

Please ensure you have read the SANESA general Rules and Regulations Section 1 and 2

SECTION 3 VAULTING

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ADDITIONAL DISCIPLINE LEAGUE: VAULTING DISCIPLINE SPECIFIC DISPENSATIONS, RULES & REGULATIONS

Vaulting South Africa (VASA) is the National Association overseeing the Technical Discipline Rules for Vaulting offered in SANESA.

Although SANESA will try to adhere to all VASA Technical Discipline Rules including special dispensations noted in this document, SANESA Show Rules and Regulations will be final.

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1. INTRODUCTION

Vaulting or “Voltige” as it is known in most of Europe is best described as choreographed gymnastics on the back of a horse, moving in a circle under the control of a longeur.

It incorporates beauty and brilliance, power and strength, elegance and precision, all in harmony with the horse, vaulting is one of the best ways to introduce people TO the sport of equestrianism.

It helps develop balance, confidence and harmony with the horse for any riding discipline.

The fact that one horse can be used by numerous competitors makes this the most financially accessible of all equestrian disciplines.

Special needs vaulters - including children & teens with diagnoses ranging from cognitive problems caused by developmental disabilities to physical challenges, learn to better themselves both physically and mentally through our unique sport.

Due to the Barrel classes being offered, vaulting is ideal as an entry level equestrian discipline for development.

2. VAULTING COMPETITION

Vaulting is accessible to all ages.

During SANESA VAULTING competitions, vaulters may compete in the following classes. Classes could include but not limited to:

a. BARRELS

Individual (compulsories + freestyle) only in round 1 unless otherwise stated

Pairs (2 vaulters of any gender combination) freestyle only in round 1 unless otherwise stated

b. HORSE

Individual (compulsories + freestyle) and (free only) unless otherwise stated

Individual 2-Phase (compulsories on horse, freestyle on barrel) in round 1 unless otherwise stated

Pairs (2 vaulters of any gender combination) Freestyle only (one round for walk) and two rounds for canter unless otherwise stated.

SANESA will annually assess the competition and may add classes as deemed fit.

Vaulters may compete in 1 horse class at the current level of competition registered with VASA and 1 barrel class in the same level or 1 level higher at any one show (this excludes E Grade barrel (Level 0)).

E Grade barrel (Level 0) is only open to vaulters who are not competing in any horse classes and is the RISING STAR CHALLENGE and is not part of any selection for individual teams for Nationals.

3. DRESS CODE:

- Numbers must be worn by all Individual Vaulting Competitors on either the right leg or arm or on the back and should be 10 – 12cm in height and of plain design (black with white number or white with black number or matching the outfit worn) and clearly visible to the judges.
- Dress must not conceal the form and line of the vaulter's body during the performance in order not to hinder the fair assessment of the judging of the exercises. It is preferable that well fitting school sports attire be worn if available.
- Hair must be neat and controlled and safe hair ornamentation are permitted. No sharp and/or pointed hair accessories of any hard material, are allowed.
- Freestyle outfits may differ and be more creative and may not give the effect of nudity and must be form fitting. All articles of clothing or parts thereof, must at all times be attached to the vaulter's body.
- Decorative accessories must be made of soft cloth like and/or pliable material.
- The vaulter's face must be visible to the Judges. No masks or complete face paint is allowed. A maximum of ¼ of the face may be painted.

4. PRIMARY AND HIGH SCHOOL CLASSES AVAILABLE

Levels		Primary Classes	High Classes		GRADE
Level 0	BARREL	P0VBVABIEAll P0VBVABPEAll	H0VBVABIEAll H0VBVABPEAll	Individual Pairs	E Grade Com (No score for mount on) E Grade Freestyle only
Level 1	HORSE	P1VHVAHIEAll P1VHVAHPEAll	H1VHVAHIEAll H1VHVAHPEAll	Individual Pairs	E Grade Com (No score for mount on) E Grade Freestyle only
Level 2	BARREL	P2VBVABIDAll P2VBVABPE/DAll	H2VBVABIDAll H2VBVABPE/DAll	Individual Pairs	D Grade Com (No score for mount on) E/D Grade Freestyle only
Level 3	HORSE	P3VHVAHIDAll P3VHVAHPE/DAll	H3VHVAHIDAll H3VHVAHPE/DAll	Individual Pairs	D Grade Com (No score for mount on) D/C Grade Freestyle only
Level 4	BARREL	P4VBVABICAll P4VBVABPD/CAAll	H4VB01 H4VBP02	Individual Pairs	C Grade C/1* Grade
Level 5	HORSE	P5VHVAHICAll P5VHVAHPC/1*All	H5VHVAHICAll H5VHVAHPC/1*All	Individual Pairs	C Grade C/1* Grade
Level 6	BARREL	P6VBVABI1*All P6VBVABP1*All	H6VBVABI1*All H6VBVABP1*All	Individual Pairs	1* Grade 1* Grade
	HORSE	P6VHVAHI1*All P6VHVAHPC/1*All	H6VHVAHI1*All H6VHVAHP1*All	Individual Pairs	1* Grade 1* Grade
Level 7	BARREL		H7VBVABI2*All H7VBVABP2*All	Individual Pairs	2* Grade 2* Grade
	HORSE		H7VHVAHI2*All H7VHVAHP2*All	Individual Pairs	2* Grade 2* Grade

