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Dear KZND Members

This communication serves to clear up a great deal of misinformation regarding the placing of KZND under Administration and circular from the **President of KZNSC** that no applications for colours would be considered for any equestrian discipline in KZN.

I would like to clarify why KZND was placed under Administration on 1 June 22 by DSA endorsed by SAEF.

In terms of Clause 14 of KZND Constitution the Council shall consist of

- 1 The President
2. The Vice President
3. Secretary
4. Treasurer
5. Athlete's Rep
6. A minimum of 3 portfolio holders as listed in clause 14.1.6

The Athletes Rep had no voting power as she had been co-opted into her position and the Treasurer, Vice President, Judges and Official's portfolio holder and technical portfolio holder had resigned, leaving only club reps and the President on the council with voting powers.

Coupled with the rapid exit of council members where numerous emails regarding the validity of decisions made at KZN Meetings, incorrect procedures being followed, minutes of meetings being inconsistent with what was discussed at meetings, generally the deteriorating environment at council meetings that were taking place and the reticence of three of the five clubs to attend meetings due to these concerns a decision was made by DSA to place KZN under Administration with a view to forming a new Council elected by members through their respective clubs in accordance with KZND constitution. **Under administration** important decisions would be ratified by DSA and SAEF where necessary.

An Administrator was duly appointed and the procedure, as per SAEF directives, for elections commenced. The SGM for the election of a new council was set for 31 August 22. In accordance with the SAEF 2022 Electoral Procedure Directives an Electoral officer from KZNEF was appointed. After the nominations had been collated, the Clubs as per the Regulations and forwarded the names of nominees to the Electoral Officer, the Electoral Officer distributed the Nominations List directly to the clubs on their letterhead, with a covering Notice to the Clubs dated 1 August 22 containing a number of irregularities which were not in accordance with the SAEF 2022 Electoral Directives leaving the



entire electoral process not in compliance with the Regulations and the entire electoral process flawed. SAEF accordingly removed the electoral officer from her post for the following reasons

- Refusing to accept Durban Shongweni nominations on the incorrect basis that they were one day late in submitting the nominations to the electoral officer
- Serious irregularities in her Notice sent to clubs on 1 August 22
- The list of Nominees were not referred to DSA or SAEF to confirm their good standing
- Bias in WhatsApp messages circulated to her Okusha Club WhatsApp group

It is imperative for the nomination and voting procedure to be and be seen as free, fair and free from any bias and undue influence. Since SAEF found that this had not been the case the entire election procedure had to be initiated again with the Secretary General of SAEF appointed as Electoral Officer

The Electoral Officer denied the authority of SAEF to remove her as Electoral Officer and referred the matter to KZN Sports Confederation requesting SAEF to authorise funds to be released from KZNEF Budget for her to consult with legal counsel.

On 24 August SAEF received an unsigned circular from the President of KZNSC noting the “sidestepping” by SAEF in dealing with matters affecting the KZN Equestrian Federation (as constituted under the SAEF constitution) and the “suspension” of members who were also members of KZNSC and advised that the Administrator would not be recognised and no application for colours considered until the matters were resolved. SAEF responded to the circular letter advising KZNSC that the KZNSC had either been misinformed or misunderstood the information provided to it and went on to give an accurate account of the situation regarding the Administration and abandoned election process. SAEF requested a meeting with KZNSC on 2 September 22 and no response was forthcoming leaving SAEF with no alternative but to approach SASCOC for a resolution, particularly as KZND had **entered adult teams at the then upcoming SA Champs**. SAEF and DSA further confirmed with KZND that they could send adult teams to represent the discipline. The teams rode under the invitation of the President of DSA. Individual riders entered the competition and took part in other non-team competition in their individual capacity.

SAEF have informed us that they are presently in discussions with SASCOC and hope for a directive in the near future.

In the interim to enable a newly elected Council to be established without further delays a new electoral process has been initiated in the hope of a newly elected Council being in place by the 29<sup>th</sup> of November 2022.

Regards

**Dianne Smith**  
President, Dressage South Africa

**Co-signed Prof. Ian Sanne**  
President, South African Equestrian Federation