



Constitution of the International Saddle Seat Equitation Association

*REVISED to reflect votes/amendments passed by ISSEA
As of February 23, 2016*

CLAUSE 1: NAME & LOGO

1.1 Name: International Saddle Seat Equitation Association.

1.2 Abbreviated Name: ISSEA.

1.3 Constitution: The Constitution of ISSEA.

1.4 Members: Membership is open to all countries approved by the ISSEA. Only members in good standing will be allowed to compete.

1.5 Honorary Life President is an ex-officio advisory position.

1.6 The ISSEA logo shall be the circular logo with rider on trotting horse in the middle. This logo is to be used to represent the organization and the interests of international Saddle Seat competition in general rather than any specific event with which the organization may be affiliated (i.e., Saddle Seat Equitation World Cup). Refer to the attached logo sample, Appendix A, hereby made a permanent part of this constitution.

1.7 The ISSEA logo art may be used to denote a specific country's affiliation with ISSEA, and in such case the logo may be executed in that country's colors. When used to represent the organization as a whole, the logo is to be executed in black and white.

CLAUSE 2: THE LEGAL TITLE

2.1 The name of the body is the International Saddle Seat Equitation Association (ISSEA).

2.2 The body has legal identity, and

2.3 Exists as an independent identity,

2.4 Can function in its own name judicially.

2.5 The ISSEA is not associated in any way with the selection of Team members to the World Cup and/or other International Saddle Seat Equitation events.

2.6 The ISSEA is a non-profit organization.

2.7 If any Officer, Assembly member, or Advisory Member of ISSEA is made a party to any civil or criminal action in any matter arising from the performance of his or her duties for or on behalf of ISSEA, then, to the full extent permitted by law including applicable provisions Not-For-Profit Corporation Law as in effect from time to time, the ISSEA shall indemnify the director or officer for all amounts paid by him or her in connection with the action, suit, or proceeding, including any judgments, fines, amounts paid in settlement and reasonable expenses, including attorney's fees, or in connection with any appeals.

CLAUSE 3: MEETINGS

3.1 The ISSEA General Assembly and Office-bearers will ordinarily meet at least once every two years.

CLAUSE 4: GENERAL ASSEMBLY

4.1 ISSEA General Assembly shall be comprised of the Office-bearers, two (2) representative(s) from countries who have competed consistently in the World Cup over the last ten years, and one (1) representative from any newly/returning competing countries or from countries who are working towards competing.

4.2 The ISSEA reserves the right to replace Officers or representatives by a simple majority of the quorum based on lack of attendance at more than two Assembly meetings per year. Attendance by proxy does not constitute proper attendance.

4.3 The ISSEA reserves the right to replace Officers or representatives by a simple majority of the quorum based on due cause not associated with above and only after first advising the party who will have time to respond to the removal.

4.4 If for any reason a competing country's representative is unavailable, or fails to guarantee to the ISSEA their country's participation within six months of the next World Cup competition, ISSEA may appoint a replacement representative for that country.

4.5 The ISSEA will have the right to nominate Honorary members.

4.6 ISSEA maintains an Advisory Board, consisting of past presidents of the organization, for the purpose of continuity. Honorary member positions are non-voting. The advisory board will be called upon in the event the ISSEA Assembly needs historical input or advice.

4.7 ISSEA may appoint Task Forces to engage in thoughtful deliberation on a single strategic topic for a fixed period of time in order to develop a set of recommendations for the Assembly to consider. Ideally, each Task Force consists of about five core members. These individuals will not have any voting power, but will be invited to meetings where their recommendations are being discussed by the General Assembly.

CLAUSE 5: AFFILIATION FEES AND PARTICIPATION

5.1 Affiliation fees will be \$1,000 USD to be paid annually, not just during the World Cup year. Such payment should be submitted by January 31st each year. This fee is non-refundable.

5.2 Countries wishing to make alternate payment arrangements must submit written request to be reviewed by the Assembly and if approved, will be considered in good standing unless there is a default to the payment arrangement.

5.3 All existing countries intending to compete in the next World Cup Competition must submit a non-refundable deposit of \$1,000 USD to guarantee participation six (6) months prior to the competition. Deposit will be applied toward accommodations for that nation's team. Host nation to secure host hotel with accommodations for the team at a reasonable rate. Countries must provide written confirmation of their intent to compete in the next World Cup Competition at least 6 months prior, advising of which sections (three and five gaited) they intend to compete.

5.4 New member countries may be admitted to ISSEA subject to the approval of the majority and conditional upon the following requirements:

- a. Submission of mandatory \$100 USD one-time initiation fee
- b. Submission of applicable annual membership dues, currently \$1,000 USD per year

5.5 Countries working on involvement within their country and who are not able to develop a team must pay an annual fee of \$200.

