

NAMEF EQUITATION RULES

3rd Edition

PREAMBLE

These National Rules for the Equitation Discipline are produced specifically to allow Organizing Committees, affiliated to NAMEF, as much freedom as possible in the management of their Events and in the preparation of their schedules. If there is any doubt about the meaning of any of these rules they should be interpreted in the sense of providing fair conditions for all competitors. It is quite obvious that however complete the rules may be they can never cover every eventuality. If the matter cannot be resolved by interpreting the rules to the letter, the solution to be adopted should lie in the principle which follows as nearly as possible to the spirit of the official text. These rules have to be read in conjunction with the NAMEF General Rules and Regulations which are uniform for all disciplines falling under NAMEF jurisdiction. Although these rules may differ in several respects with those of the FEI, should any relevant point or matter not be covered in these rules then the relevant FEI rule will apply.

In all equestrian sports the interests of the horse must be considered paramount.

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1 **NAMEF GENERAL REGULATIONS:**

These rules must be read in conjunction with NAMEF General Rules and Regulations which form part of these rules and will apply unless specifically excluded or amended.

2 **JUDGES AND OFFICIALS**

- 2.1. All recognized competitions will be judged under the National Rules for Equitation.
- 2.2. It is recommended that equitation judges wishing to remain on the judges panel be required to judge at a minimum of two shows per year.
- 2.3. It is recommended that equitation judges and judge applicants keep activity sheets up to date and send these regularly to NAMEF.
- 2.4. Anyone may nominate a judge applicant to the NAMEF Committee.
- 2.5. The judge applicant will work with a National or NAMEF Judge for a least six shows. The activity sheet must be signed by the judge and sent to NAMEF Committee.
- 2.6. The National or NAMEF Judge will nominate a judge applicant for writing the Learner Judges Examination. This will be marked by the NAMEF Committee together with the judge who nominated the applicant.
- 2.7. Once the applicant has passed he/she will be required to judge for a least six shows. The scores will not be applicable to the final points of the rider. The judge will mark the score-sheets and send result report to NAMEF committee. Promotion to the Judges Panel as a NAMEF judge is then by recommendation of the judge and the NAMEF Committee.
- 2.8. There will be at least 2 judges for any recognized equitation competition.
- 2.9. For the Equitation championships there must be 3 judges of which 1 will be a national judge.
- 2.10. National Panel Judges may judge any competition.
- 2.11. Judges are required to attend seminars.
- 2.12. Should a judge who has come off the Judges Panel wish to be reinstated, he/she may be recommended by their Club, provided that he/she has attended seminars.

3 **REGISTRATION OF HORSES/RIDERS**

Horses AND Riders must be registered according to the grading system currently in place.

4 **HORS CONCOURS**

- 4.1. **Official NAMEF Tests:**
 - 4.1.1. Any rider may compete H/C within their age group, and may compete in Part 1 and Part 2.
 - 4.1.2. They may NOT participate in Part 3 or Part 4.
- 4.2. **Equitation Jumping:**

Any rider may compete H/C in any equitation jumping class.

5 **DRESS CODE**

- 5.1. At all recognized events competitors shall wear an approved hard hat with a three-point harness, jacket, collar and tie OR
- 5.2. American shirt, jodhpurs and jodhpur boots or breeches and long boots or leather leggings.
- 5.3. The hat must have all three points of the harness done up at all times

6 SADDLERY

- 6.1. All bits/bridles and equipment as per current show-jumping regulations are permissible.
- 6.2. NAMEF rules and regulations will apply at all times including in the practice arena.
- 6.3. Bearing, side and running reins are prohibited in all competitions, including in the practice arena. No modification or extensions are allowed to the reins or stirrups.
- 6.4. Only whips not longer than 75 cm, including a compulsory flap, may be used.
- 6.5. No saddlery changes are allowed during a competition except when authorized by the senior judge.
- 6.6. No sheepskin saddle covers are allowed

7. ENTRIES

Competitors entering an Equitation class do so on the understanding that their horse must be available should it be required by the judges or Organizing Committee for a draw or a mystery horse for other competitors to ride.

For the Namibia Equitation Championship riders cannot enter, but must qualify in previous competitions throughout the year.

7.1. Official SANEF Tests:

The official SANEF tests are offered by age-group.

Children will compete in their own class, juniors and adults will compete in the same class.

A rider may only enter one horse in a competition.

7.2. Equitation Jumping:

7.2.1. The equitation jumping tests are offered by height of jumps.

7.2.2. Children, Juniors and Adults will compete in the same class.

7.2.3. A rider may enter more than one horse.

7.2.4. A horse may start more than once with different riders for level-J9 competitions ONLY.

7.2.5. The competitions are open to all riders registered in the level of the competition with a horse registered in the level of the competition or higher.

