



## **SA Show Jumping ("Selection Policy")**

### **FEI CSIO3\* NATIONS CUP TEAM EVENT**

**21-24 May 2026**

**LISBON (PORTUGAL)**

#### **1. OVERVIEW**

This Selection Policy ("Policy") shall apply to the selection of athletes to represent the Republic of South Africa at FEI CSIO Nations Cup competitions.

#### **2. DEFINITIONS**

<b>Athlete</b>	Refers to the rider. Selection is made on the basis of horse-and-rider combination
<b>SASJ</b>	South Africa Show Jumping
<b>SASJ Squad</b>	Athletes and horses selected to remain under consideration for selection
<b>SASJ Team</b>	A Nations Cup squad of up to five (5) horse-and-rider combinations, with a minimum of three (3), from which four (4) combinations will be selected to compete in the Nations Cup Team Competition, with one (1) combination designated as reserve at the Event.
<b>SASJ Individual Athlete</b>	Up to two (2) individual combinations may be selected
<b>SAEF</b>	South African Equestrian Federation
<b>SASCOC</b>	South African Sports Confederation and Olympic Committee
<b>FEI</b>	Fédération Équestre Internationale
<b>CSIO</b>	Concours de Saut International Officiel
<b>WADA</b>	World Anti-Doping Agency
<b>Selectors</b>	The appointed individuals responsible for evaluating and selecting combinations
<b>Chef d'Équipe</b>	The team manager responsible for operational team decisions at the Event



### **3. OBJECTIVE**

The objective of the Selectors is to select athletes capable of representing South Africa at the highest level with the aim of achieving optimal team performance. Selection shall prioritise sporting merit while ensuring professionalism, integrity, horse welfare, and contribution to a positive team environment.

### **4. ELIGIBILITY AND COMPLIANCE**

Any athlete wishing to be considered for selection must meet, at a minimum, the following requirements:

- Be a registered member in good standing with both SASJ and SAEF;
- Be a citizen of the Republic of South Africa and hold a valid RSA passport;
- Be eligible to compete for South Africa under FEI General Regulations (Article 119);
- Have no criminal convictions or pending criminal charges that may reasonably bring the sport, SASJ, or the athlete into disrepute;
- Not be subject to any pending disciplinary proceedings at the time of selection or during any material period of the Selection Process;
- Submit a duly completed Expression of Interest (EOI) form, along with the relevant horse(s);
- Acknowledge that selection is based on horse-and-rider combinations;
- Hold the appropriate qualifications for both athlete and horse;
- Meet the applicable age requirements for the 2026 FEI CSIO Nations Cup;
- Be in an approved medical and veterinary condition;
- Have signed all agreements as required by SASJ;
- Be available to attend all required clinics, training sessions, briefings, and official functions; and
- Comply fully with the SAEF Dress Code, which constitutes a mandatory condition of eligibility and participation.

### **5. SELECTION COMMITTEE**

- Appointment: The Selection Committee shall be appointed by the SASJ Executive.
- Requirements: Members must be of good standing, possess the requisite expertise and experience, and perform their duties impartially, independently, and transparently.
- Composition: The committee will 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 virtual platforms.



The selection committee will be made up of the following members:

- Lisa Williams – Chairperson and Selector
- Barry Taylor – Selector
- Dominey Alexander – Selector
- Kate Launder – Convenor

## **6. GENERAL SELECTION PRE-CONDITIONS**

Throughout the Selection Process, all athletes must:

- Undertake any training and competition programmes reasonably required by the Selectors, unless a written exemption is granted by SASJ following a timely request.
- Make their horse(s) available for examination at a reasonable time and location as requested by the Selectors or the Team Veterinarian and accept and implement any reasonable recommendations.
- Provide accurate and current information to SASJ when required.
- Comply with any additional conditions communicated in writing by SASJ prior to or at the time of selection.
- Notify SASJ immediately of any injury, illness, or condition affecting athlete or horse performance; and
- Confirm that they have obtained the consent of the horse owner(s).

For the avoidance of doubt, the selection relationship exists solely between SASJ and the athlete, and SASJ will not be required to engage directly with horse owners in the selection process.

## **7. SELECTION CRITERIA AND EVALUATION FRAMEWORK**

Selectors will evaluate combinations based on:

- FEI and comparable high-level competition results
- Consistency of performance and current form
- Ability to perform under Nations Cup pressure
- Horse suitability for championship format (including water jump capability)
- Technical difficulty of events
- Fault profile, reliability, and performance stability
- Team compatibility and contribution

Head-to-head results may be considered but are not determinative.

Each Selector shall compile an independent merit assessment. Conflicts of interest must be declared and managed appropriately.

All deliberations shall be recorded. The Convenor shall oversee process integrity and resolve procedural uncertainty. In the event of a deadlock, the Convenor holds the casting vote.



