

To: Secretary/ Presidents – SAWF Wrestling Associations
SAWF Executive Management

20 March 2018

**SAWFCC CIRCULAR 02-1/2018 – CRITERIA FOR THE 2019 UWW
CONTINENTAL CHAMPIONSHIP TEAMS AND PARTICIPATION IN THE 2018
NATIONAL TRAILS.**

We communicated SAWFCC CIRCULAR 02/2018 – Criteria for the 2019 UWW Continental Championship Teams and Participation in the 2018 National Trails on 2 February 2018. After careful consideration the SAWF Executive Management decided to add an Open tournament in the coastal region as an alternative for a second compulsory Open tournament as stipulated in our criteria to avoid unnecessary cost.

With the future and continuous improvement in mind we would like to advise that the SAWFCC are looking to introduce an alternative system based on the accumulation of points in 2019 as part of the team selection criteria for 2020. This will enable wrestlers to have more opportunities and a bigger choice of dates and tournaments available to them, to fulfil the requirements as stipulated in the criteria. The proposed changes will be communicated and tabled with the SAWF Executive and General Management for approval as required by the SAWF Constitution. To avoid any confusion this won't have any effect on the current team selection criteria for 2019 and will only come into effect for 2020.

Please read through the criteria and change with regards to the additional Open Tournament in the coastal area carefully and inform all interested parties accordingly.

Please note that no exceptions will be made in terms of the current requirements and eligibility to participate in the National trails for 2019.

We noticed several wrestlers entering for the Mpumalanga Open tournament, but not participating on the day without any reason or explanation provided to the SAWFCC. Entry without participation won't be excepted as full participation. Wrestlers that did so must realise they won't receive any recognition for their entry alone.

We are communicating these requirements well in advance while wrestlers still have the opportunity to participate in the remaining listed tournaments.

President: MHJ Bosse; Honorary President: JH Taljard; Vice President: C Villet; Vice President: CJ van der Walt; Vice President: Jeanne-Marie Coetser
Secretary General & Chairman Admin Council: HN van den Berg; Treasurer: SH Bartlett; Chairperson Officials: W Giliomee
Chairperson Coaches: N Coetzee; Chairperson Team Managers: M Luff; Chairperson HSSC: R Pieterse
Assistant to Treasurer & Secretary General: M de Wit; Chairperson Marketing & Media: SA Bartlett

General Background, Overview and Information:

The information in the letter is important to every wrestler, coach and official who plans to represent South Africa internationally. It is important that management members of wrestling associations and clubs, coaches and parents support the SAWF General and Executive Management by distributing and explaining the information to all members of the SAWF.

There is general perception amongst some members that inclusion and selection to official National SAWF teams for international participation represents the same process as selection and inclusion for provincial or regional teams. Preparation for international participation and performance requires dedicated to continuous development, preparation and participation over a period of 8-12 years and is not a short-lived effort to be selected to a National team merely to obtain national colours.

Coaches and wrestlers are responsible to carefully plan in which wrestling style and weight category they should participate at the National trials. Participation and preparation should focus on competitive international participation and not on finding open weight categories during the National trials in order to be selected to a National team. The SAWFCC and SAWF Executive Management will monitor this specific aspect and selection to a specific team will be based on wrestlers' readiness and safe competitive participation at international events.

It is important to beware of the SASCOC requirements for the Multi-Coded Games as these requirements should be included in the planning cycle to ensure compliance. The SASCOC Policy on General Eligibility and Selection Criteria for Multi-Coded Games (2017 – 2024), describes the general requirements for the eligibility and selection of SASCOC teams for the Multi Coded events as set out in the document. The detailed requirements are set out in the policy, but it is important to highlight the following aspects since this is where most of the misunderstanding arise as well as changes from the previous policy.

- The requirements and criteria are applicable for the next 8 years, 2017 – 2024, i.e. the following two Olympic Quadrennials. Wrestlers and coaches should include the requirements and criteria in their individual planning, as qualification requires multi-year participation and development.
- Wrestlers must participate and compete in the Federation's annual National Championships to be eligible for teams.
- In addition to the General requirements, specific qualifying requirements are set out for each of the listed Multi Code events listed in the policy.
- The SAWF's criteria and requirements must be aligned with and support SASCOC's criteria and requirements to assist and enable wrestlers to qualify.

