

ACES All Africa Jumping Series with Continental Ranking

General Rules and Regulations

PREAMBLE

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

ARTICLE 1: PRINCIPAL

- 1.1** The ACES All Africa Jumping Series (AAJS) may be organised by any NF who is a member of ACES
- 1.2** The ACES All Africa Jumping Series (AAJS) is one competition within the calendar year 1 January to 31 December.
- 1.3** There are Four Ranking Categories
- 1.4** There is one Leg of the Competition only
- 1.5** Courses will be Designed by a minimum FEI Level 3 Course Designer and built within each country by qualified Course Designers stipulated in this document
- 1.6** There will be four different courses

ARTICLE 2: RANKING CATEGORIES

The Competition offers the following categories and max heights:

2.1 Platinum Tour	Max Height 1.40m/1.45m	Adult and Young Riders
2.2 Gold Tour	Max Height 1.30/1.35m	Adult and Juniors
2.3 Silver Tour	Max Height 1.20m/1.25m	Adult and Juniors
2.4 Bronze Tour	Max Height 1.05m/1.10m	Adult, Juniors and Childrens

AGES OF CATEGORIES

Adult: An Athlete aged Eighteen (18) or older

Young Rider: An Athlete eligible to compete in an event from the beginning of the calendar year they turn 16 to the end of the calendar year they turn 21

Junior: Athletes compete in Junior Category from the year they reach the age of fourteen (14) until the end of the year they reach the age of Eighteen (18)

Children: Athletes may compete in this category from the year they reach the age of twelve (12) until the end of the year they reach the age of fourteen (14)

ARTICLE 3: COMPETITION STRUCTURE

3.1 All riders of the ACES AAJS compete within their country over the same course in each Category across the continent

3.2 A Course Designer, is appointed to design the tracks, by the ACES Jumping Committee and will be from an ACES member country

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

3.4 There will be a different course designed and built for each Tour Category

3.5 Course Designs will be approved by the ACES Jumping Technical Committee and published to the ACES Website and sent to NFs who have registered for the competition

3.6 Arena size must be the same in each country and is set at **70m x 50m**

3.7 Arena footing may be grass, sand or fibre

3.8 Each Category will consist of one competition which will run under FEI Rules. FEI Jumping Rules; Table A, Art. 273.4.2, over two rounds and a jump off, in the unlikely event, if there is equality in time and penalties

3.8.1 Both rounds are to be completed on the same day.

3.8.2 Tour Categories may be run on separate days but each tour's two rounds must be completed within one day

3.8.3 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.

3.8.4 First round: Not against the clock (Maximum 12 Obstacles)
Second round: Against the clock. Starting order in 2nd round: reverse order of penalties in the 1st round; Athletes retain their drawn order in case of equality of penalties.

3.9 The competition can be held within an existing show (National or International status) as a class.

3.9.1 Horses participating in the AASJ are not allowed to compete in National Events on the same day

3.10 Running Orders will be published the day before the competition

3.11 Placing: Athletes will be placed according to aggregate penalties over both rounds and the time incurred in the second round. If there is an equality of time and penalties there will be a jump off.

3.12 Live streaming of the event would be ideal but not compulsory

ARTICLE 4: PARTICIPATION

4.1 NFs must declare, to ACES Jumping Technical Committee, their intent to host the competition 30 days prior to the competition

4.1.1 Entries must be sent to the AAJS Event Secretary at least 7 days before the event via email as per the registration document details.

4.2 There is no restriction on athletes competing and being ranked in multiple categories

4.3 Horse and Rider Combinations will be Ranked

4.4 An Athlete may compete on multiple horses in each tour category - but must nominate one horse for the official ACES AAJS 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 the day before 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 AAJS ranking

4.5 A Horse may compete with only ONE Athlete, in only ONE Category

4.6 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.)

4.7 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."

4.8 Athletes and Horses participating in the AASJ do **Not** need to be registered with the FEI

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

TOUR CATEGORY	MINIMUM AGE OF THE HORSE
Platinum	8 Years Old
Gold	7 Years Old
Silver	6 Years Old
Bronze	5 Years Old

ARTICLE 5: RESTRICTIONS AND ALLOWANCES

5.1 1m50 athletes and horses may compete in the Platinum Tour at 1.40/1.45m

5.2 Platinum and Gold Athletes may compete at lower level categories and be placed and classified in the class but their highest level category will go towards official ranking.

