

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

SECTION 3 ENDURANCE

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ADDITIONAL DISCIPLINE LEAGUE: ENDURANCE DISCIPLINE SPECIFIC DISPENSATIONS, RULES AND REGULATIONS

Endurance Ride Association South Africa (ERASA) is the National Association overseeing the Technical Discipline Rules for the discipline of ENDURANCE. Although SANESA will try to adhere to all ERASA Technical Discipline Rules including special dispensations noted in this document, SANESA Ride Rules and Regulations will be final. All ERASA Technical Discipline Rules are published on <http://www.erasa.co.za>

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1. INTRODUCTION

Endurance riding is an equestrian sport based on controlled long-distance races. It is one of the international competitions recognized by the FEI. There are endurance rides worldwide. Endurance rides can be any distance, though they are rarely over 160 km for a one-day competition.

In an endurance ride, discussed in this article, the winning horse is the first one to cross the finish line while stopping periodically to pass a veterinary check that deems the animal in good health and fit to continue.

Any breed can compete, but the Arabian generally dominates the top levels because of the breed's stamina and natural endurance abilities.

Before the ride, horses are inspected by a veterinarian to ensure they are fit to perform in the ride. Riders may be given a map or GPS waypoints for the course, which shows the route, the places for compulsory halts (called "holds"), and any natural obstacles (such as ditches, steep hills, and water crossings). The trails frequently are marked with coloured surveyor's tape ribbons at regular intervals with additional ribbons or small arrow markers at turns in the trail.

The ride is divided into sections. After each section, horses are stopped for a veterinary inspection (usually called a "vet check"), where they are checked for soundness and dehydration, with their pulse and respiration taken. To continue the ride, the horse must pass the examination, including reducing its heart rate below that specified for the event. The riders' time keeps running until their horses reach the required target, so it is

important that the horses recover as soon as possible. Any horse deemed unfit to continue (due to lameness or excessive fatigue, for example) is eliminated from further competition. After the veterinary inspection, the horse must be held for an additional hold time (usually between 40 – 60 minutes), at which time it is fed and watered.

Riders are free to choose their pace during the competition, adjusting to the terrain and their mount's condition. Therefore, they must have a great knowledge of pace, knowing when to slow down or speed up during the ride, as well as a great knowledge of their horse's condition and signs of tiring.

The terrain riders compete over varies greatly from ride to ride. Natural obstacles (called “hazards”) are marked on the trails.

2. SANESA ENDURANCE DISPENSATIONS

Endurance Rules as per ERASA National Technical Discipline committee rules, including/excluding the following:

- 1) Riders will compete for qualification as a horse-rider combination.
- 2) Selection of an Endurance team will be on horse-rider combination and no substitution of horses will be permitted.
- 3) SANESA qualifying rides are run in conjunction with ERASA/FEI rides, with the season running from the first post Fauresmith 2025 ride (1 August 2025) up and until and including Fauresmith 2026.
- 4) Horses and ponies may compete together in all classes.
- 5) When and if selected for teams, these riders must nominate one of the horses they have registered with Sanesa and competed on during the current season.
- 6) All children riders must ride with an experienced senior (more than 240 km of competition).
- 7) It is recommended that all novice junior riders ride with an experienced senior.
- 8) Points will be awarded for all the competitors in the qualifying rides.
- 9) Points for the rides will be calculated as per published rules.
- 10) If a rider wishes to receive ERASA recognition, he/she will have to ride at the level in which he/she and his/her horse/pony are registered and indicate it on the entry form.
- 11) The onus is on the rider to ensure that he/she and his/her horse/pony are correctly registered and have entered in the correct level.
- 12) All ponies/horses are to be clean and neatly turned out.
- 13) There shall be NO substitutions permitted for whatever reason at the National Championships.
- 14) **At Nationals, only competitors themselves must do warming up of horses/ponies (including for Performance Riding test) starting from 6pm the night before until the end of the ride/competition.**
- 15) Recognized horse passport with updated vaccinations, done by a vet, is compulsory.
- 16) Both horse and rider need to be a registered member of ERASA and familiarise themselves with Erasa rules and regulations

3. DRESS CODE AND TACK:

- 1) Identification numbers are to be worn - horse must be numbered as per ESASA rules.
- 2) Running shoes (“tekkies”) with chaps will be permitted only with safety stirrups.
- 3) Any colour jodhpurs or riding slacks will be permitted.
- 4) Colourful tack and PVC Endurance bridles are permitted.
- 5) Tack must comply with the current ERASA rules, unless otherwise stipulated in this document.

4. RESULTS

- 1) All results will be kept by ERASA as per normal Endurance Ride procedures.
- 2) All electronic score sheets for qualifying rides will be processed and published by the National Secretary. Early registration for 2026 season will close on 28 February 2026. If a rider registers on or before 28 February 2026, all results per horse/rider combination from post Fauresmith 2025 up to and including Fauresmith 2026, will be added to the rider's profile. Riders can still register after 28 February 2026, but it will be considered a late registration and **only rides AFTER** the registration date will then be added to riders' profiles. Late registration will close on 31 May 2026.
- 3) Processing of National results will be the responsibility of the National Office.
- 4) No queries or changes to any results will be done 2 weeks after publishing of results.

