



## **APPENDIX I – CODE OF CONDUCT**

### **1.0 DEFINITION**

- 1.1 This Code of Conduct applies to every person or entity who becomes a member of SAEQA, or officiates at an Equitation event on a temporary or ad-hoc basis, and as such these individuals or entities are bound by this Code of Conduct.
- 1.2 The legal custodians of persons under the age of 18 are bound by this Code of Conduct on the minor's behalf.
- 1.3 As such the term 'member' shall apply to any athlete, official, committee member, club, show holding body including their representatives during an Equitation event, sponsor, owner, custodian or as defined in 1.1 and 1.2 above
- 1.4 Any violation of this Code of Conduct may result in disciplinary action following the Disciplinary Process as set out in the SAEQA Rules and prevailing General Regulations.

### **2.0 GENERAL**

The member agrees to:

- 2.1 Observe and comply with all the Rules and Regulations of SAEQA, the prevailing General Regulations and the Constitutions of both the SAEQA, SAEF and any other applicable governing body.
- 2.2 Accept that the welfare, dignity, health and safety of the horse is paramount at all times.
- 2.3 Ensure that the well-being of the horse will take precedence over the needs and demands of, athletes, owners, show organisers, organizations, sponsors or officials and that this guiding principle will remain paramount in any action or decision-making process.
- 2.4 Ensure that the fitness and competence of the rider will be regarded as essential in the interest of the horse.
- 2.5 Never conduct him / herself at, or in relation to, any event, occasion, matter or facility in a manner which brings SAEQA or the Sport into disrepute.
- 2.6 Embrace an ethos of good sportsmanship, honesty, integrity, credibility, morals and ethics, loyalty, respect and discretion at all times.



2.7 Respect the rights and dignity of all of individuals irrespective of race, culture, gender or disability.

### **3.0 MEDIA, SOCIAL MEDIA AND WEBSITES**

3.1 All official media sites must be done through the SAEQA website, or if on Facebook must be approved by the National Committee (NC) and labelled as an Official SAEQA site.

3.2 Any committees engaging with media will only make official statements on behalf of SAEQA if approved by the NC.

3.3 Any Official Media releases must be pre-approved by the SAEQA Chair.

3.3.1 No Official, which includes committee members, may make any public negative or disparaging comments about the discipline or any matter pertaining to Equitation. The matter must be dealt with in writing to the Provincial Equitation Chair, who, if necessary will escalate the query or complaint to the NC.

3.3.2 No member may post anything in a public domain which may be deemed inflammatory defamatory, libelous, disrespectful or in any way construed to be to the detriment of Equitation or its officials or representatives. Complaints must be dealt with as per 3.4 above.

3.3.3 Committee members and Officials are representatives and ambassadors of Equitation and SAEQA, and must conduct themselves accordingly. Conflict and complaints must be dealt with via due process.

### **4.0 ANTI-DOPING**

4.1 All members are bound by the Anti-Doping Rules, both human and Equine, as set out in the SAEF General Regulations.

4.2 Notwithstanding the above, in the event of any doping infringement, SAEQA may manage its disciplinary process in terms of acceptable process as set out by WADA and the FEI should the SAEF General Regulations not cover the process or be in place at the time of the infringement.



## **5.0 NATIONAL TEAMS**

- 5.1 All national teams are bound by the SAEF Regulations pertaining to this matter. This includes owners of the horses and coaches involved. In addition, they are bound by this Code of Conduct as set out under General in 2.0 above
- 5.2 The Chef d'Equipe (and where relevant National Coach) will over-ride any role that an individual coach may play.
- 5.3 The Chef d'Equipe will determine what clothing will be worn during the Team Event, what social engagements the team will attend, and the time of any team practices required, as well as the final selection of the team and reserve and final order of riding.
- 5.5 The reserve is bound to carry the flag and engage in any other activity required by the Chef d'Equipe and is bound by any commitments as he/she is still considered part of the team.
- 5.6 Team members will abide by any reasonable request or instruction of the Chef d'Equipe and will show good sportsmanship at all times.

## **6.0 INDEMNITY FOR TEAM EVENTS**

- 6.1 The Chef d'Equipe, the Athletes and the Legal Owners (in so far as this may be applicable) agree that SAEQA shall not be liable to him/her in any circumstances for any death, injury, loss or damage of any kind whatsoever arising directly or indirectly from any act or omission (whether negligent or otherwise) by any person whatsoever, connected with the Team Officials and/or the Athlete's membership of the Team, his/her travel and the travel of the Athlete's / Legal Owner's horses to and from the Event, his/her and his/her horse/s participation at the Event, or any disciplinary action taken against him/her by SAEQA.
- 6.2 The Chef d'Equipe, the Athletes and the Legal Owners (in so far as this may be applicable) indemnify SAEQA from and against all claims, legal proceedings and costs whatsoever which may be taken or made against SAEQA in conjunction with or arising out of any death, loss, damage or injury referred to in 6.1 above.
- 6.3 For purposes of this clause, SAEQA shall mean —
  - 6.3.1 SAEQA, its members and Management;
  - 6.3.2 Officials, coaches, vets and any other members of the Team;
  - 6.3.4 Any independent contractor or volunteer providing services to SAEQA or the Organizing Committee.