5.3 An Athlete may ride in all 4 Categories with 4 different Horses and may be placed in class in all 4 categories but only the highest category that the athlete competes in will go towards overall ranking. In addition to his Individual results, if an Athlete competes in more than one Category only the results of the highest Category will count for the Team Ranking.

5.4 As per Rule 4.8 Athletes living outside their country of nationality may compete for their country of residence. They may also be members of their host country's team

5.5 The NF of the organising country may enter as many Athletes as it wishes for each Category

ARTICLE 6: INDIVIDUAL CLASSIFICATION

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

6.2 An All Africa Result will be published once all competitions have been completed

6.3 There will be a class classification and an age category classification.

Example: If the class is combined with Adults and Juniors and the results are as follows:

1st Junior Athlete, 2nd Adult Athlete and 3rd Junior Athlete - The Adult will be ranked as 2nd in class on the day of competition but 1st in the Adult Ranking overall of the competition. The Juniors will be ranked as 1st

and 3rd in class on the day of competition but 1st and 2nd in the overall all Junior Ranking from that competition.

ARTICLE 7: TEAM CLASSIFICATION

The ACES AAJS offers a Team classification for each tour category adults, juniors and children will all have separate rankings:

7.1 An NF may enter One team per category into team classification

7.2 An NF may also enter one team into the Mixed Team classification

7.3 Teams of up to 4 athletes in each tour category may be entered and must be selected by the National Federation.

7.4 Where countries have 4 athletes entered in a team a drop score rule will apply

To include smaller federations in team classification:

7.5 Mixed Teams may be entered which must include a team member from each tour category

ARTICLE 8: ORGANISATION

8.1 Each NF will appoint an Organising Committee (OC) that will consist of:

- a secretary
- a sponsorship secretary
- a technical delegate
- a representative from the venue where the event will take place

8.2 The NF will appoint just one member of the OC to be the liaison between the ACES Event Committee and the NF

8.3 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 a clearly labeled video of each round and wherever possible a drone picture of each course built.

8.4 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 BUILDER	STEWARDS	VET
Platinum, Gold and Silver	Foreign Judge FEI Level 2 President: National Judge equivalent to FEI Level 1	FEI Level 1	Chief: National Steward FEI Level 1 or equivalent National Level Plus two more - one may be a learner	Head Vet FEI Level 1 Treating Vet: National Vet

TOUR CATEGORY	JUDGES	COURSE BUILDER	STEWARDS	VET
Bronze	Foreign Judge FEI Level 2 President: National Judge equivalent to FEI Level 1	National Course Builder	Chief: National Steward FEI Level 1 or equivalent National Level Plus two more - one may be a learner	Head Vet: National Vet Treating Vet: National Vet

8.5 A Ground Jury will consist of a President plus a Foreign Judge and two members.

8.6 Countries may hold more than one AAJS event in separate locations but Athletes may still only compete once in each Ranking Category – regardless if the location is different.

8.7 The Judge's Report must be completed and signed (an electronic signature is acceptable) by the Foreign Judge.

8.8 All Judges, both National and Foreign must be jumping judges.

8.9 The Official Course Builder and the Foreign Judge must sign a form declaring that the course built is true to the design.

8.9.1 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.

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

8.9.3 The start and finish in the speed round must be carefully measured to match the official course plan.

8.10 The Foreign 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

8.11 Stewards: for all competitions organised regardless of the Category, 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.

8.11.1 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.

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

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

ARTICLE 9: HORSE INSPECTION

9.1 There will be one Horse Inspection held before the start of the event with a Head Vet and a Treating Vet in attendance. Any horse participating must pass the Vet Inspection.

9.2 Competing Horses do not need Purple FEI Passports: Art. 137.2: As an exception to the FEI General Regulations, Horses taking part in the AASJ 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.

