



# 2025 NPP Policy

National Para Program

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## 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 **Paralympic Games** and **World Archery Para Championships**.

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 Paralympic Games and World Para Championships by supporting identified athletes within the program and via our NIN program partners.

Archery Australia has worked in conjunction with the AIS to develop athlete categories that help identify the athletes with the greatest potential for podium success at future Benchmark events. The Archery Australia Categorisation Framework is used to identify, track and prioritise athletes at each stage of the performance pathway. Categorisation is conducted annually and the AA Categorisation Framework provides an outline of the process by which athlete categorisation will be conducted and the performance criteria that will be used to assess each athlete's position on the pathway to the podium. Eligible athletes will be selected into one of five categories:

1. Podium
2. Podium Ready
3. Podium Potential
4. Developing
5. Emerging

Only Categorised athletes will be considered for selection in NPP and NIN programs and the AA Categorisation Framework for the LA28 cycle can be found here [www.archery.org.au/aa-selection-policies](http://www.archery.org.au/aa-selection-policies)

The NPP is open to all members of Archery Australia that qualify and is a camps based program with the majority of camps held at the Archery Australia Centre of Excellence (COE) at the AIS Archery Centre in Canberra. All NPP athletes that are eligible for NIN scholarships will have their nomination

for Individual Athlete Scholarships (IAS) 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 General Manager Performance (GMP) who reports to the Archery Australia CEO and 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 recognises athletes based on their categorisation status. 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 levels has been designed to align with AIS Athlete Categorisation strategy meaning that athletes are eligible to receive more support as they progress through the level. The table below provides a brief summary of each level. Athletes are able to enter the program at any level, National, Development or Youth, provided they meet the published selection criteria. All squad selections will be ratified by the National Teams Selection Committee.

### **National Squad Structure**

#### **National Squad**

<p><b>Podium (T1)</b> Compound Men Open 690 Compound Women Open 676 Recurve Men Open 630 Recurve Women Open 603 Men W1 647 Women W1 614</p>	<p><i>World Class</i> – Athletes who have achieved a recent podium position at a Benchmark event.</p>
<p><b>Podium Ready (T2)</b> Compound Men Open 675 Compound Women Open 662 Recurve Men Open 607 Recurve Women Open 569 Men W1 626 Women W1 585</p>	<p><i>International</i> – Athletes who are currently competing at international level and in the opinion of the NTSC have the potential to progress to World Class within the next two years.</p>

