

VAULTING ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH AFRICA

P. O. Box 70413, Bryanston, 2021, Gauteng, South Africa
Telephone: 0823368006, Fax: 0866852600, Email: admin@vaultingsa.co.za



PRESIDENTS REPORT 2018

INTRODUCTION

2018 has been a quiet year for vaulting in terms of membership, club and provincial growth, however, for the third year running, the Vaulting NEC is very stable, well administered, compliant and operating efficiently with total co-operation between us, our provincial committees and the SAEF.

The VASA committee has a strong awareness of finding ways to improve and develop our sport in the areas of educating and developing more judges and officials, development, rules and regulations and growing our membership, all the while ensuring a fair open minded mindset and total transparency in all areas.

We would like to thank the SAEF staff for all their help and support throughout the year, which enabled us to operate efficiently and effectively as an Association.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to every member of the VASA Committee for their dedication to our sport and for their assistance in running our Association.

CLUBS AND MEMBERSHIP

There are currently still 3 provinces that are actively involved in vaulting.

KZN has been going through a bit of upheaval with most of their committee members resigning due to political in-fighting and personal reasons. At their AGM held in March 2019, a new committee has been formed under the existing president and hopefully, they will be able to move past their differences and build up a strong committee in the province to get vaulting back on track. The shows they held in 2018 were all held successfully and they had Bongani Mvumvu run a clinic for their vaulters.

WC has a small, steady, committed committee who work hard to keep the sport alive in their province. There is steady progress in their membership with 2 vaulting clubs-the Hout Bay Riding Centre and the Mossel Bay vaulting club.

The WC committee hosted 3 graded shows and 1 training show during the year, but do have a shortage of higher grade vaulting horses, making it difficult for their members to move up through the grades.

WC will be hosting the South African Vaulting Champs in September 2019, so will be gearing up to raise funds for the event which will be held at Rivendell Stud in Stellenbosch.

Gauteng is the strongest of the 3 provinces in terms of numbers-which are steadily growing- and finances. They too have a newly elected committee and are showing tremendous enthusiasm in growing vaulting in their province.

As well as numerous graded shows-all well attended-Gauteng also hosted the South African Championships in 2018 in conjunction with the Group IX Africa Vaulting Cup and the SANESA Nationals.

Gauteng hosted several International coaches/vaulters during 2018 and early 2019 and offered clinics to their members to try and bridge the gap we have in SA of not having enough high level coaches.

SHOWS

SA Championships

Gauteng Province hosted the 2018 SA Champs from the 3rd to the 7th of October at the Lipizzaner Hall in Kyalami in conjunction with the Group IX Africa Vaulting Cup and the SANESA Nationals. This was no mean feat to run 3 separate events with 3 separate prize givings and rules successfully, but they pulled it off.

The SA Champs was attended by vaulters from all 3 provinces who all performed extremely well. Mrs Ulla Ränge, FEI3* vaulting judge officiated at the event, along with our National and Provincial judges.

Being run at the same time was the Group IX Africa Vaulting cup. Countries participating where;

Zimbabwe

Zambia

Mauritius

South Africa

International

As well as Mrs Ränge judging the event with our local judges, Miss Regina Burgmayer -4th ranked vaulter in Germany, gave clinics before and during the event.

The SANESA Nationals was run at the same time, also with teams from all 3 provinces competing. By all accounts, a very successful event.

A big thank you to the FEI Solidarity for the funding for the Africa Vaulting Cup and to Prestigio for the sponsorship for the SA Champs.

INTERNATIONAL

Only Chelsey Gertenbach attended and represented South Africa at the World Equestrian Games held in Tryon USA. She came 18 out of 30 starters.

SANESA

VASA has a good relationship with SANESA, with all our provinces running 4 shows each, a total of 12 qualifiers before the Nationals in October 2018. The shows are run in conjunction with our normal graded shows which encourages the athletes to enter both shows, with classes for both horse and barrel offered.

The SANESA Nationals was held over the same time as the SA Champs and was very successful.

DEVELOPMENT

The grant from the FEI Solidarity has been a huge boost to the development clubs. The money has been used to pay for show entry fees, vaulting shoes, unitards and transport to all shows as well as our SA Champs-which was held in Gauteng-for all disadvantaged athletes and their horses throughout South Africa. 2019 will be the final year for this grant and we have been in discussion with all provinces to start putting alternative plans into action to support their PDI's in the future.

Despite the closure of the IVLA/Shumbashaba club, Gauteng are still leading the development of disadvantaged athletes with the Soweto Riding Club attracting vaulters from Soweto, participating in most of the provincial shows. The GVC have put in a significant amount of effort to assist these athletes and have also been hosting clinics to help develop the athletes as well as the lungers.

KZN has started a development programme with 8 PDI's who have already benefited from the Solidarity grant. These vaulters attended the SA Champs and we are encouraged by their efforts. We are excited that development has spread to another province and are encouraging the WC to get something started, either in George/Mossel bay or Hout Bay.

OFFICIALS, COACHES, JUDGES

Our big weakness in vaulting is the lack of coaches, judges and other officials and VASA is making a concerted effort to assist our existing coaches with the RPL process to enable them to get registered. For those who do not qualify for RPL, VASA recognises the importance of supporting and developing our existing coaches, lungers and judges in remaining current and growing their own skills by providing them with the relevant opportunities. We are waiting for the SAEF to confirm the education pathway for coaches so that we can get more coaches into the system.

VASA has applied and been granted funds for FEI Courses, top Internationals, first aid courses so that we can offer an education path to our judges, coaches and athletes. We are hoping to get going by the 2nd half of this year, along with local judges' clinics and lunging certifications for our judges and lungers.

CONCLUSION

The VASA NEC would like to extend our thanks and gratitude to everyone involved in the sport of vaulting from the SAEF, FEI Solidarity, the administrators and athletes through to the parents, grooms and non-vaulting persons who dedicate so much of their time and efforts to our sport. VASA remains committed to vaulting in South Africa and going forward, we will continue to strive to run our Association in a professional, compliant, fair and open minded manner in order to grow the sport of vaulting to new heights.
