

Archery Australia
National Pathways Squad
Guidelines

The Archery Australia **National Pathways Squad (NPS)** is a long term, holistic development program. The program replaces the previous P24 programs and is designed to identify talented archers across Australia and support them towards entering the [National Recurve Program \(NRP\)](#) and [National Para Program \(NPP\)](#) as well as support selection for relevant international events.

The NPS also aims to educate and develop archers in growing their High-Performance behaviours, transition into well rounded athletes, as well as be resilient and independent athletes that engage with Archery Australia programs.

The program is nationally focused and has been developed by the Archery Australia High Performance team and aligns with our AA Pathways strategic plan (2022-28) as well as Archery Australia's Strategic plan (2022 – 2026). The program is partnered with the AIS Performance Pathways unit and has been developed to provide a pathway for athletes wishing to represent Australia at major international events.

The program is open to Olympic and Paralympic disciplines.

About the NPS Activities:

Each year a range of activities have been expertly planned for the athletes and their coaches in the program, these activities include:

- A range of in person training camps (this will involve travel to the AIS or NIN programs)
- Online education sessions
- One International Training camp (only a select group of athletes with the programs may attend)
- Potential access to NIN training (if in NSW and VIC, as allowed by NIN programs)
- Personal Coach development opportunities
- Potential to be involved in National Squad and NIN domestic competition activities

Attendance at these activities will be decided based on an athletes' individual needs and requirements.

About NPS Athletes

The NPS is focussed on building **Archers into Athletes**. We are looking for archers who can exhibit and build on the following attributes:

- **Commit** time to training regularly to progress, as well as attend all program education, training, and development offerings
- **Engage** with program staff, athletes, and initiatives. This includes the use of data capture and monitoring systems to better understand their development and areas of growth
- **Coachable**. Demonstrate a willingness to follow coaching instructions and the capacity to make technical change where applicable, as well as listen and engage with service providers for continual improvement.
- **Positively manage** School and Education. Understand that managing school or work is an essential part of an athlete's career and learn to communicate and plan loads appropriately
- **Openness** to athlete and program feedback. Be open to and involved in a continual feedback process within AA programs. This may include athletes technical, physical, psychological, and high-performance behavioural reviews, as well as giving feedback on AA programs and staff.
- **Willingness** to be involved in AA programs. Archers may be encouraged to take part in other State based programs (AARDP or RGB teams etc.) and may also be invited to NPP, NRP and NIN trainings.

Program Eligibility Criteria

Olympic Discipline -To be considered for acceptance in the program archers are expected to:

- Be aged between 14- 20 (Born between 2007-2002). Older athletes may apply and will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.
- Be a member of Archery Australia and in good standing.
- Have demonstrated an ability to shoot scores of approx. **580** for Women and **590** for Men (for appropriate age WA720 round in QRE and above conditions).
- Commit to attending both in person and online program activities.
- Commit to a minimum weekly training load - this may consist of shooting, strength and conditioning, and recovery sessions.
- Be competing as a Recurve Archer.
- Have a positive attitude, especially towards training and self-improvement.
- Be able to positively manage training load with other responsibilities, such as study, work, and personal commitments.

Paralympic Disciplines -To be considered for acceptance in the program archers are expected to:

- Be a prospective Para Archer of any age in Australia.
- Be willing to gain Archery Australia membership on acceptance to the program.
- Commit to attending both in person and online program activities.
- Commit to a minimum weekly training load – this may consist of shooting, strength and conditioning, and recovery sessions.
- Have a positive attitude, especially towards training and self-improvement.
- Be able to positively manage training load with other responsibilities, such as study, work and personal commitments.
- this may include talent transfers from other high-performance sports, talent ID by relevant sporting bodies or Archers who have attended Paralympics Australia come and try events.

