



**SAEF ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR THE SELECTION OF THE RSA TEAM**

**For The**

**WORLD EQUESTRIAN GAMES 2018**

**MILL SPRING, NC, USA**

## 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. The South African Equestrian Federation (SAEF) will through its member Discipline Associations (DA) qualify and select athletes to represent South Africa at the 2018 World Equestrian Games (WEG 18) to be held in the USA from the 11th September 2018 to the 23rd September 2018.
- 1.2. This document details the SAEF's Eligibility Criteria for the selection of athletes for the SAEF's Team South Africa (Team SA) for WEG18. These criteria satisfy the eligibility requirements of both the SAEF and SASCOC for the award of Protea Colours. The respective DA's may have additional eligibility requirements for the selection of their athletes/combinations for WEG18.
- 1.3. The DA's will select athletes/combinations based on their respective DA Selection documents for WEG18. These selections will then be put forward to the SAEF for consideration for the SAEF's Team SA. The SAEF's final Team SA selection will not be based on technical criteria, but based on the SAEF's eligibility criteria, and whether due process has been followed by the respective DA's in nominating such athletes/combinations.

## 2. OBJECTIVE

- 2.1. Whilst the primary objective of participating at WEG 18 is to achieve the best possible results (both team and individual), the SAEF has also set the following secondary objectives for participating at WEG 18:
- 2.2. To streamline and document the administrative, logistics and selection processes for participating at major international events such as the World Equestrian Games, the Olympic Games etc.
- 2.3. To benchmark the performance level of FEI equestrian sport in South Africa against the level of other nations, to establish the base level for long term development plans etc.
- 2.4. To allow the athletes, support teams and officials of Team South Africa (Team SA) to interact with their peers from other nations
- 2.5. The Selection Process to be followed by each DA will select the athletes and horses to best achieve the primary and secondary objectives.

## 3. ELIGIBILITY FOR SELECTION FOR TEAM SOUTH AFRICA

- 3.1. While each of the DA's may have their own specific eligibility criteria, for an athlete to be eligible for selection for Team SA they must at the commencement of the selection process (i.e. Expression of Interest cut-off date):
  - 3.1.1. Be a South African citizen
  - 3.1.2. Be the holder of a valid and current South African passport, and must meet the requirements necessary to obtain a valid USA Visa for the duration of WEG 18.
  - 3.1.3. Be eligible to compete for South Africa as per FEI regulations Art 119
  - 3.1.4. Be a registered member of the SAEF.
  - 3.1.5. Be a current member in good standing of the Discipline Association for which they wish to be considered for selection.
  - 3.1.6. Compete on a horse that is registered with the SAEF.
  - 3.1.7. Have competed or plan to compete at the respective DA South African National Championships for Individuals and/or Teams.

In order to be Eligible for Selection for the SAEF Team SA, the athlete selected by the DA must have competed at the DA Individual or Team South African Championships event during the FEI's qualifying period for WEG 18 (i.e. 1 January 2017 to 13 August 2018). The requirement is to compete at the SA Championships event, i.e. not necessarily in the main class of the event.
  - 3.1.8. Satisfy the FEI discipline specific minimum eligibility criteria (within the timeframe published by the FEI) for the discipline that the athlete wishes to be considered for.

- 3.1.9. Be able to attend and participate in training clinics and camps as notified in writing, unless a written exemption has been granted by the SAEF, in response to a timely written request from the athlete for an exemption.
  - 3.1.10. Be willing to make their horse(s) available for examination at a time and location reasonably requested by the Team Vet and accept and implement the reasonable recommendations made by the Team Vet.
  - 3.1.11. For a period of 24 months preceding the commencement of WEG 18 not have used, administered, or allow to be administered any substance that, if it had been detected as being present in the Athlete's or Horse's body tissue or fluids, would have constituted a positive drug violation as defined by the South African Institute for Drug-Free Sport ("SAIDS") and/or the World Anti-Doping Agency ("WADA"), and/or the SAEF Anti-Doping Policy, unless such medication was necessary and administered by a veterinarian and was duly recorded and the required authorities notified.
  - 3.1.12. Demonstrate to the satisfaction of the SAEF that they or their horse(s) are not suffering any physical or mental impairment that would prevent them from competing at WEG 18 to the highest possible standard, including the passing of a medical examination to the satisfaction of a suitably qualified medical practitioner appointed by the SAEF
  - 3.1.13. Be willing to sign the SAEF National Team Athletes agreement by the published cut-off date
  - 3.1.14. Have acted at all times during the qualifying period (i.e. from 1 January 2017), up to and during the event (WEG18) in such a manner so as to not bring the athlete, the DA or the SAEF into public disrepute or censure.
  - 3.1.15. Satisfy any additional preconditions advised in writing to the athlete by the SAEF prior to or at the time of selection for WEG Nominated Entries
- 3.2. For Horses to be eligible for selection for Team SA, all horses must:
- 3.2.1. Be registered with the SAEF
  - 3.2.2. At a date to be determined have passed a veterinary examination to the satisfaction of the Team Vet
  - 3.2.3. Not have breached the requirements of the SAEF or FEI Anti-Doping and Medication Control policies during the WEG 2018 qualifying period (i.e. from 1 January 2017), unless such medication used was necessary and prescribed for treatment, administered by a veterinarian, duly recorded and the required authorities notified.
  - 3.2.4. Be made available for selection by their owner/s signing a copy of the SAEF Horse Owner Agreement

#### **4. DISPUTE RESOLUTION**

- 4.1. In the event of any form of dispute the athlete is to follow the dispute resolution process as per the constitution of the Discipline Association that the athlete is a member of.
- 4.2. Only when all the dispute resolution processes of the athlete's Discipline Association have been concluded may the athlete escalate the matter to the SAEF.
- 4.3. A horse owner (unless also the nominated athlete for that athlete horse combination) may not raise any form of dispute with the SAEF or its members.
- 4.4. The Discipline Association Constitutions are at all times subordinate to the SAEF Constitution