

ACES All Africa Jumping Challenge with Continental Ranking

General Rules and Regulations

PREAMBLE

- The ACES All Africa Jumping Challenge (AAJC) is an African Ranking System for Individuals and Teams
- The AAJC will offer African athletes the opportunity to compete against and to be ranked against other athletes on the African Continent
- The AAJC affords ACES the opportunity to form a database of African Athletes' performance levels on the continent
- The AAJC aims to be the start of a pathway towards an African Continental Championship

ARTICLE 1: PRINCIPAL

1.1 The ACES All Africa Jumping Challenge (AAJC) may be organised by any NF who is a member of ACES

1.2 There are two categories to this Challenge: Future Elite and Elite

1.2.1 The ACES Elite All Africa Jumping Challenge (**EAAJC**) is one competition (one class) within the calendar year 1 January to 31 December which may be run at National Show level. This class may also be an existing class at a show incorporating the title .Example: 1m40 Championship incorporating the EAAJC provided the rules are in place (EG Course design and officials)

1.2.2 The ACES Future Elite All Africa Jumping Challenge (**FEAAJC**) is to be run alongside the FEI Jumping World Challenge Competition 3, as an extra "category" class. Within the calendar year as per above. If an NF wishes to run the Future Elite Class as a class on its own at a National Show (Ie not alongside the FEI Jumping World Challenge) the same requirements as the WCHA-S Category A Competition 3 will apply - ie Same arena size, same course with any amendments from the ACES appointed course designer, same vet inspection requirement, same officials etc.

1.3 There is only one Leg of the AAJC in 2026 (this has potential to change in the future)

1.4 Courses for the **EAAJC** will be Designed by a minimum FEI Level 3 Course Designer and built within each country by qualified Course Designers stipulated in this document for the **FEAAJC** the course is to be the same as the FEI Jumping World Challenge Category A Competition 3 with minor adjustments to allow for the higher height, if necessary, stipulated by ACES' designated course designer for the year.

ARTICLE 2: COMPETITION AND RANKING CATEGORIES

The Competition offers the following categories and max heights:

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|--|
| 2.1 Elite Category | Max Height 1.40m | All Ages from 14 years+ against each other |
| 2.2 Future Elite Category | Max Height 1.30/1.35m | All Ages from 14 years+ against each-other |

Upon Completion of the year - ACES will publish two rankings Youth Ranking(14-21 years) and Senior Ranking (21+)

ARTICLE 3: COMPETITION STRUCTURE

3.1 All riders of the ACES AAJC compete within their country over the same course in each Category across the continent - Either at Elite level or at Future Elite level

3.2 A Course Designer is appointed by the ACES Jumping Committee and will be from an ACES member country to design the tracks for the EAAJC and to make minor adjustments, if necessary, to the FEI WCHA-S tracks for the Future Elite Class (which is run over the same track as the WCHA-S Cat A Competition 3)

3.3 The Course Designer will be at least an FEI Level 3

3.4 Course Designs will be approved by the ACES Jumping Technical Committee and published to the ACES Website

3.5 Arena size must be the same in each country as is set at:
80m x 50m for Elite (1m40) and 65m x 45m for Future Elite (Same as the WCHA-S)

3.6 Arena footing may be grass, sand or fibre

3.7 Future Elite is to be run under these ACES AAJC rules and FEI Jumping World Challenge Rules and

Elite is run under these ACES AAJC rules and FEI Art: 220.2.1.2 (238.2.2) (One round and a jump off - All competitors who go clear proceed to a jump off against the clock)

3.8 FEAAJC Athlete/Horse combination who has been eliminated or who has retired during the 1st round, may NOT take part in the 2nd round of the competition and may not be placed.

3.9 Live streaming of the event would be ideal but not compulsory. Arranging videoing of each round is compulsory for the show organiser to ensure fair play and equality in the event of a dispute

ARTICLE 4: PARTICIPATION

4.1 Athletes from the age of 14 years old may compete in the AAJC

4.2 NFs must declare, to ACES Jumping Technical Committee, their intent to host the competition fourteen (14) days prior to the competition

4.2.1 Entries must be sent to the AAJC Event Secretary at least one day before the event via email as per the registration document details.

4.3 Horse and Rider Combinations will be Ranked

4.4 An Athlete may compete on multiple horses - but must nominate one horse for the official ACES AAJC ranking

4.4.1 The nominated horse must be ridden first and a declaration form must be submitted to the President of the Ground Jury after the horse inspection or at least one day prior to the competition. In the event that an athlete fails to communicate the declaration, the horse that is drawn first will be considered for the ranking.

