

National Qualifying Standards - NQS

September 21st, 2014



Why do we need NQS (National Qualifying Standard)

- NQS have been introduced to bring some form of consistency to the standard of entries to and entry criteria for Area Eventing Trials across the country
 - Some rider/mount combinations were having to complete in up to six or more competitions within a season before going to the Eventing Championships, raising issue of rider and horse welfare especially on the increasing hard grounds seen during November through to April.
 - Some Areas were having to introduce additional selection criteria because riders were competing and winning at Area trials were of a sufficient standard to compete safely at Eventing Championships.
 - The use of a single qualifying score was seeing riders qualifying for Area Trials yet still not being able to go clear consistently across country.



Why do we need NQS

- The performance parameters set out in the NQS are to ensure that:
 - riders participating at Area Eventing Trials are of a sufficient standard to be able to compete safely,
 - Area Eventing Trials Classes just like the NZPCA Eventing Championships themselves are for the most accomplished Eventing riders at the three divisions within an Area and not just another ODE class
 - riders are competent across all three tests of an eventing competition, but especially Cross Country.



What is a NQS

- An NQS is achieved by completing a competition within the following minimum performance parameters:
 - not less than 50 percent in the Dressage Test; and
 - not more than 20 penalties at obstacles on the Cross Country Test, and
 - not more than 90 seconds exceeding the optimum time in the Cross Country Test; and
 - not more than 16 penalties at obstacles in the Jumping Test

All these parameters must be achieved at the one event/competition for it to count as an NQS; failure to achieve one parameter will result in it not counting as a NQS.



What else do you need to know about NQS

- NQS's need to be achieved at the level you are trialing at or above.
 - So if you're going to enter the DC Area Trial you need to have achieved you NQS at NZPC 105, CNC105 or NZPC A1 or CNC1* level ,
- NQS can be achieved at NZPCA or ESNZ Eventing competitions.
 - NQS cannot be achieved at Secondary Schools Eventing Competitions



What else do you need to know about NQS

- Riders will need to provide proof that they have achieved the necessary NQS's at time of entry to the Area Trial at the level of above trialing or above.
 - Equestrian entries online results can be used as proof provided you include all the necessary information
 - Equestrian entries online results have the benefit of being able to be provided either printed or digitally
 - Dressage sheets, with XC and SJ scores written on the back and signed by a TD are unlikely to continue to be acceptable



So how many NQS do you need to enter Area Eventing Trials

- In order to enter an Area Eventing Trial run by any Area around the country a rider/mount combination is required to have obtained:
 - Two (2) NQs within 12 months prior to entries closing for the Area Eventing Trial
 - or Three (3) NQs within 24 months prior to entries closing for the Area Eventing Trial.
- If you have multiple mounts you will need NQS for each one you enter into the Area Eventing Trial
- **There is no dispensation for NQS.**

