



TEAM CANADA SADDLE SEAT EQUITATION 2024 ISSEA WORLD CUP – APPLICATION PACKAGE

Canada has been invited to participate in the 2024 ISSEA Saddle Seat Equitation WORLD CUP, scheduled to be held in [South Africa, December 10-13, 2024](#). As the governing body for Canada's Saddle Seat team, Saddle Seat Canada is now accepting applications for 6 positions on Canada's 3-Gaited Saddle Seat Equitation Team.

I. EVENT DESCRIPTION AND RIDER ELIGIBILITY:

The 2024 ISSEA World Cup will consist of a 3-Gaited Competition and 5-Gaited Competition for amateur Saddle Seat equitation riders. Currently, Saddle Seat Canada is looking to build a 3-Gaited team only. Each of these two sections of the World Cup event include the following:

- Draws for patterns, team horses, Group A and B if necessary, and pattern order of go for each rider.
- There will be patterns distributed in the month prior to the competition with the 2 patterns for the competition drawn and announced before commencement of the practices.
- Two practice days where coaches will be matching riders with horses that the Team has drawn. Riders are required to ride one horse on Day 1 of competition and then a different horse on Day 2 of competition.
- Competition days will consist of riders competing in a rail work class as well as executing an individual test/pattern. 3G and 5G competitions usually see riders divided into groups (A or B). These groups will be decided based on the number of countries participating so that groups are generally 12-15 riders/horses. Competition Day 1 will be called Phase 1 and Competition Day 2 will be called Phase 2.
- Each country's team(s) will consist of 6 riders, all of whom will ride all portions of the World Cup competition. For clarity, this means that if a country has a 3G team and a 5G team, 6 riders will be named and ride all portions of the 3G section and 6 riders will be named and ride all portions of the 5G section. Riders are permitted to show in both 3G and 5G if named by their country to do so.

Submissions made to Canada's World Cup Saddle Seat team(s) will be scored on the completed **Application Form** and **Video**. The scores achieved on the submissions will determine if Canada fields a 3G Team for the 2024 World Cup competition. Once it is determined that Canada has enough high scoring applications, a World Cup Trial may be held to further determine who will be named to the team(s).

World Cup applicants must be:

- ❖ 14 years of age or older as of January 1, 2024
- ❖ must be a Canadian citizen
- ❖ possess a valid Canadian passport
- ❖ possess a current Equestrian Canada Sport License (with Amateur designation if over 18 yrs)
- ❖ possess the applicable provincial equestrian sport organization (PSO) membership (ex. AEF, HCBC, Ontario Equestrian)
- ❖ Current membership with Saddle Seat Canada (information is on the SSC website)

Consideration before applying, should include:

- ❖ availability for Team Canada practices, clinics, events and fundraising efforts.
- ❖ ability to work well under pressure and stress.
- ❖ ability to work with a diverse group of riders, coaches, Board of Directors, and clinic representatives.
- ❖ ability to accept constructive feedback & ability to respect coaching decisions and strategies.
- ❖ Applicants should review all information contained on the Saddle Seat Canada website at www.saddleseatcanada.com and familiarize themselves with Saddle Seat Canada policies and procedures.

II. APPLICATION FORM, VIDEO AND ATTACHMENTS:

World Cup Applications must include the completed Application Form, Video link, attachments and received no later than **December 1, 2023 to be considered.**

Email completed application packages to: Rmcwade@xplornet.com

Application Forms and Videos will be scored by a panel of at least 3 people who have either international coaching experience or judging experience in Saddle Seat Equitation. The Team Coach and Manager will be evaluating submissions for information and feedback purposes.

A. Application Form scores will be based on a perfect score of 100 and includes the following components:

- Show experience, record, achievements – 40 points
- Saddle Seat Equitation experience, record, achievements – 40 points
- International show experience, record, achievements – 10 points
- Neat, complete and organized submission – 10 points
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B. **NEW: Video scores** - the video submission will consist of **riding the same pattern on 2 different horses.**

- The video should be made in a well-lit arena, clear of obstacles and audience.
- Each workout will be scored out of 100, with the workouts being averaged together to arrive at a final video score.
- The video should include the horse and rider at a distance sufficient for evaluation of position and aids while providing context within the arena for placement of the pattern elements.
- The pattern to be ridden is included in this package.
- Coaching or reading of the pattern is not permitted.
- Tack will include a cutback saddle, double bridle or snaffle bridle with two reins and a martingale.
- The applicant must be in an appropriate snug fitting shirt, practice jods and gloves with tidy hair pulled back.
- Video is to be uploaded to YouTube, using a private setting, with the link included in the Application Form.

C. Attachments:

- Signed Code of Conduct Policy Statement
- Show photo of applicant in Saddle Seat riding attire, on a horse
- Copy of current Equestrian Canada Sport License and Provincial equestrian sport organization (PSO) membership
- Reference letters

III. SELECTION CRITERIA AND WORLD CUP TRIALS

Application forms and videos will be scored by a panel of at least 3 people who have either international coaching experience or judging experience in Saddle Seat Equitation. The Team Coach and Manager will be evaluating submissions for information and feedback purposes.

