

World Cup Saddle Seat Equitation

RULES AND REGULATIONS

REVISED to reflect votes/amendments passed by ISSEA

December 2006 – August 2008

ARTICLE 1. GOVERNING BODY - ISSEA

- A. The International Saddle Seat Equitation Association (ISSEA) is the governing body, which is composed of countries that are uniting with the common goal of promoting the art of Saddle Seat Equitation on an International level.
- B. Refer to the Constitution of ISSEA for complete details regarding the organization and activities of ISSEA.
- C. The ISSEA is not associated in any way with the selection of Team members to the World Cup event.

ARTICLE 2. HOSTING NATION - WORLD CUP COMMITTEE

- A. The ISSEA shall be advised of the World Cup committee from the next hosting nation along with the identity and contact information of the relevant committee members.
- B. The hosting nation's World Cup committee is responsible for the organization of the host country's participation in the World Cup event and shall be reportable to ISSEA

ARTICLE 3. OPERATIONS

- A. Both bodies mentioned in Article 1 and 2 will not interfere with the sport policy or local sport of any country.
- B. The World Cup Saddle Seat Equitation event is a not-for-profit event.
- C. ISSEA will control all matters concerning International competitions of the Saddle Seat Equitation discipline in matters such as, but not limited to:
 - 1. Rules governing the World Cup competition;
 - 2. Selection of venues for future World Cup competitions;
 - 3. Act as liaison with organizations such as the Olympic Committee; and
 - 4. Establish a framework for the selection and appointment of Judges for the World Cup competition.
- D. The ISSEA Office-Bearers and General Assembly shall act as the World Cup Rules Committee during the event along with an appointed USEF licensed Steward or equivalent. The Steward will be on hand in an official advisory capacity to interpret and enforce USEF rules and give counsel as to customary international procedure regarding, but not limited to, sportsmanlike conduct, judging standards, class conduct, shoeing regulations, and officials' conduct.
- E. If for any reason a competing country's representative is unavailable, or fails to guarantee to the ISSEA their country's participation within six months of the next World Cup competition, ISSEA may appoint a replacement representative.
- F. Any problem unique to this competition will be acted upon immediately by the World Cup Rules Committee.
- G. All World Cup Rules Committee decisions will be final. (for Committee definition, see Article 3.D.)
- H. Approximately ten (10) appropriate individual workouts per competition will be furnished to each country's representative a minimum of one month prior to the World Cup event. *[Clarified Dec 2006]* Judges must select two of these workouts to be used in the World Cup event. Due to the nature of the event and advice from legal counsel, the following tests will be omitted:
 - 1. Test 14- Ride without stirrups for a brief period of time, no more than one minute at the trotting phase.
 - 2. Test 16 - Exchange horse, no more than three pairs of riders to exchange.

ARTICLE 4. THE WORLD CUPS

- A. The World Cup Trophy (three-gaited), designed and sponsored by the Republic of South Africa, will remain the property of the South African Amateur Saddle Horse Union (SAASU) or its subsequent entity.
- B. It shall be awarded to the high-point team in World Cup competition every two years.
- C. The winning team will retain the trophy for a two-year period.
- D. The winning team's country is responsible for insuring the trophy for its current assessed value.
- E. This trophy is to be presented to the high-point team in the World Cup Saddle Seat Equitation competition, not to an individual winner.
- F. If, after two years, there has not been a new competition, the trophy will return to its permanent home with the SAASU, which will safe-keep the trophy until another competition is held.
- G. The Five-Gaited World Cup, designed and sponsored by *Saddle & Bridle* magazine in the United States, will remain the property of *Saddle & Bridle*, Inc. with management by the United States Saddle Seat World Cup (USWC). This trophy shall be subject to the same provisions (B through E, above) as the Three-Gaited World Cup.
- H. If, after two years, there has not been a new five-gaited competition, the Five-Gaited World Cup trophy will return to its custodial home with the USWC, which will safe-keep the trophy until another competition is held.

ARTICLE 5. WORLD CUP EVENT LOGO

- A. The World Cup event logo is a silhouette of horse and rider, with an interchangeable background to reflect the flag of the hosting nation and the inclusion of the specific event year. Refer to the attached sample, Appendix A, hereby made a permanent part of these Rules.

