



NATIONAL PARA PROGRAM POLICY

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GLOSSARY OF TERMS

AA – Archery Australia
AMS – Athlete Management System
HPM – High Performance Manager
HPU – High Performance Unit
IAP – Individual Athlete Plan
MQS – Minimum Qualifying Score
NDS – National Development Squad
NIN – National Institute Network
NPPTS – National Para Program Tier
 Score
NS – National Squad
NTSC – National Team Selection
 Committee
NYS – National Youth Squad
PP – Pathways Program
QRE – Qualifying and Ranking Event



Archery Australia National Para Program (NPP) – Overview

Introduction

The Archery Australia National Para Program has been developed to deliver development and elite programs which produce Para Archery **Champions** at benchmark events including **World Archery Para Championships** and **Paralympic Games**.

The purpose of the NPP is to provide a system of support for Archery Australia's leading Para Archers in a structured, sequential and transparent manner that supports the athletes in achieving performances which are aligned to Archery Australia's published performance goals. The NPP has three distinct components:

- National Squad
- National Development Squad
- National Youth Squad

The NPP recognises that Federal Government funding through the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS) and State Government funding through the National Institute Network (NIN) partners, for high performance Archery, is directed solely at Olympic and Paralympic disciplines and this is reflected in this document.

The ultimate objective of the NPP is to win medals at World Para Championships, Paralympic Games and World Cups by supporting identified athletes within the program via the NSW Institute of Sport, Victorian Institute of Sport, other NIN programs, and the Archery Australia HP Pathways Program.

The NPP whilst open to all members within Archery Australia that qualify, has its major Para program based in Sydney which receives support from the NSW Institute of Sport. Some athletes in other states will be eligible to receive support in the form of an Individual Athlete Scholarship from their state NIN. All NPP athletes will have their nomination for individual athlete scholarships in their home state supported by Archery Australia, however the awarding of these scholarships is determined by the State Institute/Academy of Sport in the relevant state. Athletes do not require a State Institute/Academy of Sport scholarship to be selected in the NPP. The NPP is managed on a day-to-day basis by Archery Australia's High-Performance Manager (HPM) who reports to the Archery Australia CEO Board of Management.

About the National Para Program

Archery Australia has limited funding and resources to support NPP athletes and therefore has designed a National Squad structure that classifies athletes into tiers. This in turn enables Archery Australia to prioritise the support and funding that it provides to NPP athletes in a consistent and transparent manner. Funding for this program is provided by the Australian Government and spending on the program as well as its activities are monitored by the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS).

The NPP consists of three squads of athletes that provides a clearly structured pathway which athletes are able to progress through as they further develop their skills and performances. The entry criteria for each of these tiers has been designed to align with Sport Australia's Athlete Categorisation strategy meaning that athletes are eligible to receive more support as they progress through the tiers. The table below provides a brief summary of each Tier whilst Appendix A provides full details of each Tier and the allocation of support and resources that athletes in each Tier are eligible to receive. Athletes are able to enter the program at any level, National, Development or Youth, provided they meet the published selection criteria.

In addition to the three squad components of the NPP, the AA Pathways Program provides an opportunity for accelerated growth for athletes selected in the program. It is expected there will be a strong connection between the Pathways Program which will over time graduate athletes into an NPP squad. The AA Pathways

National Squad Structure

National Squad

Tier 1 Compound Men Open 690 Compound Women Open 675 Recurve Men Open 630 Recurve Women Open 605 Men W1 645 Women W1 620	<i>World Class</i> – Athletes who in the opinion of the HPC have demonstrated their ability to challenge or have actually achieved a recent podium position in top International Competition.
Tier 2 Compound Men Open 675 Compound Women Open 645 Recurve Men Open 590 Recurve Women Open 555 Men W1 600 Women W1 550	<i>International</i> – Athletes who in the opinion of the HPC are competitive in international competition and have the potential to progress to World Class within the next two years.