The Application Form score and Video score will be combined to arrive at an overall rider score. The highest combined scores (6 minimum) will become the basis for a potential Team Trial.

Trials could be held to select Canada's World Cup Team should the number of high scoring applications warrant. Saddle Seat Canada will set the date of the WC Trial to be as mutually convenient as possible for those applicants invited to attend Trials. Trials will consist of riding a rail class, at least one pattern on an unfamiliar horse and scored in the same manner as the application video. The highest 6 rider scores at Trials will be considered for Canada's World Cup team. Once Trials are complete and scores are in, the Saddle Seat Canada Board of Directors will make the final decisions relating to Canada's participation and team for the 2024 World Cup.

IV. TEAM SELECTION AND NOTIFICATION:

- **Selected Team Canada Member Athletes will be invited to sign an acceptance letter. At which time, the required competition fee of **\$2,500.00 per rider** will be required. Arrangements can be made with Saddle Seat Canada to submit Cash, Cheque or E-Transfer.**
- **Rider fees are designed to cover the ISSEA competition fee as well as accommodation, food and team clothing for the athletes and coaches. Airfare is not covered by the rider fee and is the responsibility of each team member. Fundraising and sponsorship efforts will be ongoing and will require the active participation of all team members.**
- Saddle Seat Canada will officially name the World Cup Team after all selected athletes have returned their acceptance letters and all rider fees have been received. It is not permitted to post any team information on social media or elsewhere until such time as Saddle Seat Canada has done so.
- If a selected athlete declines the invitation to be a member of Team Canada or is not otherwise able to fulfill the obligations of a named team member within one week of being extended the invitation to do so, the athlete with the next highest Trial score will be offered a place on the team if the Saddle Seat Canada board advises to do so.
- Athletes named to the team will be required to attend SSC Team training events.
- Athletes will be required to make every attempt to ride with different coaches in their area as well as ride a variety of horses as they prepare for World Cup.
- Riding in the presence of or being instructed by the Team Manager and Team Coach at least one time is required.
- Applicants will receive feedback regarding their Applications and Trial scores.

Saddle Seat Canada looks forward to participating in World Cup 2024. Should you have any questions about the application or the application process, email Raylene McWade Rmcwade@explornet.com

SADDLE SEAT CANADA – 2024 WORLD CUP TEAM CANADA APPLICATION FORM

NAME:

ADDRESS:

PHONE #:

DATE OF BIRTH:

EMAIL:

CURRENT COACH'S NAME

& BARN NAME:

CURRENT COACH'S PHONE #:

CURRENT NUMBER OF LESSONS/WEEK:

1. a. Number of years riding/showing Saddle Seat Equitation. List the professional coaches that you have worked with during that time and list the dates/years you trained with each coach.

- b. Other disciplines or show divisions you have shown. List coaches, dates/years.

2. List equestrian prizes or equestrian titles that you have won within the last 5 years.
(Include a brief description of the prize or title).

3. Please list any Equestrian Clinics/ or Invitationals that you have attended:

4. In the 2023 show season, did you compete in Saddle Seat divisions?

Yes No

5. List any international shows that you attended in 2022 &/or 2023 and your show results, by class, including your placing in the class and the number of entries.

6. If you are not showing at all, please detail the reason (sold horse, college, etc.) and outline what you are doing to keep 'riding-fit'. List the last time you showed, the show name, division(s), placing(s) and number of horses in the class(es).

7. a. List your personal equestrian strengths.

b. List your equestrian weaknesses.

8. Record the reasons you feel you should be selected as a member of Team Canada and how do you feel that you can contribute to Team Canada's success?

9. Do you have a current Canadian passport?

Yes

No

10. Please add any other information that relates to Saddle Seat Canada's consideration.

11. Video Submission YouTube link: _____

REFERENCES

(Written references must accompany your Application Form and must be signed by the reference provider.)

1. Please provide at least one written reference letter from a professional coach/instructor that has worked with you. Ensure the reference letter provides details on your saddle seat and equitation abilities, your equestrian successes, your strengths and weaknesses, show abilities and the length of time this professional has worked with you. Ensure the letter includes the coach's/instructor's name, signature, barn name, phone number, email, and current coaching designations.
2. Please provide one written reference (non-horse related and not related to the applicant) from an employer and/or teacher. Ensure the reference letter includes details about your work or school successes, and the timeframe that this person has worked with the applicant. Ensure the letter includes the reference's name, signature, phone number and email.

