



EQUESTRIAN FEDERATION ESWATINI

ESWATINI NATIONAL EVENTING CHAMPIONSHIPS RULES

Version 2023.4 Rev. September 2023

PREAMBLE

The Equestrian Federation of Eswatini's (EFEs) Eswatini National Eventing Championships are designed to assist the development of the discipline within the Federation and the qualification of horses and riders as they progress through the grades, to regional and international standards. As in all equestrian sports, the interest and welfare of the horse shall be considered paramount in Eswatini National Eventing Championships.

Eswatini National Eventing Championship is held once annually for a calendar period. The Eswatini National Eventing Championship rules have been structured in order to encourage as many riders to the annual Championship as possible, whilst promoting performance excellence to regional and international standards.

Eventing competitions comprise of dressage, cross country and show jumping, with the dressage always ridden first.

GENERAL & DISCIPLINE RULES

The following rules are officially recognized as Eswatini National Eventing Championship Rules and are to be read in conjunction with all current General FEI Rules and Regulations, FEI Eventing Rules, South African Eventing Rules, EFE Annexures to SA Eventing Rules, Dressage SA Rules, SA Show Jumping Rules, FEI Veterinary Regulations and EFE General Regulations where applicable, for Eswatini National Eventing Championships.

It should be noted that the Eswatini National Eventing Championship rules replace all rules pertaining to the South African Championships within the South African Eventing Rules.

All other texts covering the same matter (other editions and all other official documents) issued previously are superseded.

CHAMPIONSHIP RULES & CRITERIA

1. Each athlete is responsible for knowing, understanding and complying with all relevant rules and regulations as stated above and as may be published from time to time.
2. Eswatini National Eventing Championships may only be hosted at EFE Recognised Venues within Eswatini.

3. EFE Management Committee and the EFE discipline committee are responsible for the organising of the Eswatini National Eventing Championships and may include training level and graded level classes in the Championship event.
4. A horse/rider combination must ride in their grade as defined by the latest eventing grading records approved by EFE's Head of Eventing Sub-Committee and EFE's Technical Liaison.
5. In the Eswatini National Eventing Championship, the phases of competition will be run with dressage first, followed by cross country phase and the show jumping phase will run last.
6. The championship event may take place over one (1), two (2) or three (3) days.
7. The starting order draw for the National Champion Title event, i.e. highest level of each category, will take place at the vet inspection.
8. Starting order for the show-jumping phase in the National Championship will be reverse order of merit.
9. Class competitions have to be completed. Riders who are eliminated or retire will not be awarded Class or National Championship titles.
10. In the event that less than three (3) different horse and rider combinations are competing for a National Championship title, the following criteria will be imposed on the competition in order for the National Champion Title to be awarded:
 - 7.1 If the highest competition level is 95cm or below:
 - 7.1.1 Dressage test score of no less than 50%.
 - 7.1.2 Cross country round should be clear for jumping. Time penalties will be accepted.
 - 7.1.3 No more than twenty (20) penalties in show jumping.
 - 7.2 If the highest competition level is 1* or above:
 - 7.2.1 Dressage test score of no less than 48%.
 - 7.2.2 Cross country round should be clear for jumping. Time penalties will be accepted.
 - 7.2.3 No more than twenty-four (24) penalties in show jumping.
 - 7.3 If the criteria is not met by any competitor in the discipline, the National Champion title may not be awarded, only the championship class results will be awarded.

11. Officials must be appointed according to the level of competition within the National Eventing Championships as prescribed in the Eventing SA Rules. As a minimum requirement the following criteria should be met:
 - a. At least two (2) SA provincial (A or B) level dressage judges;
 - b. One (1) SA provincial event judge;
 - c. One (1) SA provincial Technical Delegate;
 - d. One (1) SA provincial cross-country course designer;
 - e. One (1) SA provincial Level 2 show-jumping course designer;
 - f. One (1) SA provincial show-jumping judge.