National Development Squad

Tier 3 Compound Men Open 645 Compound Women Open 620 Recurve Men Open 550 Recurve Women Open 500 Men W1 560 Women W1 500	<i>Development</i> – Athletes who in the opinion of the HPC are considered to be emerging and have the potential to progress through the tiers in the coming years due to demonstrated commitment.
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National Youth Squad

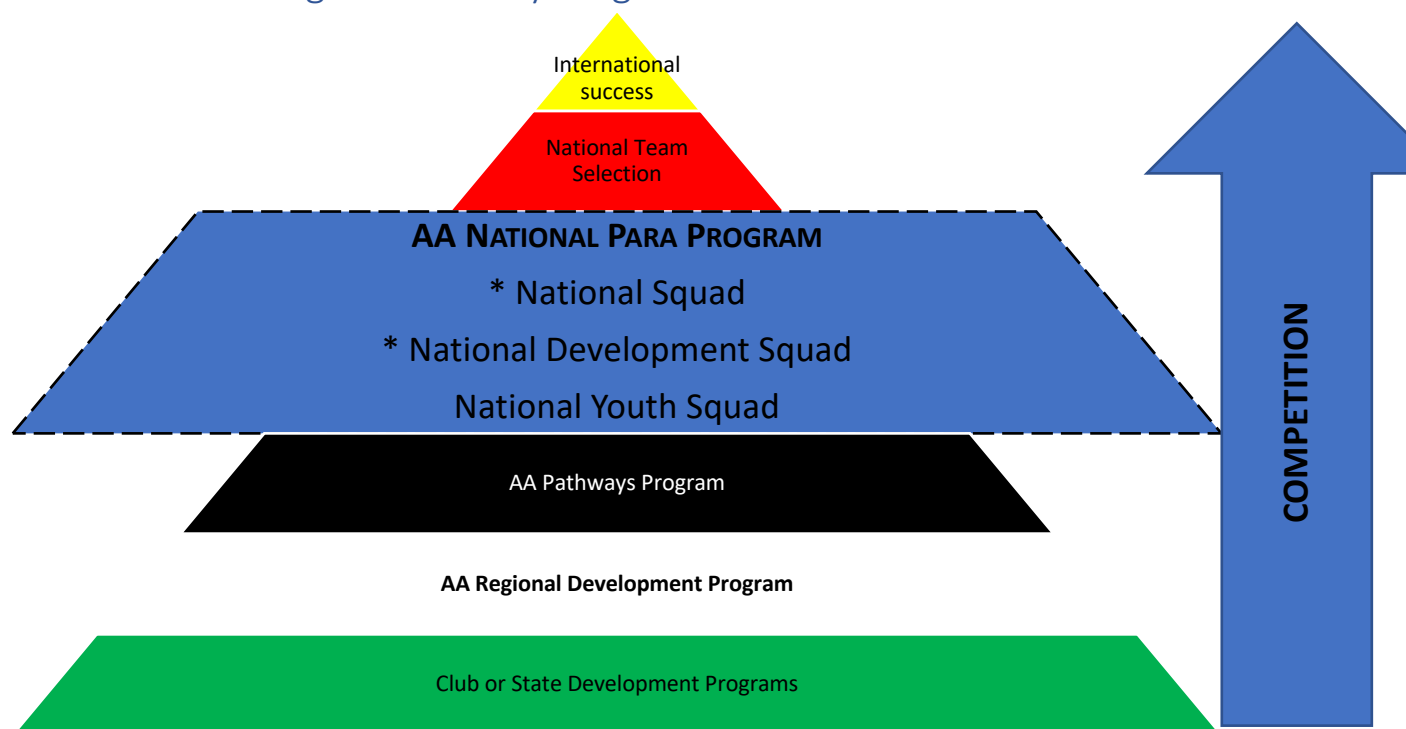
Compound Men Open – 65 rating Compound Women Open – 50 rating Recurve Men Open – 45 rating Recurve Women Open – 35 rating Men W1 – 45 rating Women W1 – 35 rating	<i>Emerging</i> – Athletes who in the opinion of the HPC are considered to be emerging and have the potential to progress into the Development and/or National Squads in the coming years due to demonstrated commitment.
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AA Pathways Program

The Pathways program is a nationally focused program, developed and operated by the Archery Australia High Performance team. The program is partnered with the AIS Performance Pathways unit and has been developed to provide an accelerated pathway for athletes wishing to represent Australia at Olympic and Paralympic Games.