A competition is judged on the smooth and correct execution of both the compulsory exercises, as well as the free-style program, with the competitor being in sympathy and harmony with the horse and/or technically correct on the barrel or horse. All individual levels will include a freestyle and compulsory round except pairs which is only freestyle.

Vaulting on a horse, E Grade level perform compulsory and freestyle exercises at the walk. The D Grade level perform compulsory exercises at the canter and freestyle at the walk and C Grade to 2* Grade perform both compulsory and freestyle at the canter.

Vaulting on the barrel is offered for development and advancement and is done on a stationary barrel.

All vaulters must wear numbers and **should be 10-12cm in height** and of plain design and clearly visible during any competition.

5. SUBSTITUTIONS

Will be as per the SANESA General Rules and Regulations for vaulters

There are no horse substitutions as there are no vaulter/horse combinations.

6. THE BELL IS USED IN THE FOLLOWING INSTANCES BY JUDGE A

- To signal to enter the arena
- To signal for the vaulter/s to start the tests.

- To signal that the full time is ended in free and technical tests
- To signal that the time and music is stopped after a fall, if the vaulter is unable to continue immediately or to return to the line. The test must be continued within 30 seconds after the signal (bell) to resume.
- To signal to stop a vaulter or performance when the horse shows any signs of irregularity, or is out of control or dangerous to the vaulter/s
- To signal to stop a vaulter or performance in unforeseen circumstances, includes repair or adjustment of equipment or any other situation requiring immediate attention. The timing and the music is stopped. The test must be continued within 30 seconds after the signal (bell) to resume
- After any interruption the clock is started again when the vaulter touches the handle, pad or horse. In unclear situations the Judge at A and/or lunger / vaulter may communicate
- To interrupt the test to resolve any issues with the music (Music not starting etc)

7. TIME, MUSIC AND BELL

In individual competition when the vaulter loses the contact with the horse, the time and music are stopped – **NO BELL**. The test must be continued within 30 seconds

If the vaulter is **unable to continue immediately after a fall, the judge will ring the bell**, the time and music are stopped, and the test is interrupted. The test must be continued within 30 seconds after the signal to resume

8. GENERAL

- All rounds of vaulting must be performed on the left rein in either walk or canter unless otherwise stated.
 - Vaulting must be performed to music (vocal is allowed).
 - All vaulters must salute the judge at A when entering the arena and when exiting the arena.
 - All lungers and assistants (for walk rounds and barrel classes) must be neatly dressed.
 - Judging of the Horse Score begins with entering the arena and ends with the final dismount.
 - If more than one Individual Vaulter or more than one Pas-de-Deux is performing on the same horse, the general Impression of the Entry, Salute and Trot round will be taken into account for all vaulters on that Horse.
 - PLEASE SEE MECHANICS, BASIC SCORES AND DEDUCTIONS FOR ALL COMPULSORY EXERCISES IN THE CURRENT VASA GUIDELINES, AVAILABE ON THE VASA WEBSITE
 - There is no time limit for the individual compulsory test. If there is more than one individual vaulter starting on the same horse, the next vaulter begins his/her performance without waiting for a signal (bell). A vaulter may only enter the circle to stand behind the lunger once the previous vaulter is preparing to vault off.
 - FREESTYLE SCORING CRITERIA IS AS PER THE CURRENT VASA RULES AND GUIDELINES, AVAILABLE ON THE VASA WEBSITE
 - The maximum score is 10.0 and decimals are allowed.
 - The following marks are applicable for all scoring
- | | | | | | |
|------|--------------|---|---|---|------------|
| • 10 | excellent | 9 | very good | 8 | good |
| • 7 | fairly good | 6 | satisfactory | 5 | sufficient |
| • 4 | insufficient | 3 | fairly bad | 2 | bad |
| • 1 | very bad | 0 | not executed or as a result of deductions | | |

9. TIME LIMITS

Individuals	Freestyle	1 minute	
Pas de deux (Pairs)	Freestyle	1 ½ minutes	U15
Pas de deux (Pairs)	Freestyle	2 minutes	from 16 upwards

Only the lunger, the competing vaulter and an assistant (where permitted in any walk tests) are allowed within the vaulting circle at the same time.

