



SA SHOW JUMPING

2026 PONY RIDER TRI-NATIONS

SELECTION POLICY

("Selection Policy")

1. OVERVIEW

This Selection Policy sets out the principles, procedures and criteria applied by SA Show Jumping ("SASJ"), a discipline of the South African Equestrian Federation ("SAEF"), for the fair, transparent and objective selection of Athletes to represent the Republic of South Africa at the 2026 Pony Rider Tri-Nations.

The objective of this Selection Policy is to achieve the best competitive outcome possible while ensuring compliance with all applicable SAEF, FEI, SASCOC and horse/pony welfare regulations, and upholding the values of integrity, sportsmanship and team cohesion.

2. DEFINITIONS

Athlete	Means the combination of a rider and a pony but may also refer to the rider or the pony individually where the context so requires.
Pony	Means an equine measuring 148 centimeters or less in height without shoes, as determined in accordance with FEI Measuring Regulations.
SA Show Jumping / SASJ	Means South Africa Show Jumping.
SASJ Team	Means the Athletes selected to represent South Africa at the 2026 Pony Rider Tri-Nations - The team will consist of up to four (4) combinations (with a minimum of three [3]) plus one [1] reserve athlete.
FEI	Means the Fédération Équestre Internationale.
SAEF	Means the South African Equestrian Federation.
SASCOC	Means the South African Sports Confederation and Olympic Committee.
Selectors	Means the persons duly appointed by SASJ to select the SASJ Team.
Selection Process	Means the process conducted during the Selection Period, commencing on 11 March 2026 and continuing until the final selection is made by 30 April 2026, or as otherwise determined by SASJ.

3. OBJECTIVE

The objective of the Selectors is to identify and select Athletes who are, in their considered and unbiased opinion, suitable representatives of South Africa and best positioned to achieve competitive success at the 2026 Pony Rider Tri-Nations.

In achieving this objective, the Selectors shall ensure that selected Athletes conduct themselves with dignity, propriety and sportsmanship, adhere strictly to all applicable welfare standards, and contribute positively to a cohesive team environment.

4. ELIGIBILITY AND COMPLIANCE

Any Athlete wishing to be considered for selection must, as a minimum:

- Be eligible to compete for South Africa in accordance with FEI General Regulations, including Article 119.
- Be duly registered with SASJ and SAEF and in good standing.
- Be a South African citizen and in possession of a valid South African passport.
- Be ordinarily resident in South Africa, unless otherwise approved by SASJ.
- Meet the FEI age requirements for Pony Riders, being eligible from the beginning of the calendar year in which the rider turns 12 (twelve) until the end of the calendar year in which the rider turns 16 (sixteen).
- All Athletes must have performed consistently well at Pony Rider Open level (1.10m and above) in order to be considered for selection.
- Have no disciplinary proceedings pending at the time of selection or during the Selection Process.
- Meet all pony and rider qualification requirements as determined by SASJ and the Selectors.
- Be in appropriate medical and veterinary condition to compete.
- Have signed all mandatory agreements by the published cut-off dates.
- Be available for required clinics, briefings, team activities and functions.
- Be fully committed to attending designated selection events.
- All athletes and officials are required to comply fully with the SAEF Dress Code. Adherence to the Dress Code is a mandatory condition of eligibility and participation in all events governed by these Selection Criteria.
- As a condition of final confirmation of selection for the Pony Rider Tri-Nations, each athlete hereby agrees and undertakes to present their pony for official measurement at the designated measuring session to be conducted at the Easter Festival. Attendance at this session is compulsory.

5. BORROWED PONIES

- The Pony Rider Tri-Nations shall be conducted using borrowed ponies.
- Each selected S.A. Team athlete shall provide a suitable pony, subject to approval by the Selectors.
- Selected athletes must agree that such pony may be included in the official team pony draw.

6. SELECTION COMMITTEE

Convenor: Kate Launder

Selectors: Lisa Williams

Brendan McNevin

Tracey Carney

- The Selection Committee shall be appointed by the SASJ Executive Committee.
- Selectors shall be individuals of appropriate experience and standing.
- Selectors must act independently, impartially and transparently.
- The committee shall consist of a minimum of three (3) and a maximum of five (5) Selectors, together with a Convenor.
- Selectors and the Convenor may participate in the Selection Process in person and/or via approved video or livestream review.

7. SELECTION CRITERIA

To be eligible for selection, Athletes must:

1. Be a current SASJ members in good standing.
2. Submit a duly completed Expression of Interest by the published deadline.
3. Acknowledge and comply with the SASJ Code of Conduct.
4. Have committed no anti-doping violation within the preceding twenty-four (24) months, as defined by SAIDS and/or WADA.
5. Be physically and mentally fit to compete at the required standard.
6. Not have acted in any manner that has brought SASJ, the sport, or South Africa into disrepute.
7. Acknowledge that selection is based on merit and is a privilege, not a right.
8. Accept that selection is not based solely on points or placings.
9. Demonstrate consistency, appropriate temperament, and team compatibility.
10. Commit irrevocably to participation if selected.

8. SELECTION PROCESS

- Additional selection criteria, if any, shall be published in advance.
- Performances at designated selection events shall be considered.
- Athletes must be willing to participate in training activities, including riding unfamiliar ponies where required.
- Athletes must comply at all times with applicable anti-doping, conduct and welfare regulations.

