

PDI Athlete Subsidy Programme

"Assistance and development of talented yet disadvantaged athlete's is a core value that DSA holds very dearly" Quote Dianne Smith - DSA Vice President

Introduction

Dressage SA (DSA) is fully committed and has provided funds to assist those athletes who are talented, have a creditable work ethic and have a proven potential to be a valuable performer with in the sport of Dressage.

DSA are committed to achieve an optimum result by ensuring that funds we spend are never seen as wasteful and we are committed to a medium term positive outcome for the athlete and the sport.

We would like to encourage our provincial bodies, clubs and athletes to take advantage of this programme should they qualify based on the criteria provided.

The Multiplier effects.

To successfully support an athlete in our discipline a number of enabling partners have to work together in an orchestrated fashion in order to produce the optimal environment for an athlete to thrive on a sustained basis. We recognise that competing in any equestrian sport is extremely expensive and we understand that the subsidy of only one aspect of an athletes needs will not be sufficient in providing the elements required to properly enable such an athlete.

In essence the bare minimum involves the use of a horse, the cost of feed and livery and other associated expenses. The coaching time provided by a qualified person, show related costs and entry fees.

Denying the athlete of any one of these essential elements will severely affect any programme truly designed to enable optimal development.

Getting buy-in from the partners (enablers)

DSA have designed a system that requires all parties starting with the athlete, followed by the horse owner/sponsor followed by the coach then the club, provincial body and then finally the National body to all play a committed role in the athlete's development. The accreditation of a development athlete by DSA will further unlock additional value offerings from the South African Equestrian Federation as well as all registered DSA show holding bodies. Through their portion of the pre-committed contribution funding and donations in time and in kind may be provided at various levels depending on the needs of the athlete.

Should the buy-in be sufficiently funded by coach and club alone and no further support is required from Province or DSA this process should still be used (in part) to formalise the commitment between the parties involved. If consent at this level is provided by say club or province it would be valuable to file this agreement with the highest authority that commits to providing support.

The Club as a Central Benefactor

The club is particularly well placed in being able to identify many athletes' individual talent and coaches and facilitators and be able to provide the administration required to be able to assist in making for a successful subsidy application. It therefore follows that for this particular reason, that the club will always play a central role in initiating and motivating a potential candidate for sponsorship, facilitating the applications and monitoring all parties to fulfil their committed roles. The club is also very well placed to understand the capacity that all members must supply in the support to any deserving candidate. The club can recognise when an owner, sponsor etc is being over loaded e.g. by taking on 3 or 4 development sponsorship candidates at the same time.

Documentation

A check list of all documentation required for this Athlete Development Subsidy Programme. We urge the club to ensure that all parties diligently supply all the correct documentation in order to give the candidate the best opportunity of success. It is also recognised that many of the potential PDI development recipients have limited access to assistance in completing the required paperwork from parents and therefore the clubs are asked to assist a deserving athlete. If sections of the documentation are missing the application will not be entertained at provincial or national level and subsequently will be rejected.

Conclusion

We urge all provincial heads, Club presidents Show Holding Bodies and Dressage coaches to take advantage of this tremendous opportunity to make a real difference in the lives of athletes (especially the youth) who can realise their full potential through a co-ordinated effort from people that really care about the sport rewarding hard work and talent. In addition, reducing the burden on a single donor model, will encourage a greater commitment when they feel supported and recognised. Traditionally, the horse owner, who is also often the coach, either pays or donates all costs of such an athlete, which is not sustainable. The message is LETS ALL WORK TOGETHER TO ADVANCE TALENTED AND COMMITTED DEVELOPMENT ATHLETES.



What documents are required:

This form should be used as a cover for the completed set of documentation.

APPLICANTS FULL NAME AND SURNAME: _____

ID NUMBER: _____

Applicants Province: _____

Applicants Club: _____

No	Assignment	Attached
1	Letter of motivation from your club, incl. Description of support/ subsidy commitment.	
2	Letter of motivation from your province, incl. Description of support/ subsidy commitment	
3	Proof of income – or where a minor proof of house hold income	
4	Certified copy of the applicants ID document	
5	Any personal references that the athlete can provide.	
6	Letter of motivation from coach who will undertake to coach as well as an under taking of their commitment in hours per month that the coach is willing to provide to the athlete free of charge	
7	If lessons will not be completely free of charge, indicate whether and on what basis the coach will require re-numeration in order to leverage the free of charge component	
8	Motivation letter by the applicant as well as if the applicant is a minor by the	



	parent or legal guardian	
9	Performance and training history over the last 2 years. Please specify any trophies or awards received.	
10	Full disclosure of your relationship to any DSA National or Provincial Council member or DSA employees or officials.	

We _____ (name of Club) hereby submit the Application for the applicant.

We confirm that documents 1 -10 have been attached. We understand that this application cannot be assessed if all documents, as indicated above, are not included. No partially completed or incomplete documents will be processed or assessed.

SIGNATURE:_____ DATE: _____

Club President

SECOND APPROVAL LEVEL

We _____ (name of Provincial Body) hereby approve and promote the application to the Provincial Council for Approval.

SIGNATURE:_____ DATE: _____

Provincial President