

Shooting Australia Athlete Categorisation

Comparison of Performance and Descriptive Criteria: 2021-2025 to 2026-2028

PERFORMANCE CRITERIA	2026-2028		2021-2025	Comments
	Primary	Secondary		
Podium	Individual medal @ senior BME/PE	APS = IPS for Podium/Podium Ready	Achieved an individual podium performance at the BME	Unchanged except for inclusion of IPS
Podium Ready	2 individual finals @ senior WC or BME/PE AND 1 individual medal	APS = IPS for Podium/Podium Ready	Achieved 2 or more BME and/or WC finals AND won a medal at a WC in an individual event	Unchanged except for inclusion of IPS
Podium Potential	Individual final @ senior WC or BME/PE	APS = IPS for Podium Potential	Achieved 1 final placing at a WC or BME in an individual event	Unchanged except for inclusion of IPS
Developing	Shotgun - Top 20 individual finish @ senior WC or BME. Pistol/Rifle/Para - Individual finish in top 40% at senior WC or BME	APS = IPS for Developing	Has an APS which meets the WC MPS	Changed to reflect performance level required to progress from Developing to Podium Potential in current cycle. IPS is new inclusion
Representative	[APS meets MPS] and/or selected to AUS Team for senior WC or BME	APS = Olympic/Paralympic Minimum Qualification Score (MQS)	N/A	New category introduced in 2025
Emerging	APS = IPS for Emerging	Junior Able - Selected to AUS Team for junior WC or BME. Para Talent Transfer - Regular engagement in SA-endorsed domestic competitions	Achieved 1 junior BME final in an individual event. Achieved the WSPS BME MQS at a WC event	Changed to reflect more appropriate evidence-based criteria for Junior Able and Para Talent Transfer athletes. IPS is new inclusion
Future Emerging	APS = IPS for Future Emerging	Regular engagement in SA-endorsed domestic competitions	N/A	New category introduced in 2025



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DESCRIPTIVE CRITERIA	2026-2028		2021-2025		Comments
	Primary	Secondary	Primary	Secondary	
Podium	Podium athletes have demonstrated their ability to 'perform when it counts' by winning a medal at a Benchmark or Pinnacle Event (BME/PE) in the past 24 months	Individual Performance Plan (IPP) that clearly addresses gaps to Podium levels based on What It Takes to Win (WITTW). Prioritised time and engagement in high performance (HP) daily performance environment (DPE). Maintenance or progression of Average Performance Score (APS)	Athletes have won a medal at a BME, coupled with demonstrated international performance excellence	Athletes must be considered capable of winning a medal at the next PE	Unchanged except for references to IPP, DPE and APS
Podium Ready	Podium Ready athletes have demonstrated their ability to 'convert finals into medals' by qualifying for 2 finals and winning 1 medal in the past 24 months		Athletes who have demonstrated repeated ability to make finals at international level competition. Athletes have demonstrated the ability to win a medal at international level competition		Changed to make criteria clearer including new references to IPP, DPE and APS
Podium Potential	Podium Potential athletes have demonstrated their ability to 'progress from qualification to finals' at least once in the past 24 months		Athletes have achieved agreed performance criteria which reliably indicate an athlete's future potential for podium success.	Athletes must be considered capable of making a final at the next PE. Included at the discretion of the Categorisation Panel	Changed to make criteria very clear. New references to IPP, DPE and APS included
Developing	By achieving [Shotgun - Top 20 individual finish @ senior WC or BME. Pistol/Rifle/Para - Individual finish in top 40% at senior WC or BME] at least once in the past 12 months, Developing athletes have demonstrated that they are 'within range of finals' within the next: 24 months for senior and para athletes; or 48 months for junior athletes		Athletes have progressed through a reliable talent confirmation period and been placed within a dedicated national development program.	Athletes must be considered capable of progression to at least Podium Potential level categorisation within [up to 10 years from first categorisation]. Included at the discretion of the Categorisation Panel	Changed to make criteria very clear. Timeframes significantly reduced to reflect trends in international performance. New references to IPP, DPE and APS included
Representative	By achieving senior WC/BME selection/standards in the past 12 months, Representative athletes have demonstrated their potential to: Compete for Olympic/Paralympic quotas through Oceania; and/or Achieve AUS Team nomination for LA 2028			N/A	New category introduced in 2025



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DESCRIPTIVE CRITERIA	2026-2028		2021-2025		Comments
	Primary	Secondary	Primary	Secondary	
Emerging	Focussing on Junior Able and Para Talent Transfer, Emerging athletes have demonstrated improvement in their APS in the past 12 months and are considered capable of AUS Team selection for [Junior - Senior WC or BME within the next 24 months] and [Para Talent Transfer - WSPS WC or BME within the next 12 months]	IPP that clearly addresses gaps to Developing based on WITTW. Prioritised time and engagement in HP DPE. Progression of APS	Athletes have been identified by the NSO via a valid and reliable TID profiling method (agreed in advance with future Podium Potential characteristics identified) and are going through a set time-limited period [up to 4 years from first categorisation] of talent confirmation	Included at the discretion of the Categorisation Panel	Changed to make criteria clear. Timeframes significantly reduced to reflect trends in international performance. New references to IPP, DPE and APS included
Future Emerging	Focussing on Junior Able and Para Talent Transfer, Future Emerging athletes have demonstrated improvement in their APS in the past 12 months and are considered capable of AUS Team selection for [Junior or WSPS respectively] WC or BME within the next 24 months		N/A		New category introduced in 2025