5.6 The NGB of any country will be considered affiliate members through their representative Association on the ISSEA. It will be the responsibility of the representative Association to send any materials and keep the NGB informed of changes ISSEA may be implementing.

CLAUSE 6: ELECTION OF OFFICE-BEARERS [EXECUTIVE COUNCIL]

6.1 The ISSEA Office-Bearers consist of the President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer.

6.2 The following ISSEA Office-Bearers [Executive Council] will be elected every two (2) years or as soon as an ISSEA meeting can be held after the two year period has expired: President and Vice President.

6.3 The positions of Secretary and Treasurer or Secretary/Treasurer are appointed by the President and may be separate or combined. Whether separate or combined, the positions of Secretary and Treasurer are non-voting.

CLAUSE 7: ELIGIBLE VOTERS

7.1 General Assembly representative(s) from countries who have competed consistently in the World Cup over the last ten years shall have one (1) vote each. A country's membership must be in good standing for representative to be eligible to vote.

7.2 Other members on the Assembly will be considered non-voting advisors with opportunity to vote once a country has consistently paid dues and participated in World Cup competition at least five (5) years.

7.3 The President will have a casting vote.

7.4 A person may not hold more than one position at the same time. If a country has an officer representative, said officer may also serve as the country's second voting representative.

7.5 Proxy voting will be allowed if received in writing or via electronic means prior to a meeting or vote call.

CLAUSE 8: ADDRESS

8.1 The official head office for the ISSEA shall be the business address of record of and consistent with that for USEF as the holder of the funds for ISSEA.

CLAUSE 9: AIMS

9.1 The International Saddle Seat Equitation Association (ISSEA) is the governing body, which is composed of countries that are uniting with the common goal of promoting and growing the Saddle Seat Equitation discipline on an International level.

9.3 To represent ISSEA at an International level.

9.4 To formulate International Rules and Regulations in order to standardize competitions.

9.5 To be responsible for the criteria and selection process of Judges.

9.6 To be the representative body of all Amateur riders (determined by each country's rules) of the Saddle Seat Equitation countries.

CLAUSE 10: NON-INTERFERENCE

10.1 The ISSEA will not interfere with the domestic affairs of its members.

CLAUSE 11: QUORUM

11.1 A quorum is a simple majority of members in good standing.

CLAUSE 12: AMENDMENTS

12.1 No decision taken by the ISSEA may be rescinded without a simple majority of the quorum.

12.2 Any change, addition or amendment to the Constitution will only be valid with a simple majority of the quorum.

CLAUSE 13: OBLIGATIONS - SADDLE SEAT EQUITATION WORLD CUP COMPETITION

13.1 ISSEA must provide a copy of all rules and regulations to all competing countries/teams.

13.2 ISSEA must provide a copy of rules and regulations for the Saddle Seat Equitation World Cup to the event announcer.

CLAUSE 14: SADDLE SEAT EQUITATION WORLD CUP COMPETITION

14.1 The Saddle Seat Equitation World Cup Competition shall consist of Three-Gaited and a Five-Gaited sections.

14.2 Only countries in good standing may compete.

14.3 See the Saddle Seat World Cup rules for more details.

CLAUSE 15: GOVERNANCE OF INTERNATIONAL INVITATIONAL COMPETITION

15.1 Any international saddle seat competition must apply to ISSEA for approval of the event 6 months prior to competition.

15.2 Any Invitational must be approved by the member countries who are involved; otherwise, ISSEA may not approve such event.

15.3 Application must contain the following information:

- Dates
- Competition Details, to include use of horses such as:
 - Swap from own horse to another rider's on Day Two or
 - Regular Exchange (never riding own horse)
- Extraordinary Circumstances requests as needed

15.4 An application fee of \$100 USD will be charged for each event applying for sanction.

15.5 Upon application approval, ISSEA would issue formal letters of invitation to participating countries and would officially sanction the event by providing a competition license

15.6 ISSEA will furnish an event packet to event organizer (rules, constitution, patterns, and logo)

15.7 All public advertisement and other announcements must include mention (and logo, when possible) of ISSEA. 'World Cup' is not to be used in the name or marketing of any invitational event.

15.8 ISSEA recognized scoring system (one currently in use at the WC) must be used (exceptions permissible by approval of Extraordinary Circumstances requests).

15.9 ISSEA will make a news release available to nations involved in each event including the ISSEA logo

15.10 Applications for an invitational event to be held in the same year as a Saddle Seat World Cup event are prohibited.

15.11 Failure to follow these requirements may affect the standing of the country's involved.