



## **SOUTH AFRICA SHOWJUMPING NATIONS CUP SELECTION POLICY**

### **1. INTRODUCTION**

This Selection Policy (“Policy”) covers selection of riders to jump on South African National Teams for FEI 3\*, FEI 4\* and FEI 5\* Nations Cup Shows.

### **2. ACRONYMS**

- |     |               |   |
|-----|---------------|---|
| 2.1 | <b>SASJ</b>   | South African Show Jumping South Africa                   |
| 2.2 | <b>FEI</b>    | Federation Equestre Internationale                        |
| 2.3 | <b>SAEF</b>   | South African Equestrian Federation.                      |
| 2.4 | <b>SASCOC</b> | South African Sports Confederation and Olympic Committee. |
| 2.5 | <b>WADA</b>   | World Anti-Doping Agency.                                 |

### **3. OBJECTIVE**

- 3.1 The objective of the Selection Committee is to choose horse and rider combinations who are worthy representatives for South Africa and who will conduct themselves with propriety – do their best to win the Nations Cup competition whilst conforming to the code of welfare for their horse and good team spirit.

### **4. SELECTION COMMITTEE**

- 4.1 The Selection Committee is made up of the following persons;
- |       |               |   |   |
|-------|---------------|---|---|
| 4.1.1 | Lisa Williams | - | Chairperson of the Selection Committee and Selector |
| 4.1.2 | Barry Taylor  | - | Selector  |
| 4.1.3 | Gonda Beatrix | - | Selector  |
| 4.1.4 | Kate Launder  | - | Convener  |

## **5. SELECTION**

- 5.1 The Selection Committee which can change from time to time, will select the horse and rider combinations to compete at any FEI 3\*, FEI 4\* or FEI 5\* Nations Cup shows as a part of an official National Team for South Africa.
- 5.2 Subject to the limited right of appeal set out below, the Selection Committee's decision is final, and no correspondence shall be entered into in this regard.
- 5.3 Riders may not engage with the Selection Committee directly regarding matters pertaining to the selection process, however they may direct any queries and/or concerns in writing to the Convener.
- 5.3 Any riders who are selected to compete as part of a National Team for South Africa and who do in fact compete at a Nations Cup show, may be eligible for National Showjumping Colours upon application to SASCO.

## **6. APPEALS**

- 6.1 Appeals concerning the non-selection of any horse and rider combination for a South African Nations Cup Team will be heard by an SAEF Appeal Committee.
- 6.2 There will be one level of appeal only with the sole grounds for an Appeal being that the selection process was procedurally flawed and was therefore not compliant with the Selection Policy.
- 6.3 Only Athletes may appeal their non-selection.
- 6.4 An Athlete must lodge their notice of intention to appeal in writing with the Executive Committee of South Africa Show Jumping within three (3) working days from the date of the announcement of the Selection Committee's decision.

## **7. ELIGIBILITY/AVAILABILITY FOR CONSIDERATION**

- 7.1 The Selection Committee must ensure that each athlete available for selection is eligible to represent South Africa including being:
  - 7.1.1 The athlete is a citizen of the Republic of South Africa and holds a current valid South African passport and is eligible under the FEI Sport Nationality regulations article 119;
  - 7.1.2 The athlete does not have a criminal conviction and has not been charged with any criminal wrongdoing;
  - 7.1.3 The athlete is a full member in good standing of SASJ and has been granted a license by the National Federation of the Republic of South Africa to compete in international events in accordance with Articles 113 and 117 of the FEI General Regulations and any minimum performance standard as required per event;
  - 7.1.4 Eligible under any applicable anti-doping code (i.e. not be serving a competition ban as a result of a proven doping or controlled medication violation, or other breach of ethical conduct, etc.

- 7.1.5 In order to ensure the transparency and fairness of the selection process, all eligible riders must be afforded sufficient opportunity to submit an expression of interest form enabling them to be considered for selection.
- 7.1.6 Unless otherwise agreed to in writing, any and all costs necessarily incurred for any horse and rider combination to compete in a Nations Cup show shall be covered exclusively by the rider.

