



APPENDIX E - GRADING

Grading points are awarded at recognised SAEQA graded events, based on the rider's average score, as per the tables below.

For Open level, Double points are awarded for Provincial and National Championship Classes.

Grading Points at all levels will be awarded as follows:

Average Scores of 17 & above	5 Points
Average Scores of 16	4 Points
Average Scores of 15	3 Points

The Average Score is calculated as follows:

The competitor's total competition score / Number of judges / Number of parts ridden = Average score.

This should be rounded to one place after the decimal comma.

1. Welcome Equitation
 - No grading points are needed to compete in Welcome Equitation.
2. Novice Equitation
 - No grading points are needed to compete in Novice Equitation.
3. Intermediate Equitation
 - No grading points are needed to compete in Intermediate Equitation. However, this is provided the horse they wish to compete on has successfully completed events in the equivalent height category in either Eventing/Showjumping/SANESA (Portfolio of Evidence is required.)
 - Intermediate competitions will only be graded if a Part 3 is ridden. (The swop is at the judge's discretion)
4. Open Equitation
 - No grading points are needed to compete in Open Equitation. However, this is provided the horse they wish to compete on has successfully completed events in the equivalent height category in either Eventing/Showjumping/SANESA (Portfolio of Evidence is required.)
 - Open competitions will only be graded if a Part 3 is ridden with athletes swopping horses / ponies.
 - In the event of only 1 Open competitor entered in a class, a mystery horse/pony must be used. The mystery horse or pony must have taken part in one of the equitation competitions at the event. The heights of the jumping exercises in Part 3 only will be set at a height suitable for the capabilities of the horse / pony.

IMPLEMENTATION OF NEW GRADING SYSTEM

The new grading system is effective from 29 November 2014 for Pony Riders, Juniors & Adults.

It is important that all riders know that they WILL NOT lose their points from previous years. All new points will be added to those earned under the old system for the purposes of moving up through the levels.

It is also important for all riders to note the following :

- The new grading system is based on INDIVIDUAL PERFORMANCE in competitions and NOT placing or number of athletes in the competition.
- The level at which you are allowed to compete is linked to the level in which your horse / pony is competent to compete as per above.
- Riders no longer need points to move to the next level but SHOULD be guided by their instructors and provincial committees.

HOW THIS WILL WORK

If you have never done equitation before, it is recommended you should start at Welcome or Novice level. This will depend on your experience and the height that you and your pony/horse are comfortable jumping at. To do Welcome & Novice equitation requires no grading points. Once you are in Novice you start earning points in your grade. You may progress to any level you feel competent in provided your horse / pony meet the criteria as described above.

The following rules apply to all:

- If you have earned points in Intermediate or Open equitation you may not downgrade for two years.
- If you have earned points in a Novice competition and you wish to keep your grading points, you will not be able to compete in a Welcome competition or below unless participating as an H/C entry.
- If you wish to downgrade to Welcome level or below, you will lose any grading, victor ludorum and rider ranking points earned in Novice and will have to start from 0 when moving back up to Novice and earn grading points as set out above in order to progress to the next level.

INDIVIDUAL VICTOR LUDORUM POINTS

Victor Ludorum points will be awarded for each level on a Provincial basis.

Based on final competition positions, Victor Ludorum points will be allocated as follows:

1 st Place	25 Points
2 nd Place	24 Points
3 rd Place	23 Points
4 th Place	22 Points
5 th Place	21 Points
6 th Place	20 Points

Thereafter,

Completion of all parts without incurring a minus	15 Points
Completion of all parts but incurring one or more minuses	10 Points
Eliminations, retirements and scratchings	0 Points

Double points will be awarded at Open level for Provincial and National Championships.

Day / temporary members are not eligible for the Victor Ludorum.

It will be at the discretion of each province, should they wish to reward their top scorers in any way. (e.g. Floating Trophy or medal).

Only the points that are earned at the current level of competition at the end of the season will count. Any points earned at levels below the athlete's current level will be lost.

i.e. If you earn Victor Ludorum points in Novice and move to Intermediate during the season and are at Intermediate level at the end of the season, then only your Victor Ludorum points earned at Intermediate level will count.

INDIVIDUAL RIDER RANKING POINTS

Athletes will be ranked by level (Open, Intermediate, Novice) on a National basis.

Rider ranking points will be accrued based on the Victor Ludorum system. As some provinces may hold more events than others only the top 4 scores from throughout the season will count.

The highest ranked rider per level will be acknowledged annually at the South African Championship event. In the event of a tie, the higher placed athlete in the Championship competition will be deemed the winner.

Day members will not be eligible for Rider Rankings.

Only the points that are earned at the current level of competition at the end of the season will count. Any points earned at levels below the athlete's current level will be lost.

i.e. If you earn Rider Ranking points in Novice and move to Intermediate during the season and are at Intermediate level at the end of the season, then only your Rider Ranking points earned at Intermediate level will count, etc.

NATIONAL ROLL OF HONOUR

A roll of honour will be kept to acknowledge winners of events such as SA Pony Rider Champion, SA Child Rider Champion, SA Young Rider Champion etc. in both the Team and Individual competitions.

The same system can be replicated at a provincial level which acknowledges local achievements.

INSTRUCTOR AWARD

The aim of this award is to acknowledge the quality of instruction as well as support of the discipline.

The points will be accumulated as follows:

- At each event, the average score (worked out as for the grading points and detailed herein) earned by each athlete will be allocated to the named instructor(s) as listed on the entry form and programme.
- These will be totalled and divided by the number of athletes instructed by said instructor at the event to get an average score for each instructor for the event.
- If one athlete competes in two competitions at the event, it will count as two athletes.
- Where more than one instructor is listed, the combination of instructors will count as one instructor.
- The average scores earned by each instructor per event will be totalled over the year and then divided by the total number of events held within the province throughout the year to give a final score.

The instructor with the highest score in the province at the end of the year will receive the award.

It will be at the discretion of each province, should they wish to reward their top scorers in the above categories in any way. (e.g. Floating Trophy or medal).