For information regarding the selection process for the Pathways Program you should contact the Archery Australia High Performance Pathways Manager via megan.nally@archery.org.au.

National Para Program Pathway Diagram



Eligibility for the NPP

The NPP is managed on a day-to-day basis by Archery Australia's High-Performance Manager (HPM) who reports to the Archery Australia CEO and Board of Management.

There are currently two major training centres for NPP athletes based in Brisbane and Sydney (NSWIS) and for athletes to be invited to train at these centres, they must be a good fit for the program and be willing to work co-operatively with the other athletes to achieve individual and collective goals.

NPP – Brisbane and Sydney

To be invited to train at the Brisbane and/or Sydney centre an athlete must:

- Have achieved any relevant qualifying scores at designated qualifying events determined by the NTSC.
- Have a demonstrated desire to compete at Paralympic level.
- Meet the training commitments as required by the relevant program coach.
- Be a current financial member of Archery Australia and a Regional Governing Body (RGB)
- Undergo relevant medical screenings as required by AA.
- Sign and abide by the AA NPP Athlete Agreement and Code of Conduct for the term of the training period.
- Meet any NIN requirements for program scholarship.
- Regularly log their training information on the AMS/Archery Success/Notion
- Comply with World Archery eligibility requirements.
- Be in "Good Standing" with Archery Australia



NPP – other

NPP athletes who are based outside of Brisbane and Sydney will be required to maintain an up-to-date record of their completed daily training sessions and attend NPP camps in Brisbane, Canberra or Sydney as required.

To be eligible for the NPP an athlete must meet all of the criteria detailed below, be a good fit for the program and be willing to work independently in their local training environment.

To be eligible for the NPP athletes must:

- Have achieved any relevant qualifying scores at designated qualifying events determined by the NTSC.
- Have a demonstrated desire to compete at Paralympic level.
- Meet the training commitments as required by the relevant program coach.
- Be a current financial member of Archery Australia and a Regional Governing Body (RGB)
- Undergo relevant medical screenings as required by AA.
- Sign and abide by the AA NPP Athlete Agreement and Code of Conduct for the term of the training period.
- Regularly log their training information on AMS/Archery Success/Notion
- Comply with World Archery eligibility requirements.
- Be in “Good Standing” with Archery Australia

****Please note that membership of the NPP does not guarantee selection in any Australian teams. Selection criteria and selection processes are set by separate selection policies and for information regarding current policies and criteria please read the relevant policy available on the Archery Australia website.***

NPP Selection

How to apply

Athletes wishing to apply for the NPP should review and understand the NPP document paying special attention to the performance requirements, eligibility requirements and expectations of athletes in the program. The program is demanding and requires dedication, commitment and time. Only athletes who are willing to make that commitment should apply.

2024 National Para Program applications

Selections for the 2024 NPP will be based on scores from any QRE's and international competitions during the performance window period 1 January to 31 December 2023. Athletes must score 3 MQS scores relative to the Tier level they are applying for during the performance window.

All 2023 NPP athletes will be contacted directly via email when a call is made for applications for the 2024 intake. Any athlete wishing to be considered for the 2024 NPP who is not a member of the 2023 NPP must submit an application form. This EOI will be advertised in Archery News sent to all members in good time prior to the submission date.

Expressions of Interest for the NPP should be submitted electronically via email and EOI forms are available from megan.nally@archery.org.au

All relevant forms and documents required to understand and apply for membership of the NPP are on the Archery Australia website and can be accessed via the following link: www.archery.org.au

Review

Archery Australia's NTSC will review the membership of the NPP on 1 January and 1 July each year, although athletes may submit applications at any time. The HPM will (a) review any applications to join the NPP and (b) review the performances and compliance of existing NPP athletes on 1 January and 1 July each year. Recommendations will then be forwarded to the NTSC for endorsement. Once this process is



complete all athletes will receive formal correspondence confirming the outcome of their application and/or their current status in the NPP.