7.2.6. The competitions are open to all horses registered in the level of the competition with a rider registered in the level of the competition or higher.

8 WARM UP AND SCHOOLING

- 8.1. Only competitors are permitted to school horses competing at an Equitation Competition anywhere at the venue for the event.
- 8.2. Bearing, side and running reins are prohibited in the practice arena. No modification or extensions are allowed to the reins or stirrups.
- 8.3. Only whips not longer than 75 cm, including a compulsory flap, may be used.

9 OBJECTIONS

- 9.1. Any objection must be made immediately, in writing and accompanied by the deposit as set out in the NAMEF General Regulations.
- 9.2. No verbal objection will be accepted.
- 9.3. All objections will then be dealt with as per the NAMEF General Regulations.
- 9.4. Any objection must be lodged before the start of the next part of the competition.

10 COMPETITIONS

All official tests are available on the NAMEF website.

Test may be called, but rider must organize own caller.

It should also be at the judges discretion as to whether or not to ride without stirrups where called for in the test.

Only Tests approved by the National Committee may be used as qualifying competitions.

Once competitors have walked the course, each test will commence on the signal of a bell.

10.1. Novice SANEF Tests:

10.1.1. Competitions are held according to age-groups.

10.1.2. In these competitions Part 1 and 2 are ridden. It should also be at the judges discretion as to whether or not to ride without stirrups where called for in the test.

10.1.3. No qualifying points are awarded in these competitions.

10.1.4. It may be at the discretion of the show-holding body as to whether or not prize money should be paid, however rosettes should be given.

10.1.5. These competitions should be judged by a Regional Judge, assisted wherever possible by one or more Learner Judges.

10.2. Intermediate SANEF Tests:

10.2.1. Competitions are held according to age-groups.

10.2.2. These competitions consist of Part 1, Part 2 and Part 3.

10.2.3. It is optional and to the judges decision as to whether riders will change horses for Part 3.

10.2.4. These competitions shall be judged by two or more Regional Judges (or higher) and may be assisted by a Learner Judge.

10.3. Open SANEF Tests:

10.3.1. Competitions are held according to age-groups.

10.3.2. These competitions consist of Part 1, Part 2 and Part 3 where riders change horses.

10.3.3. Part 4 to be ridden if there are fewer than 8 marks between 1st and 2nd place.

10.3.4. For the Namibia Equitation Championship an Open test will be applicable.

10.3.5. Open competitions should be judged by a minimum of two judges, one of which should be on the National Panel.

10.3.6. No Learner judge may judge an open class.

10.4. Equitation Jumping Tests:

10.4.1. Competitions are held according to height of jumps.

10.4.2. All age groups may compete in one competition.

10.4.3. It is to the discretion of the official judge to allow change of horses in the tests applicable.

10.4.4. Riders who have competed in Equitation jumping competitions with change of horse, will receive points according to the grading table.

10.4.5. Equitation jumping tests are available on the NAMEF website.

11 CHAMPIONSHIPS

- 11.1. For the Namibia Equitation Championship an Open test will be applicable.
- 11.2. Qualification Restrictions:
 - 11.2.1. The rider must have competed in at least 3 equitation competitions, of which one must have been an official SANEF test.
 - 11.2.2. Rider must have achieved grading points in equitation
- 11.3. How the champion is determined:
 - 11.3.1. A championship will be held once in a year by a club who has applied for the championship.
 - 11.3.2. From the grading list the top 3 qualification points are added to give a preliminary Total.
 - 11.3.3. The result of the championship counts double points.
 - 11.3.4. The sum of the championship points and the preliminary points determine the winner.

12 COMPETITIONS OUTSIDE NAMIBIA

It is recommended that any rider who wishes to participate in Equitation competitions outside Namibia will inform himself about the rules and regulations currently active in the country to visit.

13 PENALTIES

The following penalties will occur:

- Any movement left out in flatwork will incur a penalty of -2 for the movement from each judge.
- A second omission will incur elimination.
- Should a rider deviate from the movement e.g. use both hands when one is required, use stirrups when none are required or turn left instead of right, -2 will be deducted from each judge for an error.
- A stop or refusal will incur -4
- Three refusals will entail elimination
- A knock will entail the deduction of -2 from each judge.

14 ELIMINATIONS

The following will result in an elimination:

- Three refusals in any Part – not accumulative to parts.
- Jumping the incorrect track.
- Failure to re-present after a refusal.
- Horse and/or rider leaving arena whilst being judged.
- Unauthorized changing of tack or mount during the competition
- Unauthorized assistance at any stage during the competitors entry.
- Anyone other than the rider warming up a horse in the practice arena.
- Fall of horse/rider at any stage during the competition.
- A rider may not take a practice jump after being eliminated for a fall.