9.3 National or FEI Group Passports will be accepted

9.3.1 Racing passports will not be accepted

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

9.5 The Foreign Judge 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 10: THE COURSE

10.1 The penalties will be calculated according to the FEI Jumping Rules, 27th addition (updates effective 1st January 2025)

10.2 Table:

ROUND 1	Obstacles	Combinations	Inclusion of Triple Combination	Inclusion of Liver Pool	Inclusion of Open Water Jump	Inclusion of a Wall	Obstacles at Max Height
Platinum	12	Two	Yes	Yes	Potentially Year 2	Potentially Year 2	6
Gold	12	Two	Yes	Yes	No	Potentially Year 2	6
Silver	12	Two	No	Yes	No	No	5
Bronze	12	One or Two	No	No	No	No	5

10.3 Table:

ROUND 2	Obstacles	Combinations	Obstacles at Max Height
Platinum	Minimum 8 / Maximum 9	One Double	Maximum 6
Gold	Minimum 8 / Maximum 9	One Double	Maximum 6
Silver	Minimum 8 / Maximum 9	One Double	Maximum 5
Bronze	Minimum 8 / Maximum 9	One Double	Maximum 5

10.4 The following **maximum dimensions** apply in the four grades. The width of the obstacles must not exceed the height by more than 10cm (20cm for the triple bar):

	Height	Spread	Speed
Platinum	1.45m	1.55m	375m/m
Gold	1.35m	1.45m	350m/m
Silver	1.25m	1.35m	350m/m
Bronze	1.10m	1.20m	325m/m

10.5 The competition arena must be enclosed. The size of the arena is 70 x 50 m.

10.6 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.

10.6.1 Poles need to be as close to FEI Specifications as possible

10.7 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 11: WARM UP CLASS

11.1 A warm up class or an arena familiarisation with an allowance of 90 seconds in the main events competition arena is compulsory for the OC to include in the time table

11.2 The Warm up class must be the day before the main event for all Categories and/or the Arena Familiarisation must prior to the start of the event

11.3 The official course designer will send a course that they deem suitable to prepare the athletes for the main event. This course may include similar lines and distances but this is not essential.

11.4 The official Course Builder will again attempt to reproduce the course exactly as the design is laid out.

11.5 The Warm up class will be a Two Phase Special FEI Art. 274.2. It is not compulsory for the athletes to jump in this class.

11.6 The class will award placings - one place to every four athletes and may award prizes and prize money to the discretion of the OC.

11.7 Results from the Warm Up Class will also be posted on the ACES Website.

ARTICLE 12: EQUALITY AND FAIR PLAY

In addition to multiple fair play rules above:

12.1 Live Streaming of the competition is encouraged but not compulsory

ARTICLE 13: RESULTS AND PRIZES

13.1 The Organising Committee with each NF is responsible for the distribution of prizes in the normal way

13.2 Prize money should be awarded.

13.3 One in every 4 Athletes must be rewarded with a placing

13.4 There will be an INDIVIDUAL ranking per Country and a Continental ranking for all four tour categories

13.5 There will be a Continental TEAM ranking for each tour category

13.6 There will also be a result for a mixed team consisting of a member from each tour category. See Article 7.

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

13.8 Prizes will be the responsibility of the OC to organise

13.9 The winner of each Tour Category should receive an ACES branded rosette, blanket and sash.

13.10 The following must be sent to the AAJS Event Secretary within one week of the conclusion of the event:

13.10.1 Results on official result sheets

13.10.2 Horse declaration forms

13.10.3 Foreign Judge's report

13.10.4 Chief Steward's report

13.10.5 Vet Report

13.10.6 One copy of the competition programme

13.10.7 Photographs

ARTICLE 14: BRANDING AND MARKETING MATERIAL

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

ARTICLE 15: EVENT REGISTRATION

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

15.2 The AAJS committee will consist of the following:

15.2.1 Show Secretary – responsible for distributing invitations and entry forms, receiving entries and supporting federations with timeous distribution of rules. They will also be responsible for gathering results and formulating the results.

15.2.2 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.

15.2.3 Chief Ground Jury – 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 AAJS 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:

4.1 NFs must declare their intent to host the competition 30 days prior to competition

4.1.1 Entries must be sent to the AAJS Event Secretary at least 7 days before the event.

DOCUMENTS AND FORMS SUPPLIED TO NF BY AASJ SECRETARY

1. Registration 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 and Foreign Judge

7. Vet Delegate Report Template

8. Chief Stewards 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.