2024 National Team selections

When selecting national teams for international events in 2024, it is expected that members of the National Para Program will be well placed to be considered for selection for international events.

There will be separate Selection Policy's for all 2024 International Tournaments which will be announced through the Archery Australia website and social media forums.

Movement between NPP Tiers

For a member of the NPP to move up a Tier, they are required to, as a minimum shoot two NPPTS within a three-month period. The three-month period is a rolling time period e.g., a T2 athlete wishing to move up to T1 shoots a T1 score on 23 February, then has until 23 May to shoot the second score to qualify for a move upwards to T1. Athletes should submit any requests for movement between tiers as soon as requirements have been met and the request will be considered at the 1 July review date.

Should an athlete not meet performance and/or compliance requirements for any reason other than injury, they must explain their position in writing to the HPM when requested. This submission should provide details as to why the athlete believes they should be given special consideration. This request will be taken into consideration by the NTSC when it undertakes its regular review of the athlete's membership in the NPP. The NTSC will form an opinion as to the appropriate tier the athlete should be allocated having regard to the athletes' nominated circumstances, and any other matter considered relevant by the NTSC. The NTSC has an unfettered discretion to allocate an athlete to any tier having formed an opinion to do so.

Requirements and Expectations of athletes in the NPP

It is expected that all NPP athletes will always demonstrate professionalism, a strong commitment to success and continual improvement.

This will be demonstrated by:

- Strong competition history
- History of progression
- Developing and refining the required technical skills
- Developing and refining physical resilience
- Developing and refining a strong mental capacity and resilience
- Developing and refining the required physical attributes

Athletes who choose to accept a position in the NPP will be required to comply with all reasonable requests and instructions that are given to them by any staff member of the High-Performance Unit including Archery Australia appointed service providers.

Due to the very limited competition opportunities available to our athletes, the AA National Coaches reserve the right to select Mens Teams, Womens Teams and Mixed Teams to compete at any domestic competitions held in 2024. This will enable our coaches to trial different team combinations and ultimately assist with both team selection and team preparation for international events.



As a minimum all athletes in the NPP are expected to:

- Demonstrate ethical behaviour and compliance with all Archery Australia codes and policies.
- Only undertake coaching that has been agreed with by the National Para Coach and/or HPM.
- Develop in conjunction with National/NIN coaching staff (and their Personal Coach, where applicable) a 12-month Individual Athlete Plan (IAP) – this should include all tournaments that are to be attended, planned holidays, unavailability and work commitments.
- Adhere to their personal 12-month IAP.
- Submit regular training reports via AMS/Archery Success/Notion
- Report all injuries to Archery Australia's National Para Coach immediately.
- Engage with Archery Australia via the HP Unit and its service providers in a timely and professional manner.
- Be available to participate in all mandatory NPP activities.
- Meet any performance requirements agreed to in the annual IAP.
- Commit to spending as much time as practicable training face-to-face with appropriate national coaching staff – this will vary depending on the phase of the 4-year Olympic cycle.
- Strong commitment to the sport and Archery Australia
- Co-operate and work effectively as a squad member.

Funding Support

Archery Australia provides three different levels of funding support to eligible members of the NPP. Details of each, including eligibility and the application process are detailed below:

The major focus for 2024 will be qualification and participation in the 2024 Paris Paralympic Games. Archery Australia has limited funds available to assist NPP athletes and the majority of this will be used to cover the travel costs of athletes in contention for the 2024 Paris Paralympic Games. Any remaining funding will be used to support athletes on the following basis.

Tier	International competition travel support
National Squad – Tier 1	100%
National Squad – Tier 2	50%
Development Squad – Tier 3	25%

Medical / Rehabilitation Support

Archery Australia has limited funds available to assist Tier 1 athletes who require Medical / Rehabilitation support for injuries that impact directly on the ability of the athlete to shoot. This funding is capped at \$2000 per athlete and will only be provided to athletes who have outstanding medical expenses after NDIS, NIN support and Medicare and Private Health Insurance benefits are exhausted. Athletes wishing to apply for this support must complete the '*Medical Support form*' and provide all the required information. The NTSC will at their discretion review the application and determine what, if any support will be made available to the athlete