Not held exercises or falls are not be considered in the total number of exercises used to score the degree of difficulty. For not held exercises there is no automatic deduction, if it is not performed well a deduction up to 10 points will be given.

E grade is judged with scoring for performance of 100% with no degree of difficulty and artistic scoring as per the current VASA rules and guideline (available on VASA Website)

D Grade is judged in two sections with scoring for performance with a degree of difficulty for the 10 most difficult moves performed in individual competition and artistic as per the current VASA rules and guidelines (available on the VASA website)

In C grade and 1* Grade there is no degree of difficulty with a score for performance and artistic only

In 2* grade there is technique judged with scoring for performance and degree of difficulty for the 10 most difficult moves performed in individual competition and artistic.

All Horse scoring criteria is as per the current VASA rules and guidelines, available on the VASA Website.

Freestyle consists of static and dynamic exercises, including transitions and the vaulter should try to keep an even balance between these two types of exercises and moving around the horse in as many different positions as possible

The time allowed for a squad begins the moment the 1st vaulter touches the surcingle, the pad or the horse and ends with the time limit. The judging ends when the last vaulter touches the ground after the final dismount. Only exercises (static or dynamic or dismounts) already in progress at the end of the time limit may be finished and will be included in the evaluation for the technique & artistic scores.

All following exercises and dismounts starting after the time limit will be considered in the performance score, including deductions for falls, but not in the degree of difficulty or artistic score.

In the free test each individual vaulter must signal after the bell has rung to start that he/she is ready for the music. The time begins once the vaulter has touched the handles, pad or horse regardless of whether the music has begun and ends with the time limit.

Any exercise or dismount commenced after the bell will incur a deduction from the artistic score, A movement from the compulsory test may not be used in the free test in the same grade unless it is performed in a different direction or position.

10. STRUCTURE GROUPS OF EXERCISES

FREE STYLE EXERCISES

- Sitting exercises stabile equilibrium
- Kneeling exercises labile equilibrium
- Scale exercises labile equilibrium
- Supported exercises labile equilibrium
- Hanging exercises stabile equilibrium
- Flying exercises passive
- Lying exercises active

Free style exercises are self-defined exercises within the vaulting rules and fixed by biomechanical laws.

STATIC EXERCISES

A static exercise is when the vaulter's body is not displaced 'relative to another system' – the horse 'Body' can be more exactly expressed by 'Centre of gravity', and even more exactly by 'entire number, or at least the vast majority of points of mass'

- Requirements of static exercises

The vaulters body (centre of gravity) is not displaced

Equilibrium is maintained

The exercise is held for at least 3 canter strides or 4 walk strides

Harmony with the horse's movement is maintained

DYNAMIC EXERCISES

A dynamic exercise is one in which the/a body, or (centre of gravity) or the (vast majority of points of mass) is/ are **displaced** relative to any system (the horse)

The impulse for a displacement (movement) comes from muscle power and kinetic (movement) energy

To keep a dynamic exercise under control it must maintain a perpendicular relation to the support area

- Requirements of dynamic exercises

Body is moving (displaced)

Vaulter must remain perpendicular above a line defined by the initial to the final supporting contact of the exercise. Otherwise the movement is out of control. An example would be a badly performed cartwheel.

Control is determined by the relative length of time that the exercise or movement is perpendicular to the area of support.

Please see [FEI Code of Points](#) for all freestyle exercises which include the degree of difficulty.

11. FALLS

A fall is a movement out of control. Falls can be considered in 2 categories:

- Biomechanical: refers to the definition of "fall" (a movement out of control)
- Judicial: refers to the way the rules address or define "fall" and the manner of dealing with it according to the rules

Falls will be recorded by the Technique Judge on the score sheet by writing down an "F" plus the deduction and penalized from the performance score (deduction at the end and not averaged). Falls are categorized in the table below:

The deduction table for falls is available on Page 64 of [THE VAULTING GUIDELINES DOCUMENT](#) available on the [VASA WEBSITE](#).