9. SELECTION EVENTS

1. 2026 Presidents Cup – Maple Ridge
2. 2026 Easter Festival – Kyalami Park

10. SELECTORS' EVALUATION PROCESS

Selectors may consider, inter alia:

- Performance at designated selection events.
- Quality and effectiveness of riding.
- Consistency and reliability.
- Ability to perform under pressure.
- Adaptability when riding different ponies.
- Contribution to a positive team culture.

Any Selector with a conflict of interest must recuse themselves from relevant deliberations.

11. CONFIDENTIALITY

All information relating to the Selection Process shall be treated as strictly confidential by all parties involved.

12. CODE OF CONDUCT

Selected Athletes must sign the Team Member Agreement prior to competing and comply at all times with SASJ, SAEF, FEI and WADA rules, including equine anti-doping and medication control regulations. The SASJ Social Media Policy shall apply at all times.

13. EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES

In exceptional circumstances, including injury or illness, the Selectors may reasonably waive or modify aspects of this Selection Policy in order to achieve its stated objectives, however this decision shall vest within the Selectors discretion exclusively.

14. COMMUNICATION

This Selection Policy shall be published on the SASJ website and administered by the Convenor of the Selection Committee.

15. APPEALS

15.1 An Athlete may appeal their non-selection only on the grounds that this Selection Policy was not properly applied.

15.2 No appeal shall be permitted against the merits of the selection decision.

15.3 Any appeal must be lodged in writing with the SA Show Jumping National Office within three (3) working days of the announcement of the SASJ Team.

15.4 Appeals shall be dealt with in accordance with the SASJ Constitution and applicable SAEF procedures.

ADDENDUM TO SELECTION POLICY

SA SHOW JUMPING

2026 PONY RIDER TRI-NATIONS (NOW PONY RIDER NATIONS CUP)

This Addendum must be read together with, and forms part of, the original Selection Policy.

1. EVENT AMENDMENT

Due to the postponement of the originally scheduled event dates, the 2026 Pony Rider Tri-Nations has been rescheduled as follows:

Event: Pony Rider Nations Cup
Dates: 25 – 28 November 2026
Venue: Steyn City Equestrian Centre, South Africa

All references in the Selection Policy to the “Pony Rider Tri-Nations” shall henceforth be interpreted as referring to the Pony Rider Nations Cup.

2. SELECTION PROCESS PERIOD

Section 2 is hereby amended to include: “Selection Process: Means the process conducting during the Selection Period, commencing on 11 March 2026 and concluding after the final selection event.”

3. ELIGIBILITY AND COMPLIANCE

Section 4 is hereby amended to include:

- As a condition of final confirmation of selection for the Pony Rider Nations Cup, each athlete hereby agrees and undertakes to present their pony for official FEI measurement at the measuring session to be conducted the day before the start of the Maple Ridge Youth Extravaganza, at the measuring station on the grounds of Kyalami Equestrian Centre. Attendance by all ponies at this session is compulsory.
- The submitted Expression of Interest confirms the above.

4. FORMAT CHANGE – NO BORROWED PONIES

Section 5 of the Selection Policy is hereby deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

“5. PONIES

- The Pony Rider Nations Cup shall be conducted on riders’ own ponies.
- Each Athlete must present and compete on their nominated pony for the duration of the event. No pony draw or borrowed pony format shall apply.

Pony Pool Requirement for Visiting Nations

- As a condition of final selection, selected Athletes are required to make a suitable pony available for inclusion in a pony pool to be leased for visiting international athletes participating in the 2026 Pony Rider Nations Cup.
- Any pony provided must:
 - Be approved by the SASJ Selection Committee;
 - Comply with FEI measuring protocols and meet all applicable competition, welfare, veterinary, and soundness standards; and
 - Be suitable in temperament and experience.
- The Selection Committee reserves the right to reject any pony that, in its sole discretion, does not meet the required standards.
- SASJ shall determine and communicate all terms relating to leasing, insurance, management, veterinary responsibilities, and welfare protocols applicable to such pony pool arrangements.
- Athletes acknowledge and agree that compliance with this requirement forms part of their obligations as selected team members and supports the successful hosting and international integrity of the event.”

5. TECHNICAL REQUIREMENT – WATER JUMP

In addition to all existing performance criteria, the following requirement shall apply:

- “All ponies must comfortably and consistently jump a water jump, as this obstacle will form part of the Pony Rider Nations Cup competition.
- Selectors shall take demonstrated competence over a water jump into account when evaluating combinations.”

6. ADDITIONAL SELECTION EVENTS

Section 9 is hereby amended to add the following additional events:

“3. “DSC KZN South African Youth Championships

29 June – 5 July 2026

4. Maple Ridge Youth Extravaganza

24 – 27 September 2026

Performances at these events will be considered by the Selectors as part of the overall evaluation process.”

8. EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)

Expressions of Interest (EOIs) are reopened and must be submitted no later than **28 June 2026**.

9. GENERAL

All other provisions of the Selection Policy remain unchanged and in full force and effect.

In the event of any inconsistency between this Addendum and the original Selection Policy, this Addendum shall prevail.