

SOUTHERN AFRICAN EVENTING SHIELD SERIES 2024



The concept behind this Series is to provide the opportunity for team competition in this developing sport. All participating countries should qualify for this final by holding a registered Southern African Eventing Shield in their country by the end of September 2024.

The Africa Eventing Shield is the entry level team competition leading to the higher-level team competition. Competitions will be run by Group IX nations.

COMPETITION LEVEL

This competition can take place at a nominated level that is suitable for the host Federation and those participating Nations. The 2024 Series will be run at the 85cm cross country Eventing level. The competition will be run under the National Rules of the host nation and be incorporated as part of the National Class for 85cm. Qualifying criteria for the class will be a registered national event (s) in each Federation at the same level or higher prior to travel to the final.

If the participating Nation is hosting a Southern African Eventing Cup event, it is strongly recommended that the Southern African Eventing Shield is incorporated in this event to foster the team spirit at both levels.

REGISTRATION OF THE FINAL

Where possible, it is recommended that the host Nation register the intention to host the final by 1st October the preceding year, with some proposed dates to assist in the calendar, but this is not essential. It should be noted that the further in advance the intention to participate is registered, the greater time it gives the participating Nations time to prepare.

A schedule prepared by the host Nation must be circulated to all Presidents and Secretary Generals of Group IX Nations at least 30 days prior to the event via the **FEI Group IX platform**. The Host Nation must specify the rules of the event, and this will be considered as the final schedule and cannot then be changed.

PROPOSED FINALS

REGISTRATION OF QUALIFICATION EVENTS

To participate in the final, the participating Nations must have held qualification events in their home nations. An NF can register from 1 to 6 qualification events. The dates and venues of the qualification events must be sent to the Chair of Group IX, preferably before the 1st of January of the year in question, but at least 14 days prior to the event. No qualification event can be held within 14 days of the final.

RESULT OF QUALIFICATION EVENTS

Signed results of the qualification events must be submitted to the Group IX Chair within 7 days of the qualification event and be acknowledged as accepted to be a valid qualification. Only the results of the qualification and not the entire event should be submitted. The Group IX Chair will circulate a list of qualified athletes from time to time.

QUALIFICATION SYSTEM

No rider will be able to participate in the final without the following qualifications criteria.

1. If participating on your own horse in the final, should be a horse rider combination
2. If participating on a leased/loaned/borrowed horse, need a rider qualification only
3. A clear round on the cross country at 85cm or higher is essential
4. 8 penalties or less on the showjumping round at 80cm is essential at the same event
5. A dressage score of the equivalent of 60% or more is essential at the same event.

PARTICIPATION

Team: The Teams will be composed of 3 or 4 Athletes from the same nation. Nations may register a maximum of 2 teams if on their own horses, but only a single team if on leased/loaned/borrowed horses. If there is Team A and Team B, team members must be allocated at the same time the declaration is made. The team(s) should be declared to the OC of the event at least 7 days prior to the event (and can include one reserve) and the final 4 can be declared after the Horse Inspection or, if there is no horse inspection, 24 hours prior to the first class.

If an Athlete is competing on several horses, the Team Horse must start first.

Horses: The Team may participate on their own horses, loaned/leased/borrowed horses, or a combination of the 3. Borrowed horses will be done by draw from a pool of suitable horses provided by the OC and leased horses agreed with the owners. All will compete on equal terms. There are no restrictions on training on leased and borrowed horses prior to the event.

Borrowed and leased horses will also have to meet the qualification criteria outlined above to be eligible to compete in the final, albeit with a different rider.

Borrowed Horses: When teams participate on borrowed horses, the team horses should be drawn in the presence of the Chef d'Equip of each Nation. These horses can then be allocated to the team members as the Chef deems fit.

Minimum participation: A minimum of two teams must be entered and compete at each Event of the Series to validate the Event as the Africa Series (to be finalized by the entry date).

Scores to Count: The best 3 out of a possible 4 competition scores will count for the overall ranking for the teams.

Ages of Athletes: The year in which the athlete turns 12 and above

Ages of Horses: Must be registered with the National Federation and be 6 years old and above.

Nationality of Athletes: The athlete does not have to have FEI registration of the nation that he is competing for but must have been resident in this nation for a minimum of 6 months. Athletes with FEI nationality of the nation can always compete for that nation, and do not have to be resident in that nation.

Regional Participation:

- Participating Countries	RSA, ZIM, ZAM, NAM, ESW, KEN, BOT
- Dates	1 st January to 31 st December 2024
- Minimum Number of Qualification Events	1
- Maximum Number of Qualification Events	6
- Maximum Finals per country	1
- Types of Events	National Competition at 85cm

TEAM WINNER OF AFRICA SHEILD:

The overall nation that will be declared the winner of the Southern African Shield will be the one with the 3 best team scores at the declared final. A dropped score is allowed.

INDIVIDUAL WINNER:

An individual winner will be declared from the same class as the team winners. The individual may not necessary be part of a team, but an individual entry in the

class.

ENTRIES/DRAW OF NATIONS STARTING ORDER:

In accordance with FEI regulations, procedure and time shall be published in the Schedule of the Event.

PRIZE-MONEY

This is a Development Series, and prizes are at the discretion of the Host Federation. A specifically dedicated prize giving ceremony will take place at the final Event for the Series.

BRANDING

The event can incorporate the "SOUTHERN AFRICAN EVENTING SHIELD 2024". There is a Shield registered logo for each discipline in the Series. For the specific competition in each Nation, this logo can be used on all branding, advertising, flags, and clothing relating to the specific event.

SPONSORSHIP

Each Nation can use the event to raise sponsorship.

TRANSPORTATION OF HORSES

- Horse welfare here is paramount
- Everything possible should be done to guarantee the transportation process with the minimum of negative impact on the horses
- The type of trailers should be adequate for long distance travel
- All necessary papers should be to guarantee minimum processing time at the borders
- An attempt will be made at a regional level to aid NFs with their respective authorities to facilitate the process of entry and exit from each country to the next

ENTRY FEES

OCs are welcome to offer accommodation and meal vouchers. The entry requirements are those that are required to compete in any associated National competition. Normal entry fees will apply. It is recommended that no additional entry fee be charged for the Southern African Eventing Shield Competition. If charged, the prize money must reflect the additional Team entry fee.