

THE GLIDING FEDERATION OF AUSTRALIA INC

ABN 82 433 264 489

www.glidingaustralia.org



International Team Selection Policy

DOCUMENT NUMBER SDP030

Version 0

UNCONTROLLED WHEN PRINTED
Copyright © The Gliding Federation of Australia Inc

Revision Record

Prepared by	Approved by	Version Number	Date	Precis of Changes
A Barnes, M Gore Brown, A Maddocks	GFA Board	0	September 2020	New general policy document to describe the selection process, taken from previous year-by-year procedures.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. Background	4
2. Summary	4
3. Eligibility of pilots	4
4. Eligibility of events	4
4.1. Substitute competitions.....	5
5. Definition of seasons for qualification	5
6. Restrictions	5
6.1. Junior World Selection	5
6.2. Sports Class.....	5
6.3. 2-Seater Performances.....	5
6.4. 20m 2-Seater Selection	5
7. Ranking List.....	6
8. Allocation of pilots to classes	6
9. Application for selection	6
10. Rescheduling and non-validation of qualifying competitions	7
11. Rescheduling of IGC Events	7

1. Background

The Gliding Federation of Australia selects teams to participate in the World Gliding Championships (WGC). The 2015 Gliding Federation of Australia's Articles of Association lay out various Objects of the Association relevant to Australia participating in international competitions that include:

- To manage the affairs of gliding and soaring on a national basis to ensure the sport remains relevant, ... and viable.
- To ...improve where possible, ... sport achievement.
- To facilitate the exposure of the sport to the broader community and provide support to individuals who are actively engaged in the promotion of the sport.
- To promote competition, achievement and records in gliding.
- To explore and implement changes to Gliding Australia in concert with the changing needs of the sport and society.

In addition to these Objects, supporting international competition brings benefits to the broader membership. Examples of benefits include:

- An active elite sporting program translates to healthy participation in all areas of the sport
- Raising the level of gliding expertise and innovation in Australia
- Introducing new gliders and equipment into our market
- International goodwill
- Driving pride in our achievements
- Having influence at an International FAI/IGC level
- Contribution by international competition pilots to the sport in terms of coaching, seminars, articles, and administration.
- Benefitting our home competition scene, leading to inter-club interaction, interest and passion of members, and healthy clubs

2. Summary

This document details the process used to select the Australian Team for the following IGC competitions:

- World Gliding Championships (excluding 13.5m)
- Women's World Gliding Championships
- Junior World Gliding Championships

Selection is independent of funding, which is covered in a separate document. The SDP budget will determine the number of pilots funded, and the extent of the funding available for each selected pilot and, if applicable, a team captain.

3. Eligibility of pilots

Pilots must be eligible for an Australian-issued IGC Sporting Licence and be able to meet all IGC requirements, as well as the licensing and medical requirements of the host country in order to be selected. They may also be required to attend a Squad Week in Australia to secure their place on the team.

Any pilot with automatic entry to a WGC, due to being awarded World Champion in the specific class at a previous World Championship, is automatically selected in the specific class, in addition to pilots selected by the process described here.

4. Eligibility of events

Pilots may use the following events for selection to a WGC:

- Australian Senior Nationals (Multi-class, Club/Sports, and 2-seater)
- Junior Nationals (for Junior WGC selection only)
- One overseas substitute competition¹

4.1. Substitute competitions

A pilot may use only one substitute competition for selection for a given WGC. The use of a substitute competition must be by application to the Soaring Development Panel before the first competition day of the subsequent Australian Nationals in the corresponding class.

The weighting of a substitute competition in comparison to the Australian Nationals results will be evaluated based on the IGC Competition Rating.

- Where a pilot flies a substitute competition with a greater Competition Rating than the Australian Nationals immediately following, of the same class, the substitute competition will be considered equivalent to the Nationals for selection purposes.
- Where the class in the substitute competition has a lower Competition Rating than the Australian Nationals immediately following, of the same class, then the pilot's selection points will be reduced according to the ratio of the two Competition Ratings. For example, a pilot flying a substitute competition with a rating of 900, where the following Australian Nationals in the same class had a rating of 945, would have their selection points multiplied by $(900-800)/(945-800)$ for that competition.²

5. Definition of seasons for qualification

Pilots will be ranked according to their best results in each of the two seasons immediately preceding the event. The first season will count 40% towards selection and the second season will count 60%.

For WGCs in the Northern Hemisphere, this comprises the Australian seasons 18 and 6 months prior to the event. For WGCs in the Southern Hemisphere, this comprises the Australian seasons 24 and 12 months prior to the event.

A substitute competition flown in the Northern Hemisphere will be counted as part of the subsequent Australian season.

Since WGCs occur in every year, a 60% qualifying event for one WGC may also be a 40% event for the following year's WGC.

6. Restrictions

6.1. Junior World Selection

To satisfy minimum experience requirements, for JWGC selection, a pilot must have flown at least one Senior Nationals or equivalent overseas competition, prior to competing in a JWGC.