Saddle Seat Canada Application Check List:

- ✓ **Completed application form with all questions answered and signed appropriately.**
- ✓ **Code of Conduct Policy Statement Signed**
- ✓ **Copy of current Equestrian Canada Sport License**
- ✓ **Copy of current Equestrian Provincial Sport Organization membership**
- ✓ **Copy of or proof of payment for current Saddle Seat Canada Membership**
- ✓ **Riding picture of applicant in show riding attire riding a Saddle Seat horse (preferably a show picture) – hard copy to be submitted with application**
- ✓ **Coach/Instructor reference letter**
- ✓ **Non-horse related reference letter**



Saddle Seat Canada Code of Conduct Policy Statement

- ❖ SSC is committed to providing an environment in which all individuals are treated with respect. Members of SSC shall refrain from comments or behavior that is disrespectful, offensive, abusive, racist, or sexist. Behavior that constitutes harassment or abuse will not be tolerated by SSC.
- ❖ During all SSC activities and events, members must avoid behavior that brings the team into disrepute including but not limited to abusive use of alcohol and non-medical use of drugs.
- ❖ Members shall not use illicit drugs/narcotics or performance enhancing drugs or methods and shall agree to submit to random drug testing as requested.
- ❖ Members shall always adhere to SSC operational policies and procedures, to rules governing SSC events and activities, and to rules governing any events in which the member participates on behalf of SSC.
- ❖ Members shall not engage in any activity or behavior which interferes with a competition or with any rider's preparation for a competition, or which endangers the safety of others.
- ❖ Failure to comply with this Code of Conduct may result in disciplinary action in accordance with the Discipline policy of SSC. Such action may result in the member losing the privileges that come with membership in SSC, including the opportunity to participate in World Cup or Invitational activities.
- ❖ As a member of Team Canada and a member, alternate member, coach or manager of the Saddle Seat Canada team, I acknowledge my obligation to uphold and adhere to the highest standards of horsemanship, sportsmanship and citizenship whenever I am representing my country whether as a team member, alternate member, coach or manager.
- ❖ As a horseman, I will place my horse's welfare above all other considerations.
- ❖ As a sportsman, I will know and will comply with all the pertinent rules of Equine Canada, Saddle Seat Canada, the International Saddle Seat Equitation Association (ISSEA), and honor the principles of fair play inherent in them. I will place the best interests of the Team above my own and accept the decisions of Saddle Seat Canada Board made in the Team's best interest.
- ❖ As a citizen, I will respect the laws of my own country as well as those of foreign countries in which I may compete. I acknowledge that I also serve as an ambassador for my sport, Saddle Seat Canada, and my country. I will always endeavor to reflect credit on them through my conduct.

I understand and accept that serious or repeated transgressions of this code may be grounds for immediate elimination from the team and competition. If I were to be dismissed from the team, I and/or my parents/legal guardians will be responsible for reimbursing Saddle Seat Canada for any expenses incurred to date on my behalf including, but not limited to equipment, clothing, and official gear. Similarly, I will be responsible for reimbursing Saddle Seat Canada for any additional expenses incurred as a result of Saddle Seat Canada having to replace me with an alternate rider.

Any infraction that results in dismissal while on route to, or during the official International Saddle Seat World Cup or Invitational Event or on any related tour preceding the competition, shall result in my being barred from the competition in any or all remaining and future events or attendance at any remaining official functions. I and/or my parents/guardians will solely be responsible for securing and paying my return travel to Canada.

I understand that my official term as a member of Team Canada and a representative of Canada continues from the date of my selection to the team through to such time as our next team is chosen. Up until that time, I understand that I may be requested to attend training, fundraising, or public relations appearances on behalf of the Team. Therefore, I commit to exemplary behavior during my full term as an SSC team member.

I acknowledge that it shall be the sole right and responsibility of the Board of Saddle Seat Canada to adjudicate matters pertaining to violations of this code of conduct.

My signature below confirms that I have read, understand, and agree to the terms of this Application, Video Submission, References, Saddle Seat Code of Conduct. I have also reviewed Saddle Seat Canada's Policy and Procedures as outlined on the website.

www.saddleseatcanada.com

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT/RIDER

DATE

SIGNATURE PARENT/GUARDIAN

NAME OF PARENT OR GUARDIAN
IF APPLICANT IS UNDER 18

PARENT/GUARDIAN EMAIL

PARENT/ GUARDIAN PHONE

Saddle Seat Canada Team Application Pattern

Guide

- = Walk
- = Canter
- - - = Trot
- ~~~~~ = Drop/pick up
irons
- | = Halt
- ⤿ = Reverse

B

C

Each element
would receive a
score out of 10
with a total
possible score of
100.

1.	On the right rein, at the start of the straightaway, pick up the trot on the left diagonal and trot to Point A.	10
2.	Halt at point A. Pivot reverse	10
3.	Canter a circle on the left lead. Halt.	10
4.	Trot a 2 loop serpentine across the arena starting on the right diagonal	10
5.	Halt. Drop irons.	10

6.	Walk to the midpoint of the straightaway Point B.	10
7.	At Point B, transition to the trot on the left diagonal and trot to the end of the straightaway Point C.	10
8.	Halt. Pick up irons.	10
9.	Exit at the walk	10
10.	Overall appearance and horsemanship	10