ARTICLE 6. TEAMS

- A. Each country's team will consist of five (5) riders, a coach and an assistant/chaperone.
- B. Countries may choose a sixth rider as an alternate, however, the following restrictions apply:
 - 1. The alternate may attend the World Cup event at his / her own expense,
 - 2. The alternate may be permitted to attend certain official functions in the hosting nation and will be advised of which functions they may participate, and
 - 3. The alternate may not ride at the World Cup event unless one of their team withdraws prior to the first official day of the competition (hosting nation advises latest arrival date thereby setting first official day of competition).
- C. A rider must be 14 years of age on January 1st of the year of the World Cup competition to be eligible to ride in that World Cup competition.
- D. Each team member must meet the specifications for amateur status as dictated by their own national policy.
- E. Participation in the World Cup event constitutes acceptance by team members and coaches to abide by the procedure, rules and judgments of the USEF, ISSEA and the World Cup Rules Committee.
- F. Each country's team should be prepared to appear at presentations in uniform apparel, which easily identifies the nationality of that team.

ARTICLE 7. WORLD CUP COMPETITION

The competition for the World Cup Saddle Seat Equitation event will be structured as follows:

- A. There will be two events, referred to as Competition I and Competition II.
- B. Each Competition will consist of two segments, referred to as Phase I and Phase II.
- C. Phase I will consist of group rail work, which may be divided at the discretion of the ISSEA and the World Cup Rules Committee. Phase II will consist of a workout to be executed individually.
- D. Each Phase will be scored by a ~~three-judge~~ five-judge panel (refer to Article 9, Scoring). *(Amended Dec 2006, mtg #4) As a one-time exception for the 2008 International Saddle Seat World Cup, each Phase will be scored by a three-judge panel, one each from South Africa, the United States and Canada. The judges may or may not be the same for the three- and five-gaited events. (Amended Aug 2008, email)*
- E. Each Phase will count equally, and each Competition will carry equal weight in the final calculation.
- F. Once a rider has begun Competition I or II, that rider must remain on the same horse throughout both phases of that specific Competition for scoring to be counted (exception: horse excused for injury or safety measures, replacement horse must be used as stated in Article 8.H.).
- G. A rider may be assigned a different horse for Competition II, but to have all points accrue, that rider must complete both Phases of Competition II on that horse. This horse must come from that team's drawn selections. (See Exception for replacement horse in Article 7.F.)
- H. If these guidelines are followed, all points from both Competitions will be considered valid. As this is an open breed competition, the following rules regarding attire will apply:
 - 1. A rider must wear informal attire as defined by the USEF Rule Book for any portion of the competition held prior to 6:00 PM.
 - 2. If a segment of the competition should be held after 6:00 PM informal wear will be required, due to the fact that formal attire adds extra cost and packing hardships to visiting nation's riders.

ARTICLE 8. HORSES

- A. A pool of Equitation horses will be carefully selected from breeds that are used for and trained in the art of Saddle Seat Equitation. Breeds and Crossbreeds which are recommended but not limited to consist of the

following: American Saddlebred, Arabian, Fresian, Morgan, National Show Horse and South African Boerperd. This pool should be carefully selected for their soundness, their safe manners and their training/suitability as either 3- or 5-Gaited Equitation horses. The pool must include a minimum of six horses for each team, as well as several reserves in case of emergency.