The Selection Committee shall select the strongest possible team with the objective of achieving the best possible competitive result.

The Selection Committee's decision shall be final, subject only to the appeal provisions contained in this Policy.

All proceedings are strictly confidential.

### **7.1 PERFORMANCE CONSIDERATION AND SELECTOR DISCRETION**

Selection will be based on performances achieved at competitions deemed by the Selectors to be of an appropriate standard and relevance to the Event. No fixed qualification period will apply; however, particular emphasis will be placed on recent form, consistency, and proven ability at Nations Cup level.

Selectors may determine the relevance and weighting of results, considering:

- Level and classification of competition
- Course difficulty and technical demands
- Overall consistency and reliability

### **7.2 EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES**

Selectors may, at their discretion, take into account exceptional circumstances affecting competition availability or continuity of results.

Such circumstances may include:

- International travel or relocation
- Quarantine or import/export restrictions
- Transition between competition regions (including Southern Hemisphere to Europe)
- Injury, rehabilitation, or veterinary management
- Any other factor beyond the athlete's reasonable control

In such cases, prior performances may be weighted where they demonstrate proven ability at the required standard.

## **8. SELECTION REQUIREMENTS AND CONDUCT**

Athletes must:

- Not have committed anti-doping violations under SAIDS/WADA in the past 24 months
- Be medically and psychologically fit to compete
- Maintain conduct consistent with representing South Africa
- Understand selection is merit-based and not a right
- Commit to availability if selected
- Accept Selector discretion in final selection decisions
- Comply with SASJ, SAEF, SASCOC, and FEI rules
- Participate in required preparation programs



Selectors shall be responsible for selecting combinations based on performance, suitability, and team objectives.

## **9. TEAM AND INDIVIDUAL SELECTION**

- The squad shall comprise a minimum of three (3) and a maximum of five (5) horse-and-rider combinations. Four (4) combinations will be nominated to compete in the Nations Cup Team Competition, with the reserve combination to be determined at the Event by the Chef d'Équipe.
- Up to two (2) individual combinations may be selected
- SASJ reserves the right to determine final team vs individual representation

## **10. CHEF D'ÉQUIPE ROLE AT COMPETITION**

The Chef d'Équipe shall have operational authority at the Event to determine the final competition order of the selected combinations, including determining starting order and designating the reserve combination from the selected squad at the event, but shall not alter or override selection decisions.

The Chef d'Équipe's decisions at the Event shall not constitute selection decisions but shall relate solely to the management and execution of the team already selected and ratified.

## **11. CODE OF CONDUCT**

Selectors will consider:

- Professional conduct and sportsmanship
- Commitment to team objectives
- Compliance with doping and veterinary regulations
- Participation in team preparation and communication
- Contribution to team cohesion and reputation

## **12. CONFIDENTIALITY**

All information relating to selection is strictly confidential. No Selector, official, or stakeholder may disclose deliberations or outcomes prior to official announcement.

## **13. COMMUNICATION**

This Policy will be published on the SASJ website and available via the SASJ National Office. All queries must be directed at the Convenor.

## **14. RIGHT TO AMEND AND INTERPRET**

SASJ reserves the right to:

- Amend, vary, or withdraw this Policy where reasonably necessary
- Interpret provisions where ambiguity arises



**Any amendments must be:**

- Approved by the SASJ Executive
- Communicated to affected athletes as soon as reasonably practicable

Interpretation decisions by SASJ shall be final and binding, subject only to this Policy's appeal process.

**15. FORCE MAJEURE**

SASJ shall not be held responsible for any failure or delay in fulfilling its obligations under this Selection Policy where such failure arises from events beyond its reasonable control, including but not limited to:

- Acts of God;
- Disease outbreaks affecting horses or humans;
- Government restrictions or regulatory changes;
- Cancellation or rescheduling of events; or
- Any other unforeseen circumstance.

In such circumstances, SASJ reserves the right to:

- Amend selection criteria;
- Substitute selection events; or
- Make selection decisions based on available performance data and expert discretion.

**16. APPEALS**

16.1 Appeals are limited to incorrect application of this Policy.

16.2 No appeal shall be permitted against selection merit or discretionary judgment, provided that the Selection Policy has been correctly applied and due process has been followed.

16.3 Appeals must be submitted within three (3) working days of announcement.

16.4 Appeals will be heard in accordance with the SASJ Constitution and SAEF procedures.

16.5 Appeal outcomes shall be final and binding.

**17. TIMELINE**

SASJ reserves the right to amend timelines where operationally necessary.

- Expression of Interest Submission Deadline: Friday 24 April 2026 (No later than 16h00)
- Final Team Announcement No Later Than: Friday 24 April 2026
- Athlete Agreement Submission Deadline: Thursday 30 April 2026