

Dear Erasa members

I trust that you are all ready for the challenges of the sport in 2018. Just as we can expect success and fun we can also expect disappointment and sorrow. This makes endurance unique and enjoyable. Enjoy the rides.

Towards the end of last year Erasa received several contradictory verbal and written communications from the office of the SAEF. These matters were discussed by a full council meeting in October 2017. The council's directive was that a meeting was to be held with SAEF (President and SG) to clear up the uncomfortable differences and clear the way for a smooth relationship and interaction between Erasa and the SAEF. This request was directed at the SAEF. The SAEF was in the process of electing a new president (the 8th in 5 years). On the 9th of Dec 2017 adv. Willem Edeling and a whole new Exco was elected. Mr Sakkie van Niekerk and Mr Robert Lord were also elected to the Exco of the SAEF, congratulations to them.

Our meeting with the SAEF president and SG took place on 26th Jan 2018 at the SAEF offices. Erasa was represented by myself, Johan Raubenheimer and Altus Hanekom.

I passing I want to mention that the Erasa council in its entirety puts in a lot of effort, personal time and finances to serve and improve the sport. Thank you very much.

During the meeting the following was discussed:

- Elections of officials on provincial and national level
- The function of the SG
- Channels of Communication
- Contradictory communication from the SAEF
- WEG contradictory directives
- SPCA
- Horse passports

In all instance we received extremely positive feedback and/or undertakings.

Regarding the minutes of the meeting, a shortened version has been attached. The meeting was recorded on tape. So far we have been unable to obtain a copy. Attached is also a letter that we received from the SAEF President. Therein he clearly states that all elections of officials at provincial and national level will happen :

“when such elections, whether due to vacancies or the end of a term, are due”

“if and when the positions become available”

“at the stage that they become eligible for election”

Due to subsequent misleading communication Erasa council held a teleconference on the 1st of Feb '18. Several Erasa options were discussed and cosidered. We requested a meeting with the SAEF President. This meeting took place on Sunday, 4th Feb in Bloemfontein. The SAEF president and vice president, me, Werner Bosch and Ronel Coetzer were present at the meeting .

Erasa made it clear that we want to be a loyal member of SAEF on the following conditions:

Administrative moves/ changes in the SAEF office needs to be made.

The SAEF may not interfere with Erasa's (or any other discipline) administration.

The "complaints office" at SAEF is closed. All calls will be referred back to the discipline.

During the meeting the SAEF president also presented a letter from another major discipline with the same and more requests.

We were assured that all our requests would be met.

During the same meeting the horse passports and the so called "white paper" were discussed.

Passports:

We could already bring about some cost savings for the members after the first meeting. A letter has already gone out in this regard. We are in the process of investigating further measures to streamline the process and will keep the members up to date.

The "white paper" was never distributed to the SAEF council for consideration. This document will possibly be withdrawn. The confirmation or withdrawal of the document will be communicated to you as it becomes known.

I want to assure you that the Erasa council acts in the best interest of every member, now and in the future. In the meantime enjoy the ride!

Niel Kirstein