- B.
1. A meeting of ISSEA's General Assembly and all coaches/managers of the participating countries will be held prior to the beginning of the competition. This meeting will be for the purpose of discussing the procedures of the event and will provide an opportunity to field and answer questions.
 2. In a lottery style drawing to be held at a designated time, the riders/coaches from each of the teams will draw five horses plus one alternate horse totaling six horses. They may observe these horses previously as the horses complete their owner-specified daily workout and make temporary assignments of horses to each team member.
- C. Coaches will be furnished a biography of each horse selected for their team. Whenever a trainer or groom is present to supply background personally, the coaches may utilize that resource. Each horse will use its own bridle and girth. Recommended settings for equipment for each horse will be provided in the biographies furnished to the coach. Saddles are to be provided by each rider. Specific arrangements can be made prior to the event with the World Cup Committee Chairman of the host nation, but the nation requiring assistance in locating saddles will need to compensate their host nation for use of the borrowed saddles.
- D. An official will be provided to act as a liaison between the owner / trainer of each horse and the team coach for any matter relating to health or training measures.
- E. No rider may compete on a horse, which they have owned, trained or shown in the past or present. If such a horse is drawn, it must be used for another member of that team. *[Clarified Dec 2006, mtg #1]*
- F. Practice sessions will be afforded to all teams competing in the event. Two practice sessions, limited to thirty (30) minutes each, will be scheduled prior to the start of the competition, with times provided to each team coach. *If a rider has to substitute his/her horse from the general back-up pool only due to circumstances beyond the rider's and/or competition committee's control, that rider only will have the chance to an additional 30 min practice session, and not any other rider of that team and/or the whole team involved. [Amended 30 June 2006, clarification Dec 2006]* Exception: Even under such circumstances, no additional practice session will be allotted to a team if the substitution occurs either during competition or in too close proximity to the start of competition to make holding such practice time feasible.
1. Beginning with the first official day of the competition, which is established by the latest date arrival date as determined and publicized to all participants by the hosting nation, teams may not engage in private practice sessions. Private practice session is further defined as any group session not included in the official schedule of events as established by the hosting nation.
 2. The practice sessions are closed sessions - no parents/supporters and/or competitors allowed.
- G. Coaches may experiment with various horse / rider combinations. However, **ONE HOUR FOUR HOURS PRIOR TO THE COMPETITION**, final assignments of horse / rider combinations must be submitted to the official World Cup horse show office. *[Amended Dec 2006, mtg #4]*
- H. Each team will draw a pool of six horses. There will be NO SUBSTITUTION of horses unless a horse is sick, injured or a safety risk. The official Veterinarian will be the only person authorized to validate a horse's sickness or injury and declare that horse withdrawn. The Judges and World Cup Committee Chairman of the host nation rule on the safety risk of a horse. A rider may, in this circumstance, complete the competition on that team's alternate horse. If a horse is eliminated, the affected team shall redraw from the allotment of unused horses in order to maintain a pool of six horses at all times or until the pool of remaining horses has been exhausted. It is recommended that the host nation maintain a pool of at least 5 reserve horses (or one for each participating country) for the three-gaited and 2 reserve horses (or one for each participating country) for the five-gaited.
- I. If, during the competition, a rider requires an official time-out (five minutes), USEF rules shall prevail. Should a rider require a second time-out (also five minutes), that rider must use their team's alternate horse. Failure to do so will result in elimination from that Phase.
- J. USEF rules regarding drugs and medications are to be strictly enforced.
1. Any substance must be administered by the donated horse's trainer, designated agent or veterinarian.
 2. No one from the competing teams may enter a pool horse's stall without express permission of that horse's trainer or designated agent.
 3. Adjustments are allowed. Any changes (ie., new bit) must be made to a horse after working through the horse's trainer or designated agent.
- (Amended December 2006, mtg. #4)*
- K. When a horse is eliminated because it is a safety risk, if there are still horses remaining in the pool, the team can redraw in order to replenish their quota of horses.
- L. SHOEING. One time-out (five-minute) per horse per phase as per USEF rules can be used for shoeing. If a shoe cannot be replaced, the horse's liaison may agree to let the horse continue without the shoe. If a horse cannot continue, refer to rule I.
- M. FALLS. The fall of horse or rider does not necessarily cause elimination, but is penalized at the Judge's discretion as per USEF rules.

