



SA BOERPERD BREEDERS' SOCIETY

July 2013, NEWS LETTER No. 2

Dear Boerperd Friends

The year 2013 seems to be a year of many firsts and more changes not only within the SA Boerperd Society, but also in the broader equine sports community. The restructuring of the SAEF (South African Equestrian Association) plays a significant role in how we will have to plan and organise horse sport in the future. Read more about these influences later in this news letter, as well as the effect it will have on our SA Boerperd Horsemanship team.

The increasing financial pressure in our country is certainly also a reason for concern and thus also effects us as breeders of horses. The pressure of this economical situation is evident in the latest horse auctions where unrealistically low prices for horses seem to be the norm rather than the exception. We would however, like to ensure you that there is nothing wrong with our breed or the quality of the horses being presented at auctions. Good luck to the studs that still have auctions planned for the rest of the year.

Our annual National Championships in Parys is only 2 months away. The Showing committee is currently busy finalising arrangements for this prestigious event. The next News Letter will therefore also be mostly dedicated to show information and the preparation thereof. You can send your questions to the addresses given below.

Thanks to all for the positive communication and input to the board. Be assured that we give ample attention to all your letters and concerns. Where applicable, these will be put on the agenda for the General Annual Meeting 2013. Please keep in mind that decisions that were made during the meeting annual on the 5th October 2012 cannot be overridden by the Board before the next discussion and voting in the meeting for 2013. It is therefore of the utmost importance that all your input, decisions and voting for the next meeting be well thought through.

Enjoy this News Letter!

Regards

Piet Grové
PRESIDENT 2012/13
083 301 163

NEWS LETTER COMPILED BY

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Please send all questions or contributions for the next News Letter to the above addresses before 30th August 2013.

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1. CENTRAL STALLION SELECTION: 2013

Charles van Schalkwyk & Dirk Odendaal



According to a decision made at the *General Annual Meeting (5th October 2012)*, the central Stallion Selection for stallions countrywide was held on the Show Grounds in Frankfort (Free State) from 28th to 30th May 2013.

This event was a first for the SA Boerperd Breeders' Society. According to the Board Member concerned with Selection Processes, Dirk Odendaal, all procedures went smoothly and according to plan; the venue and facilities were also adequate. Apart from the fact that this event was the first CENTRAL stallion selection in our society, 5 independent SA Boerperd qualified selectors were used to assess each stallion individually and independently. The final marks of all the selector were used collectively to calculate the final result.

Dawn Mansfield made ample use of this event to collect data for her research project by measuring the stallions, as well as taking videos of their movement.

The whole event lasted three days and drew quite a few spectators. A large number of stallions withdrew from the selection. However, of the total of 59 stallions that were presented for inspection, 43 stallions were selected and branded, where 16 were advised to reapply for the next year's stallion selections.

2. RESTRUCTURING OF HORSESPORT IN SA – SAEF

A letter about the current restructuring taking place in horse sport societies was placed on the SA Boerperd Breeders' Society website recently. Following this letter, we herewith give you more detailed information about the negotiations about the national structures, as well as where we will fit in for the future.

A translation of the initial letter on the website reads as follows:

The **SAEF** (*South African Equestrian Federation*) is an organisation that was established by **SASCOC** (*South African Sports Confederation and Olympic Committee*) to regulate all horse sport disciplines in South Africa. The **SAEF** is also the only internationally recognised regulating body for horse sport in South Africa.

The Board is aware of the latest developments and suggested restructuring in horse sport circles. This is the result of legislation being implemented through the SAEF (South African Equestrian Federation).

The SA Boerperd Breeders' Society, together with all other breeders' societies registered at SA Studbook, is currently negotiating with the SAEF to ensure that our breeders' specific shows are recognised in the broader structure. Together with the other breeders' societies, the SA Boerperd Society is thus busy to negotiate as a collective unit with the SAEF. We will keep you updated as things progress in this regard.

The only way to have access to compete against all breeds and on a high level is to join clubs that are already functioning. However, this option might turn out to be a very expensive route to take. The Board will come up with an alternative solution in the near future. Therefore do NOT allow expensive clubs and societies to put pressure on you to join clubs in a hurry.

The Society will provide you with an alternative in the form of a club in the near future. You can then make your own assessment of the options available and join where you feel comfortable.

For any further queries, contact Ms Heleen Pope (082 630 1827) or Mr. Jan Joubert (083 289 9220)

Thank you.