4.4.2 All horses under one athlete are eligible for placing on the day and listing within the ranking of the event but only the nominated horse will go into official ACES AAJC ranking

4.5 A Horse may compete with only ONE Athlete

4.6 Athletes living outside their country of nationality may compete for their country of residence.

4.7 Athletes may compete for their country of sport nationality at a competition held by another NF. (For example an athlete from Botswana can compete in the competition organised in South Africa.) The NF of the athlete needs to notify ACES of their athlete competing outside of their home nation with the country and the date of intended competition seven days prior to the competition.

4.8 Athletes will be ranked under the NF they are registered with regardless of their nationality.
Example: If a South African National is a permanent resident / working resident in Botswana and registered with the Botswana NF - they will be ranked under "Botswana."

4.9 Athletes and Horses participating in the AAJC do **Not** need to be registered with the FEI

4.10 Table: Minimum Ages of horses per Tour Category which must be verified by the NF upon Entry:

TOUR CATEGORY	MINIMUM AGE OF THE HORSE
Elite	8 Years Old
Future Elite	7 Years Old

ARTICLE 5: RESTRICTIONS

5.1 1m50 level athletes and horses may compete in the Elite Category but not in the Future Elite Category
If Athletes have not competed at 1m50 level for three years they may compete in the Future Elite Category.

ARTICLE 6: INDIVIDUAL CLASSIFICATION

6.1 The ACES AAJC results will reflect as an Individual classification and per country

6.2 An All Africa Result and Ranking will be published once all competitions have been completed as well as Youth Category Ranking and a Senior Category Ranking.

ARTICLE 7: ORGANISATION

7.1 Each NF is to appoint an Organising Committee (OC) (THIS MAY BE AN EXISTING SHOW ORGANISER)

7.2 The NF will appoint just one member of the OC to be the liaison

7.3 The OC is responsible for organising the Ground Jury, Sponsorship, the entries and information distribution, they are also responsible for sending in the results on the official results form and clearly labeled videos of each round and wherever possible a drone picture of each course built.

7.4 Table: Officials and minimum qualifications:

If there are any NFs that cannot meet the below criteria we encourage them to write to the ACES Jumping Technical Committee for assistance - dispensation may be applied for and at the discretion of the ACES Jumping Technical Committee

TOUR CATEGORY	JUDGES	COURSE DESIGNER / BUILDER	STEWARDS	VET
ELITE	FEI Level 3 President of the Ground Jury must be the FEI Level 3 Judge and two members equivalent of FEI Level 1	FEI Level 3	Chief: National Steward FEI Level 1 or equivalent National Level Plus two more - one may be a learner	Head Vet: National Vet
FUTURE ELITE	As per FEI WCHA-S CAT A Competition 3	As per FEI WCHA-S CAT A Competition 3	As per FEI WCHA-S CAT A Competition 3	As per FEI WCHA-S CAT A Competition 3

7.5 A Ground Jury will consist of the President (FEI Level 3 Judge) and two members (may be National Judges equivalent of FEI Level 1 or higher)

7.6 Countries may hold more than one AAJC event in separate locations but Athletes may only compete in one AAJC event

7.7 The Judge's Report must be completed and signed (an electronic signature is acceptable) by the President of the Ground Jury

7.8 All Judges must be Show jumping judges.

7.9 The Official Course Designer and the Judge must sign a form declaring that the course built is true to the design.

7.9.1 When building and measuring the obstacles the course builder, may allow the jumps to be a maximum of 3cm lower than the stated height but all attempts to be accurate must be upheld and the obstacles must never be higher than the stated height.

7.9.2 The distances in related distances and combination obstacles must be accurate.

7.9.3 The start post and finish posts must be carefully measured to match the official course plan.

7.10 The PGJ Judge will act as the Technical Delegate at the same time and make sure that the course is built to the technical specifications including heights, widths distances and course length as per the FEI Level 3 Course Designers specifications

7.11 Stewards: for all competitions organised, it is the responsibility of the organiser to appoint a minimum of three qualified stewards, one of these stewards will be appointed as Chief Steward and one may be a learner or higher level.

7.11.1 The Chief Steward reports to the President of the Ground Jury and is responsible for the coordination of the stewarding team, and is appointed to ensure a level playing field, and ensuring Horse Welfare in accordance with the FEI Rules and Regulations.

7.11.2 The Chief Steward is required to send a report to the ACES Jumping Committee at the conclusion of the event.

7.11.3 The stewards must conduct a boot and noseband check prior to each athlete competing

ARTICLE 8: HORSE INSPECTION

8.1 There will be one Horse Inspection held before the start of the event with a Head Vet in attendance. Any horse participating must pass the Vet Inspection. This is applicable for both categories Elite and Future Elite.

8.2 Competing Horses do not need Purple FEI Passports: Art. 137.2: As an exception to the FEI General Regulations, Horses taking part in the AAJC do **NOT** need to be registered with the FEI and therefore are **NOT** required to have an official, valid FEI Passport, or a National Passport approved by the FEI accompanied by an FEI Recognition Card, as a mean of identification and to establish ownership. All such Horses must be properly registered within their National Federation and identifiable by diagram and microchip. Unless there is no national requirement for equine influenza vaccination in the host country and in the country of origin, all Horses must have a valid vaccination certificate.