## **8. SELECTION CRITERIA**

### **8.1 MINIMUM SELECTION CRITERIA**

- 8.1.1 In order for a horse and rider combination to be selected to represent South Africa on a Nations Cup Team at a FEI 3\* show, the horse and rider combination must have completed at least 3 (Three) FEI 3\* 1.50m (or equivalent) rounds with 8 faults or less in FEI 3\* 1.50m (or equivalent) Ranking Classes or Grand Prix Classes the immediately preceding 3 months.
- 8.1.2 In order for a horse and rider combination to be selected to represent South Africa on a Nations Cup Team at a FEI 4\* show, the horse and rider combination must have completed at least 3 (Three) FEI 4\* 1.50m (or equivalent) rounds with 8 faults or less in FEI 4\* 1.50m (or equivalent) Ranking Classes or Grand Prix Classes the immediately preceding 3 months.
- 8.1.3 In order for a horse and rider combination to be selected to represent South Africa on a Nations Cup Team at a FEI 5\* show, the horse and rider combination must have completed at least 3 (Three) FEI 5\* 1.50m rounds with 8 faults or less in FEI 5\* 1.50m (or equivalent) Ranking Classes or Grand Prix Classes the immediately preceding 3 months.

### **8.2 GENERAL SELECTION CRITERIA**

- 8.2.1 The Selectors will take the following criteria into account when making their decisions and have due regard to the relevant statistical evidence available to them. Some international shows will only accept athletes who are highly positioned on the World Rankings; therefore this may restrict the Selection Committee's choice for certain competitions.
- 8.2.2 The athlete/horse combination's results will be a prime factor in selection but weighting will be given to the standing of the competition, the difficulty of the courses, the surface and conditions, the competitiveness of the fields and the rate of progress of the combination. The Selectors will monitor the results from International Shows.
- 8.2.3 The physical conditions in which the Shows will be held and the potential impact of those conditions on the athlete/horse combinations' performance.
- 8.2.4 The fitness and soundness of the horse. The advice of a duly appointed Team Veterinary surgeon or another Veterinary surgeon may be sought. Athletes are obliged to notify the Selectors of any change in their horse's health status at any time after selection.
- 8.2.5 The fitness of athletes to compete to their full potential. The professional opinion of an independent medical practitioner may be sought to verify the fitness of the athlete for selection. Athletes are obliged to notify the Selectors of any change in their health status at any time after selection.

- 8.2.6 The willingness and demonstration of the athlete and their accredited owners, grooms, coaches, home teams or others that may be assisting to contribute positively to the Team environment on and off the field of play.
- 8.2.7 Ability to produce peak performances in conditions similar to the relevant Nations Cup show.
- 8.2.8 Athlete's results on their other horses.
- 8.2.9 The Selectors may ask athletes and horses to participate in specific training, tests or competitions where they deem this appropriate and necessary prior to selection and the Chairperson of the Selection Committee will inform the athletes concerned of the details regarding these requirements. Failure to participate may result in the athlete's selection being revoked.
- 8.2.10 The Selectors are encouraged to always select teams consisting of at least 4 (Four) eligible horse and rider combinations in order for a reserve rider to be available in the event of unforeseen circumstances preventing a horse and rider combination from competing.

## **9. CODE OF CONDUCT**

- 9.1 When selecting a Nations Cup Team, in addition to the statistical results, the Selection Committee will also take into consideration the willingness of the rider to co-operate with the development of excellence in the discipline, and maintenance and development of the reputation of the Team.
- 9.2 Each team rider may need to sign a Team Member Agreement before they are eligible to compete in any Nations Cup event.
- 9.3 Selection is subject to compliance with SASJ, SAEF, FEI and WADA rules on doping for athletes and FEI regulations on doping and medication control for equines.
- 9.4 The riders making themselves available for selection must be prepared to contribute towards maximizing their own and their Team's potential. This may include attending squad training sessions, assisting other riders through the benefit of their own experience with feedback, competition planning and communication.
- 9.5. No athlete/horse combination that is selected is entitled to withdraw from the show or any particular competition or event for any reason whatsoever, save for injury or illness of either the horse or the athlete which would, in the opinion of an independent veterinary surgeon or medical practitioner (as the case may be) appointed by SASJ, prevent the athlete/horse combination from competing.
- 9.6 SASJ Social medial Policy to always be followed.

## **10. CONFIDENTIALITY**

- 10.1 It is vitally important for the integrity of the selection process and out of respect for the athletes, owners, selectors, staff and other interested parties that there is at all times a high degree of confidentiality relating to information which may have a bearing on selection.
- 10.2 Any member of the Selection Committee, whether voting or non-voting, who breaks this confidentiality may be removed from the Selection Committee. All confidential information, conversations and discussions will be identified as such.

**11. COMMUNICATION**

- 11.1 The selection policy document will be published on the SASJ Website and is available from the SASJ Offices. Matters pertaining to team selection shall always be referred to the Convenor of the Selection Committee.