*Piet Grovè
President: SA Boerperd Breeders' Society*

The restructuring of horse sport organisations, as well as the implementing of new

regulations is based on legislation. According to the constitution of the **SAEF** (19th July 2012, 2nd edition; www.saeef.org.za), the aim of the **SAEF** is to support all their members with the awarding of National Protea Colours, as well as the funding thereof as required by **SASCOC**. The **SAEF** thus becomes an organisation through which a variety of horse sport disciplines get the opportunity to lobby with the ministry and government.

- The SA Boerperd Breeders' Society, together with other breeders' societies, is currently busy with negotiations with the authorities to be included, as well as recognised as breeders in this new structure. At a special Forum held on 6th June 2013, a special committee consisting of representatives of all horse breeds, as well as SA Studbook that represents ± 27 000 horses, was elected to lobby with the authorities on their behalf for a place in this new structure. We can assure you that the SA Boerperd has very good representation on this committee and that our interests will be well looked after.

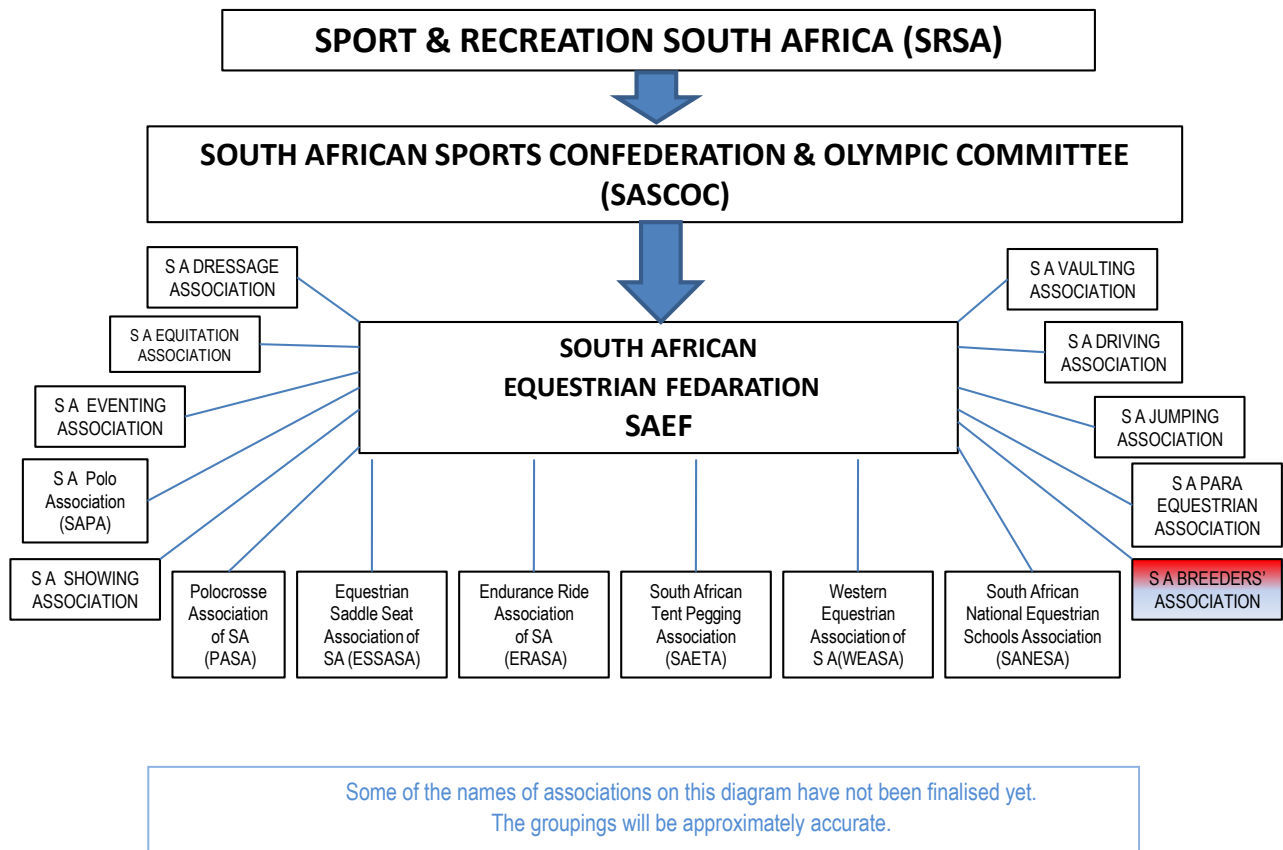
If the current suggestions that were put forward by the above committee are accepted, the structure of the **SAEF** could be as outlined in the diagram below. The idea is that the respective breeders' societies will be housed together in one association to function on the same level as indicated below. The SA Boerperd Breeders' Society will thus be on the same level as the other breeders' societies, where all will function collectively as the **SA Breeders' Association**. This association will thus include other breeds like the Welsh Ponies, American Saddlers, Arabs, etc. as well.

