



22 February 2011

SANEF TID PROGRAMME

INFORMATION REGARDING SCIENTIFIC SUPPORT FOR TALENT IDENTIFICATION AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (SSTID Programme)

Funded by Sports and Recreation South Africa (SRSA)

SRSA have embarked on a project called Scientific Support for Talent Identification and Development Programme to assist federations in Long Term Athlete Development (LTAD), of which the objectives are to:

1. Create a National Scientific Support system to ensure the utilization and application of scientific principles for long term athlete development.
2. Identify talented athletes thorough the use of best practice, evidence- based methods.
3. Provide systems which will provide these talented athletes with the maximum opportunity for personal and sporting development, including access to world class coaching services.
4. Utilize science and educational services to develop a population of coaches who are qualified, informed and sufficiently motivated to commit to the development and upliftment of the aforementioned athletes.
5. Ensure that those athletes identified as having talent and working under the supervision of qualified coaches have access to world class scientific support services and interventions.

SANEF have taken up the cudgels and initiated the beginnings of their Long Term Athlete Development (LTAD) Programme through developing a Talent identification development squad and training programme in conjunction with the Olympic and Paralympic sporting code National technical committees, namely Dressage, Paradrassage, Jumping and Eventing as well as with vaulting which is regarded as the NF's major development sporting code.

The selection criteria for the TID programme were set by SRSA as follows:

1. SA Citizen
2. Age 14 – 26 years (35 years for people with disability)
3. Competing at provincial or national level, or show talent to reach this level.
4. Not on a SASCOC programme – e.g. OPEX

The National technical committees then followed a selection process in terms of the above criteria. SRSA allocated SANEF space for 53 athletes, 5 coaches and 4 administrators. It was agreed that the allocation of athletes be 10 per discipline other than vaulting which will have 12 athletes, and each discipline would have a TID coach.



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The discipline TID squad lists were collated into the SANEF National TID Squad list which was submitted by the SANEF Development Officer to SRSA. The funding for this programme runs from 01 April to 31 March and it is possible to amend the lists each year, prior to the beginning of the next financial year. The funding is for Training camps to be run in conjunction with the Hpc so that the athletes receive both sport specific training and specialized scientific support.

The SRSA funding covers the costs of scientific support services such as Sport science testing; Functional movement assessment; Sport Psychology; Nutrition; Visual skills and assistance in developing individual support programmes. SANEF is required to raise the funds to cover any sport specific costs e.g. those relating to coaching.

In conclusion the focus of the SANEF TID programme is to assist talented equestrian athletes to develop to their potential through excellent coaching and scientific support services.



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