Where higher than 2* level competitors are required, the minimum qualification of officials will be adjusted accordingly.

12. Prize giving for National Championship title winners will be mounted.
13. Prize money per placing and per class shall be published on the final programme for the National Eventing Championship. Prize money will not be less than 20% of the total entry fees.
14. A minimum of one (1) placing per four (4) competitors will be awarded.
15. Veterinary inspections are compulsory for the highest level of each National Championship title category. These inspections must be conducted by a registered veterinarian before the commencement of the show and before the show jumping rounds. Timing to be advised on the show schedule.
16. Every horse presented must have a valid passport and entry.
17. No substitution of horse may take place after the vet inspection.
18. Electronic timing, approved by EFE, is obligatory for all show jumping and cross country classes at the Eswatini National Eventing Championship event.
19. The EFE and FEI Code of Conduct for the Welfare of the Horse will be strictly adhered to at all times.
20. Every eventuality cannot be provided for in these National Eventing Championship Rules. In any unforeseen or exceptional circumstances, it is the duty of the Ground Jury to make a decision in a sporting spirit, by approaching as near as possible the intention of the FEI rules and South African Eventing rules. Should there remain any omissions in the FEI rules and South African Eventing rules, such omission shall be fully interpreted in a manner compatible with the other provisions of these National Eventing Championship rules, other rules and regulations of the FEI, and sporting spirit.

PARTICIPATION

21. The Eswatini National Eventing Championship competition is open to all EFE members in good standing with the Federation.
22. Horses/ponies to be ridden in the Championship must be registered and in good standing with EFE.
23. Competitors who will be competing for the Eswatini National Eventing Championship Title must have a valid Eswatini Passport or, for non-Swazi nationals, are legally resident within the Kingdom. Competitors of Foreign Nationality may still compete for the Championship Class title but will not be awarded National Championship title should they proceed to win their class.
24. The horse/pony and rider must have entered at least one (1) graded Eventing competition within the annual championship period prior to entering the Eswatini National Eventing Championships in order to qualify for The National Championship Title. Qualifying graded Eventing events include graded Eventing shows hosted at registered venues within Eswatini or graded shows in any Group IX country.

CHAMPIONSHIP CLASS TITLES & AWARDS

Championship class titles will be given to the athlete who scores the lowest penalties in each class competition, after totalling the penalties from all three (3) phases, in the following age and height categories:

Adult Eventing 2* Championship Class
Adult Eventing 1* Championship Class
Adult Eventing 95 Championship Class
Adult Eventing 85 Championship Class

Junior Eventing 2* Championship Class
Junior Eventing 1* Championship Class
Junior Eventing 95 Championship Class
Junior Eventing 85 Championship Class

Pony Rider Eventing 95 Championship Class
Pony Rider Eventing 85 Championship Class

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP TITLES

The National Eventing Championship will be awarded to Eswatini National athletes or non-Swazis legally resident in the Kingdom entered in the highest level competition in each category who score the lowest penalties in the highest graded level, after totaling the penalties from all three (3) phases, in line with criteria stated here, in the following categories:

Adult National Eventing Champion
Junior National Eventing Champion
Pony Rider National Eventing Champion

In the event that the highest level of any category does not have a Swazi National or a non-Swazi legally resident in the Kingdom entered into the class there will be no official National Champion Title awarded for that year. The Title does not move down to a lower level competitor regardless of their nationality.

FLOATING TROPHIES

All National Championship floating trophies remain the property of EFE and shall be returned upon request to EFE prior to the next annual event.

CLOSING

As EFE are the custodians of these National Eventing Championship rules, they reserve the right to amend the rules in any way whatsoever in the best interest of the sport as a whole. Adjustments to the rules will be communicated to EFE membership annually at the AGM for the forthcoming championship period. EFE further reserve the right to the final decision in any ruling or interpretation of a ruling. Their decision will be final and binding.

End.

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