



IAN SANNE

ABRIDGED CV

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name	Ian Matthias
Surname	Sanne
Date of Birth	7 March 1967
Nationality	South African
Marital Status	Married

Memberships with SAEF and Dressage SA

QUALIFICATIONS

University of the Witwatersrand - MBBCh - Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery
University of the Witwatersrand - DTM&H
FCP (SA) - Fellowship of the College of Physicians of South Africa

INTRODUCTION

I have always been involved with horses. I grew up in Fourways where my parents established a thoroughbred stud farm Oldlands Stud. The stud farm, now in Hermanus, is a joint venture between my mother and me.

In 2021, I joined the National Horseracing Authority as a Board Member. Although my family are amateur riders, we have been lucky to identify good horses and develop those into the open level in both dressage and jumping.

Through a lifetime of engagement with horses I have a working understanding of all the disciplines represented in the SAEF, I have competed (albeit at novice level) in Dressage, Jumping and Eventing.

I have over 25 years CEO and Managing Director experience in non-profit companies and academia.

I was elected as SAEF President in 2021.

EQUESTRIAN INVOLVEMENT

To address equine health, I established the Wits University Equine Health Fund; in that role I became a Board Member of the Equine Research Centre, Veterinary Faculty, University of Pretoria, thereby expanding my interests into the field of African Horse Sickness. I initiated the Equine Health Fund as a mechanism to access donor funding for research and surveillance of horse diseases including African Horse Sickness.

In my work to develop the South African Export Horse Protocol, I have been involved with the FEI, International Horse Movement Committee and Hong Kong Racing Association.

I have a good understanding of medicine, veterinary medicine, infectious diseases, exercise physiology, performance Anti-Doping regulations that form the basis of SAEF regulations.

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

With over 25 years of experience in medical research, public health, and health economics, I am a professor and director at the Health Economics and Epidemiology Research Office (HE2RO) and the Wits Health Consortium, Clinical HIV Research Unit (Wits CHRU), both affiliated with the University of the Witwatersrand. I am also an infectious diseases specialist with a DTM&H and an FCP(SA) from the same university.

My mission is to conduct and disseminate high-quality research and data-driven interventions that address the health challenges and inequalities in South Africa and the African region, especially in the areas of HIV, TB, and COVID-19. I am also the international vice-chair of the AIDS Clinical Trials Group and the principal investigator of the Wits HIV Research Group, leading global collaborations and trials for emerging infectious diseases and treatment options.

Previously, I was the founder and CEO of Right to Care NPC, a group of businesses and non-profits that provide innovative and comprehensive health care solutions and services in several African countries. I led the development and expansion of Right e-Pharmacy, QODE Health Solutions, and RTC-Health Services, among others, to improve access, quality, and efficiency of health care delivery and management.

I am passionate about the "One-Health" approach that integrates human, animal, and environmental health, and I have partnered with the University of Pretoria's Equine Research Centre to conduct vaccine development and breeding and performance programs for various equine diseases and conditions. I have also published multiple papers and books on public health, health economics, and infectious diseases, and I have received several awards and honours for my contributions to the field.

FIRST TERM AS SAEF PRESIDENT

As the incumbent Chairperson of the SAEF I am completing a successful term together with an EXCO that has worked diligently to maintain the governance of the sport. Key highlights that I wish to mention in the period 2021-2025 include the following areas:

- The SAEF relationship with the Department of Sport, Department of Agriculture and other government departments has been returned to a normal cooperative engagement as demonstrated by annual funding, improved relationships with the Sports Confederations in each province and the allocation of provincial sporting colours. The veterinary engagement continues to safeguard horses and disease transmission, with a structured movement control, leading to the export of high-performance horses from South Africa. The SAEF contribution is significant with the registration of all performance horses in our sport.
- The relationship with the FEI and other international federations has been exemplary during this period, rapid resolution of any matters that arose. During this term, we hosted the first African FEI General Assembly with outstanding success, which has endeared South Africa to all the attendees. We have raised the profile of South Africa and lead the engagement of Group IX with the FEI.
- The legal challenges facing the SAEF at the time of the transition were significant with an annual expenditure of R300,000 to defensive litigation. This has been resolved with a more conciliatory approach, leading to a number of hearings and mediation discussions to avoid court cases.
- The non-affiliated shows that were challenging the disciplines have all but ceased with the specific action taken by the Exco to allow entry level members to join for free, with reciprocity from the disciplines.
- The governance and finances of the SAEF are in a stellar condition, with an increase in funding received from Lotto, DSAC and FEI, in particular. This work has been guided by the excellent work undertaken by the Secretary General.
- The number of members has remained stable, but the horses registered have increased. The introduction of the new database system has been successful, enabling much better financial accounting.

LOOKING AHEAD

In the next term there remain key important governance topics that need to be addressed.

- High -performance sport requires the development of leadership, we have asked each of the disciplines to present the international sport selection criteria, Selection Committees, Chef d'Équipe and Coaches for a four-year term, to ensure the long-term development of the athletes.
- The relationship of the SAEF with the Non-FEI disciplines requires more specific attention, I propose that we begin by appointing two Vice-Chairs to cover the specific needs of the non-FEI disciplines.
- The provinces that are struggling to develop their governance structures due to the size of their membership, requires specific investment from the SAEF both in funding and administration. I propose to centralize the administrative support of these provinces to share resources with dedicated staff.

- The disciplines is where the sport is practiced. I propose that we need to reconsider the vast committee structure that we have with over 2480 committee members to manage the sport. This should be rationalized to be more practical and aligned with the membership base.
- The horse welfare, safeguarding and legal frameworks of the SAEF need to continue with an emphasis on safe sport.
- Fund raising is always important, SAEF will continue to support disciplines to secure sponsors.
- The management of international sport is key with more regional competitions to prepare athletes for the big stage. FEI World Championships are planned for 2026, we need to prepare now. Colours awarded to team athletes competing at test matches and regional competition are important. We have supported a number of Senior and Junior Protea Colours over the term of this EXCO.