Program Selection Process

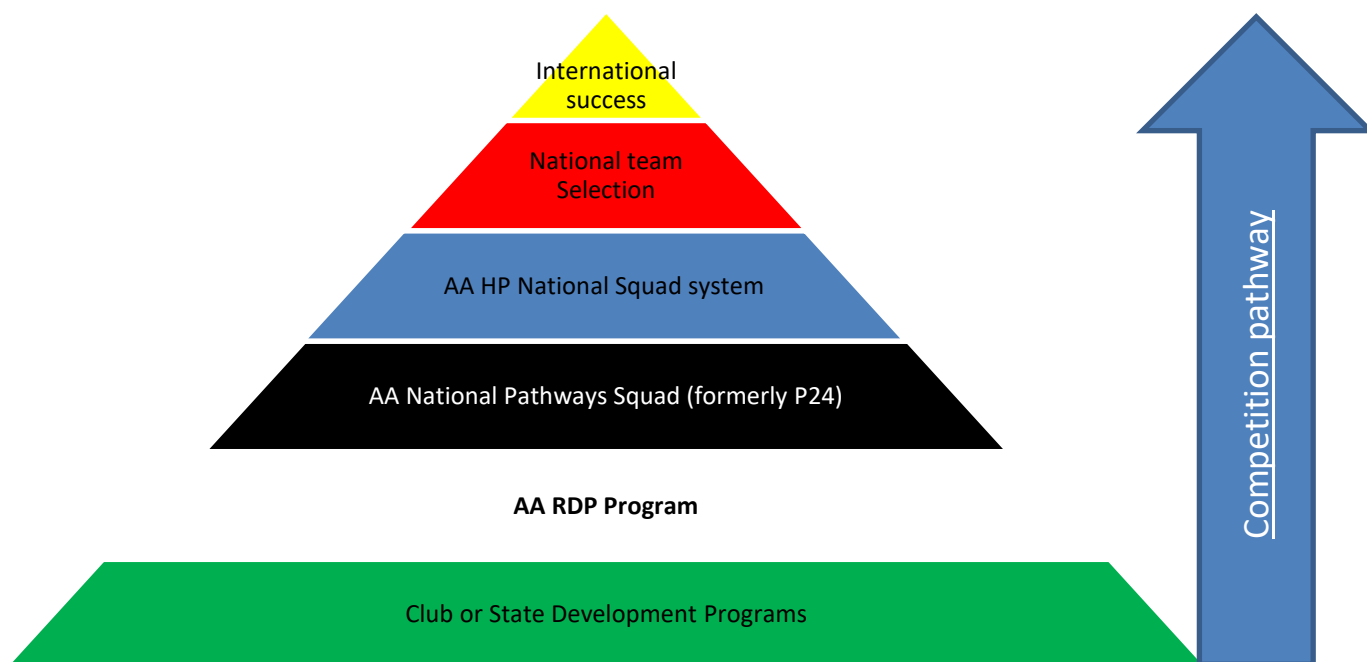
- 1) Athletes must complete an application form (appendix 1) and forward it to HP Pathways Manager, Robert Turner during the announced selection period
email: robertturner@archery.org.au
- 2) Once the closing date has passed, applicants will be reviewed against the eligibility criteria by the Pathways team, consisting of:
 - Robert Turner – HP Pathways Manager
 - Richard Fryer – Performance Psychologist
 - A National program coach
- 3) Shortlisted athletes may be required for a video interview
- 4) All applicants will be advised of selection outcomes by email

****intakes will occur as the program requires***

*****Archery Australia reserves the right to invite athletes to participate in various aspects of the program at the discretion of the Pathways team.***

Archery Australia Pathways system

The National Pathways Squad is part of Archery Australia's Pathway system and replaces the previous P24 and P24P programs. Please see below the AA High Performance pathway to understand the programs across AA.



AA High Performance programs and squads align to the international format and aim to provide quality development opportunities. The **National Pathways Squad** is intended to be a link between the State based development programs and National Squads.

The Competition Path is an accessible path for all archers regardless of ability or age. Any athlete can register their scores, meet published score criteria, place in selection trials and make an AA National squad/team.

National Pathways Squad Graduation/movement

An athlete will be considered graduated from the National Pathways Squad when they reach the NRP or NPP programs. Athletes that do not graduate may be directed to enter their RGB AARDP programs at points throughout the program.

Funding

Archers in this program are eligible for funding support for program related activities and camps. Access to this will be at the discretion of the AA Pathways program. Archers may be required to part or fully fund themselves on some occasions which will be communicated in advance. This funding may be dependent on athlete commitment and improvement as well as ongoing federal government financing.

Program Contact

All enquiries around this program should be directed to HP Pathways Manager, Robert Turner.

Email: robertturner@archery.org.au

Mobile: 0414 865 370

Appendix 1

Expression of Interest

National Pathways Squad

Please fill out the below information where applicable to express your interest in being considered for the Archery Australia National Pathways Squad	
Athletes Full Name:	
DOB and current age:	
Current Club, and Age division U21/U18/U16/Other:	
Current personal coach, level of coach accreditation and contact details:	
Have you been a member of your state team or AARDP program:	
Highest Score in QRE for age appropriate 720 round and date achieved:	
Current year in school/university, name of institution: If not studying current employment status	
Personal Milestones in work, education, family, etc:	
Reason for wanting to become a member of the program:	
Further Comments on your eligibility and application:	
If under 18 years of age, please complete the name and contact details of Parent/Guardian:	
Signature of Parent/Guardian	

Please return this form to the Archery Australia HP Pathways Manager

robertturner@archery.org.au