



National Para Squad 2026-2027 Selection Criteria

1. PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENT

The primary purpose of this policy is to detail the process established by Archery Australia for the selection of archers into the National Para Squad who will be eligible to represent Australia at International events throughout the year. The overall aim will be to select a National Para Squad each year. This policy also outlines the process to be eligible for the National Para Squad.

This document outlines a consistent annual process designed to help athletes clearly understand the requirements for selection into the National Para Squad. By maintaining a stable framework year to year, athletes can better prepare and align their efforts with the selection criteria. Although the policy will be formally reviewed every two years, the overarching goal is to ensure consistency across the High-Performance program, providing athletes with a reliable pathway toward squad selection.

The principal objectives when selecting the National Para Squad for the year are:

- i) To support the athletes who are selected into the squad and prepare them for international competition.
- ii) Offer training environments to support High Performance.
- iii) To prepare and support teams that travel and to compete on the world stage. Foster the overall athlete and squad development and High-Performance Objectives set out in the National Para High Performance strategic plan and the individual athlete plans.
- iv) To best represent Australia on the international stage.

2. CRITERIA FOR SELECTION INTO THE SQUAD

The 2026 National Para Squad will be formed based on the current 2025 National Para Squad and 2025 National Para Development Squad as of December 1st, 2025. There will be no additional athletes added or trial event in 2025.

For emerging athletes who wish to apply for the 2027 National Para Squad they must achieve the guideline qualifying score as per Section 4 on at least three occasions in the six months immediately prior to the 2026 National Para Championship, all at registered QRE's or AA sanctioned events. Upcoming athletes may be considered for national squad inclusion at the discretion of the National Para Coach during the 2026 calendar year. To understand or seek advice in relation to the selection policy and process, write to nationalteams@archery.org.au.

For members of the 2026 National Para Squad wanting to continue into the 2027 National Para Squad and any new athletes wanting to be considered for the National Squad the following will be required to be undertaken:

- i) The Athlete must attend 2026 National Para Target Championships and complete a ranking round as defined by World Archery which is currently for the:
 - a. Recurve Division a WA70/720 Round,

- b. Compound Division a WA50/720 (6 ring)
- c. W1 Division a WA50/720 (10 Ring)
- d. VI 1 and VI 2/3 a VI 30m Round (note that only limited competitions where VI is added into Para Competitions)
- ii) Compete in the 2026 National Para Target Championship Matchplay component.
- iii) Current Squad members must achieve the guideline qualifying score as per Section 4 on at least two occasions during each three-month block of the selection period at registered QRE's or AA sanctioned events. The three blocks are:
 - March 1st to May 31st,
 - June 1st to August 31st and
 - September 1st to the first scoring arrow at the National Para Championship.
- iv) To nominate for the 2027 squad, you will be asked at the point of registration for the 2026 National Para Target Championships if you would like to be considered and confirm that all your scores have been lodged into Archers Diary. From there, your scores will be checked by the selection committee (no Score submission is required by the athlete), and the squad will be announced once this process is complete.

*Extenuating circumstances will be considered by the selection committee if an individual **cannot attend** the National Para Championships. The individual must write to Archery Australia at nationalteams@archery.org.au to provide the reason for not being able to attend and show proof of performance across the year in line with the above criteria. This must be received before the first scoring arrow at the National Para Championship.

3. PROCESS FOR SELECTION

- a. Key Dates:
 - i) 2026 Selection: as above no dates for 2025 as the squad will be combined and rolled over for the 2026 year.
 - ii) Selection Dates for the 2027 National Para Squad and beyond: March 1st of that year to the First Scoring Arrow at the National Para Target Championships of the same year.
- b. Stages of Selection

By entering the selection process the archer acknowledges that:

 - i) They have read the selection policy.
 - ii) They have read the Athlete Agreement and Code of Conduct available on the Archery Australia website.
 - iii) They have had a reasonable opportunity to understand or seek advice in relation to the selection policy and process.
 - iv) Archers agree to be bound by the terms and conditions of this policy and the Athlete Agreement and Code of Conduct.
 - v) Divisions with low representation of athletes that are close to the minimum score requirements, identified through specific talents searches and/or state identification programs may be considered for national squad inclusion at the discretion of the National Para Coach during the 2026 calendar year.
 - vi) As soon as possible following the completion of the Nationals at the end of each year, the National Para Squad will be submitted by the Selection Committee to the CEO for ratification and then released to the public.