15 GRADING

Grading points shall be awarded as per the table:

No of competitors	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th
11 or more	4	3	2	1	1	1
9 – 10	4	3	2	1	1	
7 – 8	4	3	2	1		
5 – 6	3	2	1			
3 – 4	2	1				
Less than 3	1					

- 15.1. Points awarded will count towards qualification for Championship in Namibia and selection to foreign countries.
- 15.2. Points awarded out of Region will count towards qualification for Championship in Namibia.

16 QUALIFICATION OF RIDERS

- 16.1. Each year after the equitation championships the grading points per rider will be reduced to zero.
- 16.2. A competitor who has taken part in at least two Equitation jumping competitions and at least one SANEF Equitation competition during the year relevant to the Championship AND has received grading points during that year may compete in the championship.
- 16.3. A competitor who during that year becomes a Junior or adult on or before the day on which the Equitation Championship takes place, may compete in the Championship in the preferred age group.
- 16.4. A rider may take part in any equitation competition outside Namibia. Points awarded out of region will count towards the current points in Namibia according to the NAMEF grading table.
- 16.5. Subject to the approval of the NAMEF Committee, a rider may enter in championships outside Namibia.

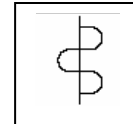
17 EQUITATION MOVEMENTS

Circles: Circles are 20 meter in diameter unless otherwise specified

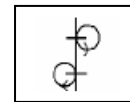
Trotting poles: 4 – 6 poles which are to be 1,4 meters apart for horses and 1.2m for ponies.

Figure 8: Circles not more than 20 meters in diameter and equal in size. The Figure 8 should be started and finished at the centre point of the figure 8.

Serpentine: The shape is slightly variable depending on the shape and size of the arena available. All loops should be equal in size. The movement starts and finishes on an imaginary centre line.

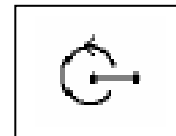


Trot circles over poles on the ground: Circles should be between 10 and 15 meters in diameter, both being the same size.

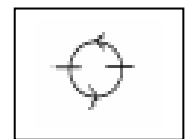


Movement with 1 hand: The competitor places both reins and the stick in one hand and the other hand remains along side the rider behind his or her thigh in a relax manner as they start the movement. The reins are taken up again once the movement is complete.

Lengthening and collection on a circle: Lengthening and collection must be more instant than gradual.



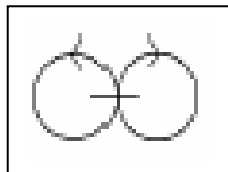
Canter one jump on a circular track: circle must be 20 meters.



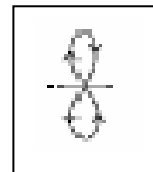
Canter 2 jumps on a circular track, approximately 20 meters centre to centre

Jump a single vertical on a figure of 8 track.

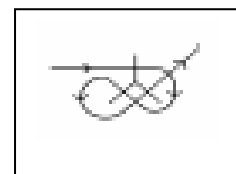
Nov & Intermediate:



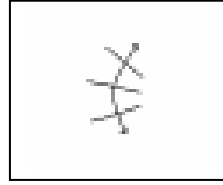
Open :



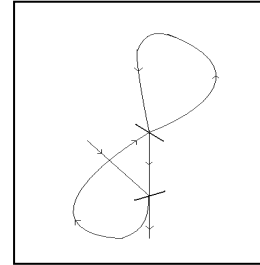
Mercedes: The Mercedes jump consists of 3 vertical jumps resembling a Mercedes sign. The competitor may start on either rein in any direction. The competitor jumps each element once. The pattern is the following, jump one element, go around the element nearest you, jump the second element change rein and jump the final element.



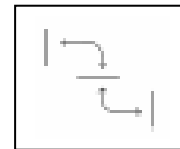
Canter 3 bounces set on a curved track.
Recommended to approach on the curve.



Looping Star: Approach and jump either fence to start, half circle and jump second fence, loop back on oneself and jump both fences in a straight line.



The "S" bend: These two related distances, (5/6 strides) on the curve. Should ideally be jumped showing as smooth and accurate a track as possible between fences one and two and two and three. This exercise can be jumped both ways.



The heights of the gymnastic exercises should not exceed the height recommendation of the class in which it's built.

Jumps on Related Distances. These should be identified by the judges before the competitors walk the course. For Equitation, 2 efforts 3-6 strides should be considered as related.

It is recommended that leg yielding movements should be ridden in clear view of the judges.