8.3 National or FEI Group Passports will be accepted

8.3.1 Racing passports will not be accepted

8.4 It is up to the Athlete to ensure that Vaccinations are up to date

8.5 A member of the Ground Jury must be present and the Horse Inspection must take place, in principle, on the day preceding the Competition to allow for an eventual re-inspection. NFs/OCs may ask for special permission to organise the Horse Inspection on the day of the competition if no stabling is available at the venue or for other acceptable reasons. In this case, if possible sufficient time should be planned between the inspection and the beginning of the competition to allow for an eventual re-inspection.

ARTICLE 9: THE COURSE

9.1 The following **maximum dimensions** apply.

	Height	Spread	Speed
Elite	1.40m	1.60m	375m/m
Future Elite	1.35m	1.50m	350m/m

9.1 The competition arena must be enclosed. The size of the arena is 80 x 50 m for Elite and 65m x 45m for Future Elite

9.2 FEI approved safety cups must be used to support the back pole of all spread obstacles and in case of a triple bar to support the centre and back poles of the obstacle, and all other obstacles wherever possible, including within the warm up arena.

9.3 Only times from Electronic timing equipment from the FEI Approved list will be acceptable - for more information visit: https://inside.fei.org/system/files/List_approved_timing_update_07.03.2025_0.pdf

ARTICLE 10: EQUALITY AND FAIR PLAY

In addition to multiple fair play check points re judge and steward approval of course:

10.1 As per 3.9 Live streaming of the event would be ideal but not compulsory. Arranging Videoing of each round is compulsory for the show organiser to ensure fair play and equality in the event of a dispute

ARTICLE 11: RESULTS AND PRIZES

11.1 The Organising Committee with each NF is responsible for the distribution of prizes

11.2 Prize money should be awarded.

11.3 Minimum One in every Four Athletes must be rewarded with a placing

11.4 Results of the events will be available on the ACES website.

11.5 Prizes will be the responsibility of the OC to organise

11.6 The winner of the event (Elite and Future Elite) should receive an ACES branded rosette, blanket and sash. See Art 13.1 provided by the show organiser.

11.7 The following must be sent to the AAJC Event Secretary within one week of the conclusion of the event

11.7.1 Results on official result sheets

11.7.2 Horse declaration forms

11.7.3 Judge's report

11.7.4 Chief Steward's report

11.7.5 Vet Report

11.7.6 One copy of the competition programme

11.7.7 Photographs

11.7.8 Videos of all rounds (via Google Drive) or a link of the recorded livestream

ARTICLE 12: BRANDING AND MARKETING MATERIAL

12.1 ACES Marketing Department will supply an The Official ACES Logo for use on rosettes, sashes and blankets

ARTICLE 13: EVENT REGISTRATION

13.1 ACES Jumping Committee will appoint an organising committee at the beginning of every year.

13.2 The AAJC committee will consist of the following:

13.2.1 Show Secretary – responsible for distributing invitations and entry forms, receiving entries and supporting federations. They will also be responsible for gathering results and formulating the results and the ranking, as well as formulating and AAJC Event Calendar.

13.2.2 Technical Committee – will consist of two course designers (FEI Level 3) one from the North and one from the South who will together approve the tracks. There will also be a Chief Ground Jury Judge that will approve schedules received from the federations and help appoint officials to the federations for the event. They will ensure that all parameters of the event are upheld and to be in charge of fair play.

13.2.3 Chief Judges – consisting of two Level 3 Jumping Judges (1 from the North and 1 from the South) who will read the reports from each federation to compile a final report that declares the competition to be fair.

IMPORTANT DATES

The ACES AAJC is held between the 1 January and the 31 December.
Final results and rankings will be posted by 1st February of the following year

As per Article 4

NFs must declare their intent to host the competition 14 days prior to competition
Entries must be sent to the AAJC Event Secretary at least 1 day before the event.

DOCUMENTS AND FORMS SUPPLIED TO NF BY AASC SECRETARY

1. Registration/Entry Form
2. Rules
3. Course Designs and Guide lines for Course Designers
4. Horse Declaration From Template
5. Results Sheet Template
6. Report Template for President of the Ground Jury
7. Vet Delegate Report Template
8. Chief Stewards Report Template
9. Judges Report Template

IMPORTANT:

Welfare of the horse and Clean Sport is paramount according to the the FEI Social License to Operate and that the rights of the Child are upheld.

These rules may not cover every eventuality. Where unique circumstances arise please contact acesjumping@gmail.com and the ACES technical Committee will address and revert solutions.

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