

Selection Criteria- Republic of South Africa

Equestrian, Eventing

1 Definitions and Interpretation

1.1 Definitions

Unless otherwise defined below, capitalised terms in this Selection Criteria have the meaning given to them in the Eventing SA's proposed Selection Criteria, certain of which have been reproduced below for the sake of convenience.

Alternate Athlete and Reserve Horse has the meaning given in the Qualification System

Athlete means a person who:

- (a) participates in the Sport; and
- (b) is in good standing with ESA/SAEF.

Combination means an Athlete and Horse combination.

Eventing Selection Panel ("ESP") means the Panel of Selectors charged with the responsibility of selecting Combinations for selection to the Team.

Horse means the horse to be selected as part of a Combination.

Minimum Eligibility Requirements or MER has the meaning given in the Qualification System.

ESA means Eventing Association of South Africa ("ESA").

Selection Date means 27th July 2025.

Pre-Competition Change means a change of Combination that is made during the period between 1st January 2025 and 1st July 2025

Qualification Period means 1 January 2024 to 21st July 2025.

Team means the team of athletes and officials selected by the ESP to participate in the Sport at the Africa Cup and Shield.

1.2 Interpretation

- (a) Unless the context otherwise requires, reference to:
 - (i) a clause is to a clause of this Selection Criteria.
 - (ii) the singular includes the plural and the converse also applies.
 - (iii) persons include incorporated and unincorporated bodies, partnerships, joint ventures and associations and vice versa and their legal personal representatives, successors and permitted assigns and substitutes; and
 - (iv) a party includes the party's executors, administrators, successors and permitted assigns and substitutes.
- (b) If a person to whom this Selection Criteria applies consists of more than one person, then this Selection Criteria binds them jointly and severally.
- (c) A reference to time, day or date is to time, day or date of Johannesburg South Africa.
- (d) Headings are for convenience only and do not form part of this Selection Criteria or affect its interpretation.

2 General

2.1 This Selection Criteria is proposed by ESA. ESA must make this Selection Criteria available to all Athletes participating in the Sport, including by publishing this Selection Criteria on the ESA website.

2.2 ESA may only select Athletes in accordance with this Selection Criteria.

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2.3 This Selection Criteria will take effect on and from the date of publication on the ESA website and will cease to have effect at the conclusion of the Africa Cup & Shield.

2.4 This Selection Criteria applies to all athletes and owners of participating horses.

3 Athlete Quota Positions

3.1 ESA may only select Athletes for selection to the Team, pursuant to the Qualification System.

4 Eligibility Criteria

Athletes

- 4.1 ESA will not select an Athlete as part of a Combination unless, as at the Selection Date, ESA is satisfied on reasonable grounds that the Athlete:
- a) is a South African national/citizen;
 - b) is a paid up member of ESA, a valid club and SAEF;
 - c) satisfies the ESA Qualification System;
 - d) has not breached the Anti-Doping Laws, unless the Athlete has been sanctioned for the breach and has completed the sanction imposed; and
 - e) together with the Horse to be selected as part of the Combination, has achieved all of the Minimum Eligibility Requirements (**MER**) as set by this Selection Criteria;
 - f) together with the Horse, does not, and is not likely to in the foreseeable future, suffer from any physical or mental impairment that would prevent the Athlete from competing at the Africa Cup / Shield to the highest possible standard for that Athlete;
 - g) is willing to make the Horse available for examination at a time and location reasonably requested by the Team Veterinarian, or a veterinarian selected by the Team Veterinarian, and accept and implement the reasonable recommendations of the Team Veterinarian;
 - h) fulfils the requirements of always maintaining an up-to-date Medication Logbook;
 - i) provides accurate and up-to-date information of their whereabouts when requested to the ESA;
 - j) satisfies any reasonable additional precondition(s) prior to the Selection Date that have been advised in writing to the Athlete by the ESA; and
 - k) has acted at all times in such a manner (including in their use of social media), so as not to bring the Athlete, the discipline of Eventing or the ESA into public disrepute or censure.

Horses

- 4.2 ESA will not select a Horse as part of a Combination unless, at the Selection Date, ESA is satisfied on reasonable grounds that the Horse;
- (a) together with the Athlete to be selected as part of the Combination, has achieved all of the MER's as set by this Selection Criteria;
 - (b) together with the Athlete to be selected as part of the Combination, does not, and is not likely to in the foreseeable future, suffer from any physical or mental impairment that would prevent the Horse from competing at the Africa Cup/ Shield to the highest possible standard for that Horse;
 - (c) holds a current SAEF passport or FEI Recognition Card or passport;
 - (d) has been registered with the ESA as property of owners of South African Nationality;
 - (e) has been examined to the satisfaction of the Team Veterinarian (or veterinarian selected
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by the Team Veterinarian); and

- (f) is not subject to a current sanction under the ESA, SAEF or FEI Equine Anti-Doping and Controlled Medication Regulations.

Horse Owners

- 4.3 In order for a Combination to be considered for selection to the SAEF, ESA must receive from the owner(s) of the Horse a signed copy of the ESA Horse Owner Agreement at least one (1) week prior to the Selection Date.