4. GUIDELINES FOR QUALIFYING SCORES REQUIRED FOR NATIONAL SQUADS

The selection will be a competitive process based on the above Criteria. There will be a guideline qualifying score to be considered for 2027 Para National Squad. Guideline qualifying score are as follows:

Open Recurve Men:	520
Open Recurve Women:	490
Open Compound Men:	610
Open Compound Women:	570
WI Women:	470
WI Men:	530
VI 1*	350
VI 2/3*	400

Categorisation of athletes will take place once the squad is selected. This will be in line with the Australian Sports Commission requirements for funding.

** There are limited events available for VI athletes within Para competitions and due to the VI discipline not being a Paralympic discipline we are unable to categorise these athletes and therefore support looks like attending squad training and camps only.*

5. SQUAD SIZE

Each year we will review the squad size based on talent coming through but will not be greater than 20 athletes including youth and development.

- i) All named athletes in the squad will be supported in their own Daily Performance Environment (DPE) as discussed with the Head Coach and the General Manager of High Performance.
- ii) From the National Para Squad, National Para Teams will be selected to attend various international World Archery Para events across the year, as well as other events in line with High Performance planning. At the discretion of the National Para Coach and National High-Performance Manager, non-National Squad members may be added to national Para Teams for the purpose of classification as required.
- iii) The National ranking lists, as well as individual athlete plans, will be taken into consideration for individual team selection.
- iv) There is no guarantee that Archery Australia will send a National Para Team to all events; each event will be considered by Archery Australia and subject to a rigorous risk management process.
- v) Trials will only be held for the purpose of selecting or ranking athletes for major Tournaments such as **World Archery Para Championships, Paralympic Games or Benchmark events.**
- vi) 2026 Squad members who fail to maintain the minimum scores as per Section 4 in any of the 3-month windows will not be eligible for selection to Australian Teams attending international events for the following 6 months.

To return to eligibility the athlete is required to shoot two minimum scores for their division in the next available 3 month selection period and submit the scores to nationalteams@archery.org.au

6. ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for selection into the Para National Squad an athlete must:

- i) Satisfy all eligibility requirements under World Archery rules as may be adopted by World Archery time to time.
- ii) Be internationally or nationally classified
- iii) Be in “Good Standing” with Archery Australia; be registered and a current financial member
- iv) Meet the Selection Criteria requirements detailed in this policy.
- v) Have completed and returned by the required dates all the relevant paperwork including Athlete Agreement and Code of Conduct and
- vi) Have shot and registered the required QRE scores, with at least one QRE score being shot in Australia.

7. THE NATIONAL TEAM SELECTION COMMITTEE

The National Team Selection Committee will select the squad according to the terms of this National Para Squad Selection Criteria Document and present to the CEO for ratification.

8. APPEALS

Where an archer reasonably considered all the circumstances and believes that his/her non-selection into the squad has occurred because of failure to follow this squad selection criteria, the athlete may lodge an appeal, the Appeals policy can be found on the Archery Australia website.

9. BREACH OF SELECTION POLICY

Any team member may be removed from the squad in the event of a breach of this selection policy, non-compliance with training requirements or a violation of the Archery Australia Athlete Agreement and/or Code of Conduct.

Additionally, from time to time matters or behaviours involving squad members may come to notice that are either unforeseeable, unique, novel or “one off” in nature. Such matters or behaviours may not be covered by relevant Archery Australia policies. Should the National Squad Selection Committee or Archery Australia CEO deem such matters or behaviours unacceptable, then Archery Australia reserves the right to remove member(s) from the squad.

Prior to the removal of the squad member, they must be presented with the opportunity to participate in a removal interview with the National Squad Selection Committee Chair and Archery Australia CEO and where possible an independent person nominated by Archery Australia Board who has not participated in the selection process.



Written justification will be provided for all removals from the Squad. Decisions to remove a member based on these matters are final and may not be appealed.

Any incident or act related to athlete doping in breach of the relevant policies or any incident that could bring the sport into disrepute will result in immediate withdrawal from the squad. Any future suspension will be subject to investigation and appeal through the appeal mechanism in place under Archery Australia. Any decision made to investigate or suspend the athlete that deals with or touches upon doping matters or conduct that in the sole opinion of the selection committee, might bring the sport into disrepute will be undertaken by the Archery Australia CEO.

10. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMUNICATION

Selected National Para Squad Members agree not to make any announcements to the media or public in any form (including social media or personal websites) regarding selection until after Archery Australia has announced the National Para Squad. Further details around communication are outlined in the team agreement.