Horses that compete in SA Boerperd Championships alone, will only have to be a member of the SA Boerperd Breeders' Society, as is currently the case. To fit in to the bigger picture of the **SA Breeders' Association**, the name of our currently *society* might be changed to the *SA Boerperd Breeders' Club*. Our shows, championships, selection processes, showing rules, etc. however, will still take place under our own rules and regulations. We will also still have our own executive board.

Owners of any breed would be able to join the SA Boerperd Breeders' Club. However, it will still be registered and branded SA Boerperd only that will be allowed to take part in our shows. In cases where horses / members that are members of the SA Boerperd Club want to compete in other inter-breed competitions and disciplines additionally, they will have to join the other discipline specific associations, for example *Eventing* or *Tent-pegging*. This is already functional. An additional fee will be



payable to the applicable association(s). The cost should be around R200.00 per discipline. However, to be able to join ANY association, you have to belong to a *club* first and foremost. Alternative clubs could also be formed by Riding schools, etc. It is HERE that we want to provide the SA Boerperd Club members with an option not to have to belong to an expensive club in an expensive area.



The **SAEF** have direct contact with **SASCOC** (*South African Sports Confederation & Olympic Committee*) that regulates ALL sports on national level. This means that they also have the authority to approve international competitions. If a team competes internationally without their approval, Protea colours cannot be awarded. Thus nobody can earn Protea colours for any competition if it not approved by However if **SASCOC** approves and awards these colours, funding can be applied for as well.

- BENEFITS OF RESTRUCTURING**
- A databasis of all horse sport in S A could be created by the use of Logix (www.logix.org.za).
 - SA Protea-colours could be earned through the SA Boerperd Club provided that all the right channels are followed.

3. SA BOERPERD HORSEMANSHIP TEAM

After having read the above information, you should realise that the restructuring of horse sport in SA plays a significant role in how our Horsemanship team as chosen in 2012 will compete internationally. The team chosen in 2011 travelled to the USA as a SA Boerperd team and earned their honorary SA Boerperd colours in the process. No Protea colours were awarded.



If we want to make our team eligible to earn Protea colours, we HAVE to follow the correct procedures through the newly set structure as outlined above. We also have to comply to certain criteria as set by **SASCOC**.

In the light of this restructuring process, as well as the opportunities in being part thereof, we decided NOT to have Horsemanship trials for the year 2013. The current team as chosen in Parys 2012 will still remain our team for whom negotiations will be done. The current plan is for them to compete internationally early in 2014 hopefully with the approval **SASCOC**. Although there are still a lot of unanswered questions, you can be assured that a lot of work is being done on your behalf behind the scenes to ensure that you as team will compete as planned.

Be assured: we haven't forgotten you!

4. REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

4.1 Free State Regional Championships, 2013

The year 2013 was the second consecutive year the Free State Regional Championships were held in Bloemfontein. The theme for this year's show was "Wild West". Historically, our show is one of the largest horse shows nationally, including a wide variety of horse breeds. 60 Boerperd, that include 24 studs/owners, participated in the show. They came from the Free State, North-West, Gauteng, Northern-Cape, Eastern-Cape, as well as Western-Cape. Bloemfontein is now more than just a Free State Regional Championship: it has become an easily accessible showing destination for our members that are from places far away such as the Northern-Cape (Augrabies & Upington), as well as the Eastern-Cape. For our club members in the Free State it is a central destination.

Charles van Schalkwyk





Bloemfontein does not emphasise breeding classes; it is evident that people would rather show horses in riding- or driving classes at this time of the year. Therefore we do not separate in-hand classes: for us it is more important for the final qualifying horses in the last "Crown Horse" competition to bring the Traditional- and Universal horses closer together. The results of the previous years are proof enough that it CAN be done as none of the types were dominant in the final results. This combination however causes big senior classes for which we compensate with more placements. In the big classes, we award up to 8 places with rosettes. To support this, we are fortunate to have a variety of sponsors of which Crown National is the biggest. Prize money is also paid out to the first 3 places in all classes. In Championship classes, prize money is paid to the first 5 placements, i.e. more than R 1000 per championship class. Other prizes that were won were sponsored by *Browbandz SA*, *The Horse Shop Bloemfontein* and *Canterlot*.

The most prestigious class of the show is the "Crown Horse" class with prize money of R2500.00. This year *Lang-Carel Viceroy* won this class for the 2nd consecutive year. Have a look at the other results, as well as pictures on our webpage.