5 Selection Criteria

Subjective Criteria

- 5.1 ESP will select eligible Athletes as part of a Combination who, in the opinion of the ESP:
- (a) will be most likely to achieve the highest competitive results at the Africa Cup/ Shield; and
 - (b) are, and will remain until the conclusion of the Africa Cup/ Shield, positive ambassadors for the Sport, ESA and SAEF.
- 5.2 For the purpose of assessing Combinations against the criteria in clauses 5.1(a), the ESP will consider the following competition, objective and discretionary factors in its discretion:
- (a) *Competition Factors*
 - (i) subject to clause 5.2(a)(iii), performances and results achieved by the Combination at competitions during the Qualification Period;
 - (ii) results achieved by the Combination that may be considered to demonstrate the experience of the Combination; and
 - (b) *Objective Factors*
 - (i) the final score (across all three phases of competition) of the Combination at the competitions set out in clause 5.2(a);
 - (ii) the scores achieved by the Combination in each individual phase of the competitions set out in clause 5.2(a);
 - (iii) the final placing of the Combination at the competitions set out in clause 5.2(a). For the avoidance of doubt, the final placing of each Combination at such competitions will not be determinative for the purposes of selection; and
 - (iv) additional data and analysis provided by ESA and external providers.
 - (c) *Discretionary Factors*
 - Specific**
 - (i) the performance of each Combination at the competitions set out in clause 5.2(a) in relation to the quality and number of competitors at each competition;
 - (ii) the technical features of each competition set out in clause 5.2(a), including but not limited to:
 - A. dressage judging (including the breakdown of scores across multiple judges);
 - B. cross-country fences and terrain;
 - C. the relative difficulty of the Show Jumping;
 - D. the quality of riding by an Athlete; and
 - E. the general conditions under which the Combination performed, such as weather, surface and footing.

Generic

- (iii) the suitability of the Combination for the expected conditions of the Africa Cup/ Shield.
- (iv) the role that an Alternate Athlete and Reserve Horse can play under the scoring system to be used at the Africa Cup/ Shield;
- (v) the overall balance of the Combinations that ESP proposes to select; and
- (vi) the ability and experience of the Combination to compete successfully during the Qualification Period. In determining the ability and experience of the Combination under this clause 5.2(c)(vi), the Eventing Selection Panel may consider any, all or none of the following factors in its discretion:
 - A. the demonstrated experience and/or success of the Combination;
 - B. the ability, or potential ability, of the Horse and/or Athlete in the Combination to perform under the stress and pressure;
 - C. the ability of the Athlete to prepare their Horse to be in peak condition for a major campaign;
 - D. the ability of the Athlete to contribute toward an effective team environment;
 - E. the Combination's consistency of performance during the Qualification Period; and

6 Alternate Athlete and Reserve Horse

- 6.1 ESA Selection Panel may identify one Combination as the Alternate Athlete and Reserve Horse (in addition to the three Combinations selected for selection). ESA, will decide whether or not to identify an Ap Alternate Athlete and Horse.
- 6.2 The Combination (if any) to be identified as the Alternate Athlete and Reserve Horse will be determined based on the criteria set out in clauses 5.1 to 5.3 above.
- 6.3 For the avoidance of doubt, the Combination selected as the Alternate Athlete and Reserve Horse will not be part of the Team unless, and until, they are selected to replace a previously selected Combination.

7 Appeals

- 7.1 A non-selected athlete may only appeal against their non-selection (**Selection Appeal**) in accordance with the procedure set out below.
- 7.2 Any Selection Appeal arising out of these Selection Criteria can be lodged to the SAEF Judicial Commission as per the Judicial Committee's Internal Regulations clause 1.2 of the Appeal Section.
"Any party aggrieved by the decision of a Member of the SAEF (either a Provincial Federation or National Discipline Association) may refer the matter to the Judicial Commission for a determination. Any such appeal must be submitted in writing within thirty (30) days of the decision which is being appealed (or such other date as provided for in the Discipline specific of Provincial Federation rules where applicable)."

8 Amendments

- 8.1 This Selection Criteria may only be amended with the written consent of ESA.

9 Governing Law

This Selection Criteria is governed by the laws of the Republic of South Africa

APPENDIX 1

1 / Amendments

This Selection Criteria may be amended by the ESA from time to time.

2 / Interpretation

Headings are for convenience only and do not affect interpretation. The following rules apply unless the context requires otherwise.

Unless otherwise defined in this Selection Criteria, capitalized terms used in this Selection Criteria have the meaning ascribed to them in the Africa Cup/ Shield Team Selection and Selection By-Law.

Africa Cup/ Shield Team means the team of athletes and officials' selection and appointed, respectively, by the ESP

Team Sponsors means the sponsors, suppliers and licensees of the Team.

- A. A reference to a clause or schedule is to a clause or schedule of this Selection Criteria.
- B. The singular includes the plural and the converse also applies.
- C. A reference to an agreement or document (including a reference to this agreement) is to the agreement or document as amended, supplemented, novated or replaced, except to the extent prohibited by this agreement or that other agreement or document, and includes the recitals and schedules to that agreement or document.
- D. A reference to a party to this Agreement or another agreement or document includes the party's successors, permitted substitutes and permitted assigns (and, where applicable, the party's legal personal representatives).
- E. A reference to conduct includes an omission, statement or undertaking, whether or not in writing.
- F. A reference to time is to South African time, unless otherwise stated.
- G. Mentioning anything after includes, including, for example or similar expressions does not limit what else might be included.

3 / Law

This document is governed by the laws of the Republic of South Africa.

Appendix 2 – MER Requirements

A qualifying result is achieved by completing the above competitions within the minimum parameters of an all-round performance, which are set out below:

- (a) Dressage test: Not less than fifty-five percent (50%). Dressage good marks (no more than fifty (50) penalty points);
- (b) Cross Country test: clear (0) round or 11 penalty points on Cross Country Obstacles, not more than 80 seconds over the optimum Cross Country phase time. and
- (c) Jumping Test: Not more than sixteen (16) jumping penalties

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