarship Agreement once selected in the Program.

The QAS EAD Individual Scholarship Program Selection Committee will consider applications received by the due date and endorsed by the relevant SSOD. Selection to the QAS EAD Individual Scholarship Program will be by recommendations from the QAS EAD Individual Scholarship Program Selection Committee to the QAS. QAS Management must endorse all selections.

ATHLETE ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

In order to be eligible for initial selection and ongoing involvement in the QAS EAD Individual Scholarship Program, athletes must:

- i. hold a current Australian passport or be able to obtain an Australian passport
- ii. reside in Queensland
- iii. Represent QLD a QLD based team in any national competition
- iii. be competing in a sport or event included in open Paralympic competition but not competing in Athletics, Cycling or Swimming (refer to 1. Introduction)
- iv. be a member of an State Sporting Organisation for Disabled (SSOD) or State Sporting Organisation (SSO), have cleared any outstanding debts with the SSOD/SSO and be endorsed by the SSOD/SSO
- v. have International or National level classification (The classification of each athlete must be confirmed prior to application for selection in a QAS EAD Individual Scholarship Program)
- vi. meet the IPC eligibility criteria (residency / citizenship) and the age limit restrictions as listed in the IPC rules or set by the relevant international disability organisation
- vii. be deemed to be medically fit to complete all obligations to the QAS EAD Individual Scholarship Program.
- viii. strictly follow the training program designed for the athlete by the athlete's personal coach in consultation with the relevant National Coach.

4. QAS EAD INDIVIDUAL SCHOLARSHIP SELECTION CRITERIA

The full selection criteria for the QAS EAD Individual Scholarship Program for the term 1 January 2009 to 31 December 2009 are as follows. The athlete must be:

- i. training for the relevant international competition in 2009 and the World Championships or equivalent event in 2010.
- ii. obtain either of the following world rankings at the 2008 Paralympic Games;
 - o top 8 for individual sports
 - o member of the team that ranked in the top 6 in the world, for team sport and have at least 10 teams in a World Championships, World Cup or Paralympic competition (unless tournament restrictions apply).

The above ranking criteria are the minimum requirements only and will not necessarily guarantee selection in the QAS EAD Individual Scholarship Program. World ranking lists, numbers of entries at the last known world championship or major international competition, and the depth within that competition will also be taken into consideration when evaluating the merit of the above mentioned rankings.

In comparing athletes across sports, the following will also be taken into consideration by the QAS EAD Individual Scholarship Program Selection Committee:

- i. evidence that the training is at a level expected of an elite athlete taking into consideration the following:
 - long term training plans (annual plan and 6 monthly reports on training and competition), and
 - an understanding of recognised, elite level training practices for their event/s and level of disability;
 - experience / qualifications of the coach;
 - use of sports science, sports medicine services (eg. Sports Science testing incorporated into training plan, strength & conditioning program, nutrition consultations, sports psychology, massage, physiotherapy etc)
 - depth of competition internationally within the sport / event, as previously mentioned;
 - depth in classification within Australia within a team sport;

- improvement potential of performance
- endorsement from National Coach in regard to elite training practices and commitment and performance potential of the applicant

Athletes who do not continue to meet the above selection and athlete eligibility criteria, may be removed from the QAS EAD Individual Scholarship Program.

5. QAS EAD INDIVIDUAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM REVIEWS

6.1 QAS EAD Individual Scholarship "Athlete" Reviews

Athlete Reviews will be conducted in June 2009 and December 2009. The purpose of the Reviews will be to evaluate the performance of athletes within the Program and acquit funding received by the athlete. At the review the athlete is required to:

- 6.1.1 Submit all receipts (or copies) relating to training, competition and medical specified in Schedule A of the Athlete Agreement. Any unspent funds of the instalments may be refunded back to the QAS.
- 6.1.2 Demonstrate they have strictly followed the training program designed by the athlete's personal coach in consultation with the National Coach.
- 6.1.3 Show evidence they have attended training camps and competition identified as being necessary for the athlete's development as determined by the athlete's personal coach in consultation with the National Coach
- 6.1.4 Demonstrate regular contact with the National Coach and/or other delegated staff as per the requirements of the national program;

6. APPEALS

All appeals concerning non selection or removal from the QAS EAD Individual Scholarship Program must be directed in writing to the Executive Director of the Queensland Academy of Sport. Any appeal must be lodged within 5 working days of notification of the decision against which the appeal is made.

8. SELECTION COMMITTEE

The QAS EAD Individual Scholarship Program Selection Committee comprises of the following individuals;

Sean Tweedy
 QAS Sport Programs Coordinator
 Representative from Sporting Wheelies and Disabled Association
 Representative from Lifestream