ARTICLE 9. SCORING

- A. Five judges to be used using the numerical system as defined in Article 9C, below, but with a hi-low calculation on the five judges used per rider per day. The highest and lowest judges' scores to be discarded and the middle three judges' scores to count per rider per day *[Amended 30 June 2006, clarification Dec 2006]* As a one-time exception for the 2008 International Saddle Seat World Cup, three judges to be used using the numerical system as defined in Article 9C, below, but with a hi-low calculation on the three judges used per rider per day. The highest and lowest judges' scores to be discarded and the middle judge's scores to count per rider per day. *(Amended Aug 2008, email)*
- B. The selection of judges should be fair with all affiliated members to be involved. Each medal winning country from the preceding World Cup event will nominate a minimum of one judge (two are suggested) for the upcoming event. Other participating countries may also submit a nominee, and said nominee may be from another country. Any judge so nominated MUST have fundamental experience and knowledge of Saddle Seat Equitation and the country who nominates must supply proof to the ISSEA Board that the judge nominated has the necessary knowledge and experience – preferably at the international level – so as to be deemed qualified to judge a World Cup event. A medal winning country may advise that no nominee is agreeable for submission, in which case ISSEA will make a determination as to how to proceed. As a way to encourage countries' ability to put forth qualified judging nominees in the future, any participating country may petition ISSEA for approval to send a learner judge to the event. Scores given by the learner judge shall not be considered official and will not be publicized outside of ISSEA. *[Amended 30 June 2006, clarification Dec 2006]*
- C. Scoring will be numerical throughout. An explanation of the numerical scoring system is as follows:
1. ISSEA has determined each Judge will allot a score out of 100 points for each rider on the rail, rather than placing the riders 15 to say 25. The Judge's scores will stand as awarded and will not be averaged.
 2. (a) The individual workouts shall each be worth 100 points.
(b) Equal points for each segment, proposed to be 10 points per segment
(c) A workout to consist of 10 segments in total being 8 x pattern segments + 1 x Overall Picture segment + 1 x Horsemanship segment
 3. Individual workouts are posted for coaches and riders to review and /or practice usually the day before the workout competition.
 4. Individual workout scores are totaled using a scribe and figures are relayed to the Ringmaster. Each rider's total workout scores (not individual workout segment scores) from the judges will be announced. Rail work scores are not to be announced. *Judges' names are not to be announced in association with the scores being read, and scores may be read in random order. [Amended Dec 2006, mtg. #4]*
 5. Following Competition I, each team's Coach/Manager will be provided with a printout of both the rail and individual workout scores for their team only. During Competition II, the individual workout scores will also be announced, but no distribution or announcement of teams' rail scores will be made. Complete scoring information will be provided to Coaches/Managers after the medal ceremony is complete.
- D. During each Phase, the top four scores from each team will be compiled to compute high-point team rankings. The lowest score from each team will be dropped from the team score.
- E. Awards for the World Cup event will be presented to the top three scoring teams - customarily Gold, Silver and Bronze medals.
- F. At the awards presentation, the national anthems of the top three teams will be played. There are no specific regulations on team presentation. The Hosting Country will make a point to follow all countries' customs. All countries must supply in writing all requests for anthem and any national customs to the hosting country at least six (6) months prior to the competition.
- G. Team captains are asked to receive the award on behalf of their team.
- H. Coaches are asked to be present with their team at the awards presentation.
- I. The judging and scoring system can and may be changed within 1 year from commencement of the competition.

ARTICLE 10. HOSTING NATION OBLIGATIONS

- A. The hosting nation agrees to supply the venue for competition, horses for the World Cup event (see Article 8 A.), and local transportation to scheduled activities / events. *[Amended Dec 2006, mtg #1]*
- B. The hosting nation agrees to supply the awards for the events with the exception of the Three-Gaited World Cup trophy itself to be provided by SAASU or its subsequent entity and the Five-Gaited World Cup trophy to be provided by Saddle & Bridle through the United States Saddle Seat World Cup.
- C. The hosting nation agrees to supply accommodations, local transport and a stipend for each Judge. *[Amended Dec 2006, mtg #1]*

ARTICLE 11. VISITING NATION OBLIGATIONS

- A. Visiting nations agree to supply or make special arrangements for airfare for their team members, coaches and assistants / chaperones.

- B. Visiting nations agree to inform official participants from their nation that all personal expenses are the obligation of each individual. Special arrangements should be made for paying these expenses (i.e. unscheduled meals, phone calls, transportation, shopping, entertainment, etc.).
- C. Visiting nations shall be responsible for payment of their own accommodations. Each nation's \$1,000 USD deposit will be applied toward the cost of accommodations with the host hotel as negotiated by the host nation. Balance due is payable by the visiting nation prior to departure. *[Added Dec 2006, mtg #1]*

ARTICLE 12. OTHER REGULATIONS

- A. ISSEA and the World Cup Rules Committee reserve the right to amend or add rule(s) or regulation(s) at any time.
- B. All changes for horses, riders, officer positions and rules must be submitted in writing to ISSEA officers and hosting country's officers.
- C. Proxy voting will be allowed in writing 1 day minimum before meeting.

ARTICLE 13: ISSEA OBLIGATIONS

- A. ISSEA must provide a copy of all rules and regulations to all competing countries/teams.
- A. ISSEA must provide a copy of all rules and regulations to the event announcer.

ARTICLE 14: FIVE-GAITED *[Amended Dec 2006, Mtg. #1]*

- A. The name of the Five-Gaited competition is Five-Gaited Saddle Seat Equitation World Cup.

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APPENDIX A

OFFICIAL WORLD CUP LOGO SAMPLE

CHANGES FROM YEAR TO YEAR INCLUDE FLAG BACKGROUND, EVENT VENUE AND EVENT YEAR



**SADDLE SEAT EQUITATION
WORLD CUP 2006**

■ ■ ■ SOUTH AFRICA ■ ■ ■