6.2. Sports Class

A Sports Class result may only be used in the 40% selection only as it is not an IGC Class.

6.3. 2-Seater Performances

Apart from selection for 20m 2-seater class, a performance in a 2-seat glider may only be used in the 40% season. Both pilots may claim this performance as their 40% performance, as long as they flew every competition day.

6.4. 20m 2-Seater Selection

For 20m 2-seater selection, the pilots must have flown every day of the competition, together as a team, in the 20m Nationals of the 60% season. The 40% 20m 2-seat selection score may be taken from any valid 40% performance of either pilot.

¹ the aim of this policy is to ensure pilots compete against Australian pilots in a Nationals in Australia at least once in the selection cycle.

² 800 is the lowest possible Competition Rating so this value is subtracted from both ratings

7. Ranking List

Immediately after the completion of the final Australian qualifying competition for a WGC, a ranking list will be calculated for each class for the next WGC.

Each Ranking List states the calculated ranking for all Australian competition pilots taken from eligible Competitions (refer to Section 4) covering the two-year cycle.

Pilots will be ranked in each class where they scored in a 60% event.

A pilot's ranking will be calculated by adding their best 60% score for that class to their best 40% score in any class. The maximum ranking score is therefore 100%

- For Australian Nationals competitions, a pilot's score will be expressed as a proportion of the score of the highest placed pilot who is eligible to fly for Australia. This allows Australian pilots to be ranked as if non-Australians had not competed³.
- For substitute competitions, a pilot's score will be expressed as a proportion of the winner of the event.

At the completion of each WGC 60% qualification event, the Provisional Ranking List will be sent to all competition pilots on that list. It is recommended that they check their individual scores and raise any discrepancies to the ITM within two weeks, after which that Class Ranking List will be published on the Gliding Australia website. Members will be notified (via newsletters etc.) when each Ranking List has been published.

8. Allocation of pilots to classes

For each class, pilots will be selected from the top of that class' Ranking List until all available places for the WGC have been filled, or a cut-off score of 80% is reached. Pilots with a score of less than 80% will not normally be selected.

If a pilot is selected for more than one class at the same WGC, the pilot will be asked to choose which class they prefer, and their place in the other class will be allocated to the next pilot in the ranking for that class.

If any place remains unfilled, all Class Ranking Lists will be combined into a Master Ranking List. Starting from the top of the Master Ranking List, any remaining pilots who scored above 80% will be offered the remaining places.

If two pilots already selected for different classes at a WGC wish to swap classes, for example to facilitate more effective pair flying, both pilots must submit the request to the ITM for their consideration. This will only be allowed if the ITM, SDP and Team Captain deem it best for the whole team.

9. Application for selection

Successful pilots will be notified of their ranking and class selection. The pilot must confirm to the SDP that they want to participate. The selected spot will not be automatically assumed. At the time of selection, pilots (funded or unfunded) shall acknowledge in their application, their obligation to give back to the membership by undertaking activities that will benefit members and grow the sport. Examples are fundraising, coaching, writing articles, participating in team blogs and publicity, conducting lectures/online forums or participating in other soaring development activities, or running/participating in a high-performance coaching event.

There is an expectation that being selected on the Team involves participating in all Team coaching, squad week and other supporting activities.

Prior to applying for selection, team members must review and accept the Codes of Conduct.

³ the actual score of the highest placed Australian pilot is used without correction, and the competition is not rescored to calculate the rankings

10. Rescheduling and non-validation of qualifying competitions

The rescheduling of a qualifying competition will have no effect on the selection if it is rescheduled within the same selection season. If, on the rare occasion it is rescheduled to the following season, then that rescheduled competition may be used as a qualifying event in that following season.

If an Australian Nationals or Junior Nationals is not validated, either because of cancellation or because insufficient days were validated, then it will not count towards selection. However, there may be circumstances where those pilots who had entered the non-validated competition can use an additional event as a substitute competition for selection purposes.

If the non-validated Nationals is a 40% event, the pilot may either:

- use any eligible current season 40% event as their 40% score
- use an additional eligible 60% event flown the following season as their 40% score
- use an event from the season preceding the 40% year as their 40% score

If the non-validated Nationals is a 60% event, the pilot may either:

- use a substitute competition flown in year 2 for their 60% score , or
- use any year 1 eligible event for their 60% score, and use a different event from year 1 or the preceding season for their 40% score

The above options only apply to Australian National Competitions.

11. Rescheduling of IGC Events

If a WGC is rescheduled within the same season it will have no effect on the team already selected.

If a WGC is rescheduled to a subsequent season, it will have no effect on the team already selected, except that any pilots who were originally selected but unable to attend the original dates will be able to reclaim their place on the team. Those pilots will be required to notify the ITM to reclaim and confirm their availability for the originally allocated team position within 30 days of the announcement of the new dates.