Bloemfontein Free State Regional Championships have already implemented quite a few "firsts":

- We were the first Regional Championships that had separate under- and over 5 year classes, each with its own championship for the universal, as well as traditional classes respectively.
- We were the first Regional Championship that also separated the junior and senior gelding classes (over- and under 5 years). This resulted in our being able to select a Grand Champion Gelding from those qualifiers.
- In 2011 we were one of the first SA Boerperd Shows that included show jumping classes in our program.
- We were also the first Regional Championship that included as class for "5 gaited Riders u younger than 19 years".

The Bloemfontein SA Boerperd Showing Committee would like to thank everyone that supported the show, with special reference to the exhibitors that travelled a long way. A special thanks to all our sponsors, as well as my co-committee members: Johan Nel (Chairman), Dirk Odendaal, Heinrich Köhne, Herman Pfeiffer, Chantel Lilly, Jani Oelofse and Andrea Walle. Thanks also to our excellent judges Nic Jooste (In-hand- & Tradition classes) with Chantelle Jooste as official, as well as

Bev Williamson (Riding- & Universal classes) with Jani Oelofse as official. Frikkie Scheepers of the Riding Officials Association acted as gate marshall.



For the Youth Action, a show dance were organised according to the "Wild West" theme. Thanks to Rita Odendaal for all her hard work. The young and the not-so-young enjoyed this thoroughly while the 100% sponsored exhibitors reception was held simultaneously. Dirk Odendaal and Johan Nel each donated a sheep, while the Boerewors was sponsored by Herman Pheiffer. All the stable hands received a free braai pack.

At the annual Free State SA Boerperd Club meeting it was decided that the club will again apply to the board to host the Freestate Regional Championships for 2014. At the same meeting Heinrich Köhne was elected as new Chairman, Herman Pheiffer as treasurer and Rozelle Hattingh as secretary.

After the completion of the Bloemfontein show, the General Bloemfontein Show Association has already started planning for 2014. They would be honoured to accommodate the SA Boerperd again in the coming year from 28th April to 1st May 2014. We are looking forward to receive you then.

4.2 Mpumalanga Regional Championship: 2013

Manie Louwrens



At end of March 2013 the Mpumalanga Regional Championships took place at the Ermelo Show Grounds. It was a bonus to be able to camp on the site and the residents was very positive about the show being moved back to Ermelo after it was previously held at the Delmas Show Grounds (2010) and Pienaarsdsam (Middelburg, 2011). Many exhibitors camped on site which resulted in there being a pleasant atmosphere throughout the event.

Every year the Mpumalanga Championships show a growth in numbers. This year, 149 competing horses attended the event. The venue was chosen as to be able to accommodate enough stabling for all the horses and tack. The standard of the horses at the show were excellent. Thank you very much to our judges Sandra Bosman (universal) and Lomon Terreblanche (traditional) for their positive contribution to the success of the show. Judith McLeod stood in as gate marshall and executed this sometimes tedious work with finesse and insight. She is however, a lady with many talents and also acted as



Show Jumping Judge. Thanks again to everyone that contributed to the success of the show.



At a separate "braai" that was organised for the Youth Action, Lomon Terreblanche taught the young ones about the essentials in conformation in our unique breed in a very practical and hands-on way. Thank you, Lomon. Many thanks also to Riana Pretorius, Petro Grové as well as Olga Sfigakis (Youth Board Member) who interacted with the kids. Thanks to Renata Louwrens without whom we would have gone hungry!

5. YOUTH ACTION

In this news letter, we have included snip bits of the Youth Action activities under the headings for the specific Regional Championships.



The Youth Board would like to use this opportunity to wish all participants in SANESA finals the best of luck. Thank you for showing our amazing breed in disciplines such as *dressage, show jumping, performance riding, equitation, working riding, eventing*, etc. We are proud of you all. Please remember to upload your pictures on our facebook page!

6. SA BOERPERD NASIONALE SKOU: PARYS

The national showing committee is already in the final stages of planning for our annual National SA Boerperd Championships 23rd to 28th September 2013, held in the Parys Afri-Dome. It is unfortunate that this particular week is the only week of school holidays before the end of the year therefore it is also exceptionally busy. The SANESA national finals are also scheduled during these school holidays.



As far as the News Letter goes, we would like to devote the next one (that will be due in the beginning of September) mostly to questions from you as readers concerning the preparation for our national championships. We will then get competent people to answer your questions. Please make sure that your questions reach us (Petro or Charles), before/on 30th August 2013.