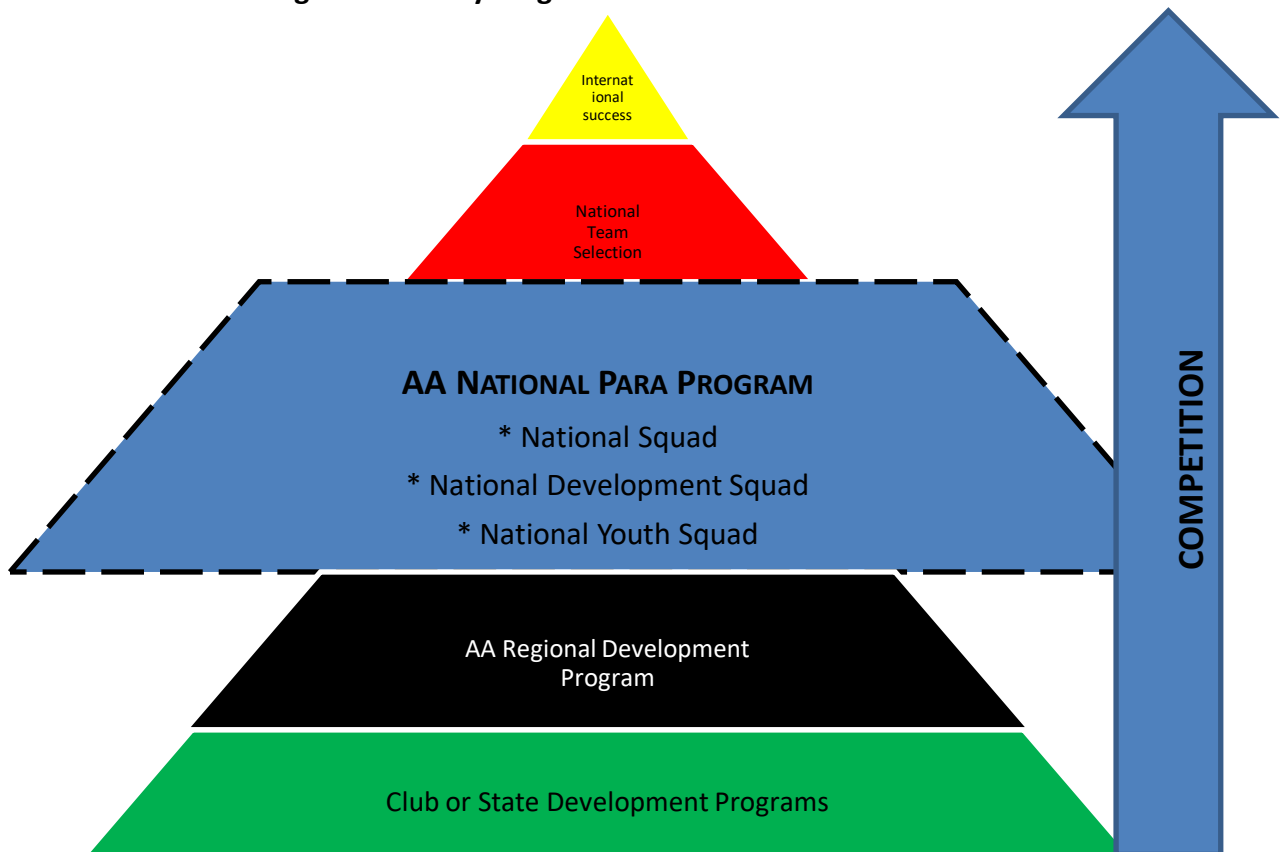
**National Development Squad**

<p><b>Podium Potential (T3)</b>          Compound Men Open 664          Compound Women Open 630          Recurve Men Open 570          Recurve Women Open 530          Men W1 590          Women W1 520</p>	<p><i>National</i> – Athletes who are currently competing at national level and in the opinion of the NTSC have the potential to progress through the tiers in the coming years due to demonstrated commitment.</p>
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**National Youth Squad**

<p><b>Emerging (T4)</b>          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</p>	<p><i>Emerging</i> – Youth age athletes who in the opinion of the NTSC 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.</p>
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**National Para Program Pathway Diagram**



## Eligibility for the NPP

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

### NPP

The NPP is a camps based program and athletes will be required to maintain an up-to-date record of their completed daily training sessions and attend NPP camps on a regular basis.

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 National Para Coach.
- Be a current financial member of Archery Australia and a Regional Governing Body (RGB)
- Undergo any relevant medical screenings as required by AA or NIN.
- 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.

### 2025 National Para Program applications

Selections for the 2025 NPP will be based on scores from any QRE's and international competitions during the performance window period 1 July to 31 December 2024. Athletes must score 3 MQS scores relative to the Tier level they are applying for during the performance window.

All 2024 NPP athletes will be contacted directly via email when a call is made for applications for the 2025 intake. Any athlete wishing to be considered for the 2025 NPP who is not a member of the 2024 NPP must submit an application form. This EOI will be advertised in the Archery Australia Newsletter 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 [nationalteams@archery.org.au](mailto:nationalteams@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](http://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 GMP 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.

### **2025 National Team selections**

When selecting national teams for international events in 2025, 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 Policies for all 2025 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 relevant scores 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 GMP 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 Para Coach reserves the right to select Mens Teams, Womens Teams and Mixed Teams to compete at any domestic competitions held in 2025. 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 GMP.
- 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 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 Paralympic cycle.
- Strong commitment to the sport and Archery Australia
- Co-operate and work effectively as a squad member.

### **Funding Support**

The major focus for 2025 will be qualification and participation in the 2025 World Archery Para Championships (WAPC). 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 2025 WAPC.