5. POINTS & SCORING

Points will **ONLY** be awarded for all the competitors participating in the approved qualifying rides.

(1) SCHOOL POINTS:

Irrespective of the number of competitors in a class, points will be allocated as follows:

- (a) Level weight: Lev 0 = 0, Lev 1 = 15 Lev 4 = 60 Lev 7 = 105.
- (b) The top third of a class will earn higher points per placing starting at 600 for 1st place, 585 for 2nd place decreasing in increments of 15 PLUS their level weight point.
- (c) The lower two thirds of a class will all receive 60 participation points PLUS their level weight point.
- (d) Eliminations and Retirements will receive 20 Participation points.
- (e) The school points will be used to determine the top school teams to qualify to participate at the annual National Championships in the School Team category (all disciplines and levels) if and when such a competition is held.
- (f) Number of schools to qualify will be determined by the National Council on an annual basis.

(2) INDIVIDUAL POINTS:

Irrespective of the number of competitors in a class, points will be allocated as follows:

- a) **For rides at Levels 0 - 7, points will be calculated as follows:** The average speed of the rider is as per ERASA results with no handicap added for level 0 and level 1 and is irrespective of the time keeping system. For level 4 and level 7, the handicap is added to the actual speed as per ERASA procedures irrespective of the time keeping system.
- b) Level 0: Riders are placed in accordance with the actual speed. A limit of 16km/h maximum speed will be applicable.
- c) Level 1: Riders are placed in accordance with the actual speed. A speed limit of 16km/h average speed will be applicable as per ERASA rules.
- d) Level 4 and 7: Riders are placed in accordance with corrected speed. The rider with the best corrected speed is awarded 300 points, the rider with the second fastest adjusted speed 297 points, decreasing in increments of 3 down till the last competitor placed.
- e) Ties will be awarded equal points.
- f) 10 Participation points will be awarded for Eliminations.
- g) No points will be awarded for scratchings or no-rides.
- h) Should a Penalty Point be instituted against a rider, such rider will lose individual and schools points as indicated in clause 29 as well as their placing on the day.
- i) All point allocations will be done automatically by the computer system.

6. QUALIFYING CRITERIA

- 1) The Fauresmith 2026 ride will be recognized as a qualifier for level 4 or 7, but the speed will not be adjusted to compare to a 80km or a 120km ride competitive ride. If a horse-rider combination wants to enter for BOTH level 4 and 7 for 2026, the Fauresmith ride will be recognized towards a qualifier for ONLY level 7
- 2) All other National rides, excluding the SANESA National ride for **2025 (Bona Bona ride, Bona Bona Game Lodge, Klerksdorp on 23 August 2025)**, that fall in the current season will be recognized as qualifying rides. Only rides done **within the borders of South Africa** will count as qualifying rides.
- 3) Selection of the Endurance Provincial School team will be on horse-rider combination and NO substitution of horses will be permitted in any class or level.
- 4) Rides where the horse was eliminated or disqualified will not be taken into consideration.
- 5) High School riders may participate as Senior riders during the season as per ERASA rules but will be compared to junior results for Team selection. On the day of the National Championship High School riders that compete as SENIOR riders, will have to depart in their respective weight categories as per ERASA rules.

7. PRIMARY SCHOOL AND HIGH SCHOOL ENDURANCE LEAGUE

1) Newcomers' Challenge

Level 0: At least **TWO** 40km rides must be ridden and completed

A speed limit of 16km/h per loop will be applicable. This rule applies to every level 0 entry and not to NOVICE horses only.

2) National Championships

Level 1: 60km/ 80km Stepladder-ride

3 x Stepladder rides (minimum of 60km per ride. 80km will also be taken into consideration)

A speed limit of 16km/h per loop will be applicable as per ERASA rules. This rule applies to every level 1 entry and not to NOVICE horses only. Time stops at the veterinary inspection at the end of the second loop and NOT when a rider crosses the finish line. The limit of 16km/h can be adjusted depending on the handicap and conditions of the ride and will be announced at the course discussion of the National Championship ride.

Level 4: 80km Competitive ride

3 x 80km

Fauresmith 2026 ride will be recognized as a qualifier for level 4, but the speed will not be adjusted to compare to a 80km

100km rides will count as a 80km competitive ride

ERASA Step Ladder rides are not recognized in level 4

Level 7: 120km Competitive ride

2 x 120km

Fauresmith 2026 ride will be recognized as a qualifier for level 7, but the speed will not be adjusted to compare to a 120km

160km rides will count as a 120km competitive ride

If a horse-rider combination wants to enter for BOTH level 4 and 7 for 2026, the Fauresmith ride will be recognized towards a qualifier for ONLY level 7