- Wrestlers must have an international participation record that supports motivation by the SAWF for inclusion in SASCOC teams. It is important to participate in tournaments scheduled and recognised by UWW. Individual performance is not the only consideration for final team selection by SASCOC various other factors are important.
- *Compliance with the qualification criteria as set for the specific multi-code event in the SASCOC General Eligibility and Selection Criteria for Multi-Coded Games (2017 – 2024) does not guarantee inclusion in the team. Final motivations by the SAWF, will be considered by SASCOC in terms of the composition requirements for the whole SASCOC team, the number of allocated places by the relevant governing body as well as the compliance with the policy in respect of previously disadvantaged people.*
- No re-allocation, wildcard or universal places won't be considered by SASCOC.

Requirements and criteria for 2018/9:

Local wrestlers: (Wrestlers who live and prepare in South Africa)

Specific requirements for participation in the National trials and election to 2019 UWW Continental Championships teams: (The National trials on 3 November 2018 will only be used for selection of the 2019 Continental Championship teams)

1. Participation in the National trials are limited to **one style per wrestler**. Wrestlers in the men's category must choose in advance in which style he wants to participate and can only be entered in **one style** for the National trials.
2. Participation in the National trials in the specific wrestling style, age and weight category in which the wrestlers will participate internationally, is compulsory.
3. Placement in the first three wrestlers at the national trials will not serve as automatic admission to any National team, final selection to National teams will be on recommendation of the SAWF Coaches Council and approval by the SAWF Executive management. The final recommendation if a wrestler is ready for international participation will be considered by the Coaches Council for final approval by the SA Executive Management. This is applicable to any international participation or team.
4. Wrestlers who wants to participate in the National trials on **3 November 2018** to qualify for the above Championships must participated in both of the following events during 2018:
 1. Any **two (2)** of the following three (3) calendar Open Tournaments as scheduled on the 2018 SAWF official calendar.

1. Mpumalanga Open Championships - **3 March 2018**
2. Abraham Geldenhuys Open Championships - **24 March 2018**
3. Brackenfell Open Tournament – **19 May 2018**
4. Johnny Reitz Open Championships - **4 Augustus 2018**, and

2. **One (1)** of the following SAWF Championships as scheduled on the 2018 SAWF official calendar. Participation in the National Championships must be in the specific wrestling style, age and weight category in which the wrestlers will participate internationally. Participation. *Please note: Wrestlers that are too young to participate in the specific age category in which he/ she intends to participate internationally must participate in the SA Championships of his specific age group at the time of the SA Championships.*

1. SA Presidents Championships on 6 and 7 April 2018 (Will be considered for Cadet and Junior wrestlers only)
2. SA Senior, Junior and Cadet National Championships 29 and 30 June 2018
3. SA Youth Championships 5 and 6 October 2018
4. National Trails for 2018 on 21 October 2017

Please note:

Wrestlers that couldn't participate in the stipulated SA Championships or National trials due to medical disability, must apply for exception on the following conditions:

- The wrestler should have entered for the SA event beforehand, withdrawing by handing in a valid doctor's certificate.
- Wrestlers busy with long term recovery from a serious injury had to inform the SAWFCC beforehand of their injury. Only doctors' letters and evidence from specialist doctors for treatment and/or surgeries will be considered.
- Applications for exemption must be submitted to the SAWFCC before the closing date for entries as determined on the SASF invitation for the relevant National trials by the Secretary of the Wrestling Associations with 'n supporting letter from the Association as well as all the medical evidence.
- Wrestlers will be responsible for the enrolment fee of the SA event.
- Incomplete or late applications will not be considered.
- Wrestlers can't apply for two consecutive National events, regardless of the period which has elapsed after the first application.

- All applications for exemption will be considered and approved by the SAWFCC. Submission of applications will not mean automatic exemption.
- Medical exemption is only applicable to SA Championships and National trails and not calendar Open tournaments.

Wrestlers selected for official SAWF teams, busy with preparation and/or competition abroad or mandatory local predeparture camps for SASCOC, will be exemption for the relevant SA event.

5. Wrestlers must attend, participate in and complete at least 60% of the scheduled national training sessions and training camp sessions. This requirement will be for the period from the 1 February 2018 until the date of the relevant trials for cadet, junior and senior teams.
6. Wrestlers selected to the 2019 UWW Continental Championships teams must attend at least 80% of the scheduled National training sessions and physically participate and complete the workout. The attendance requirement will be applicable from the National trials on 4 November 2018 up to and including the date on which the above Championships takes place.
7. All scheduled National training camps for wrestlers selected to the 2019 UWW Continental Championships teams are compulsory. The attendance requirement will be applicable from the National trials on 4 November 2018 to and including the date on which the above Championships takes place.
8. Wrestlers that wants to be considered for participation in the 2019 World Championships must conform to the requirements as stipulated in paragraph 6 and 7 above after the Continental Championships for 2019.
9. Placement in the first three wrestlers at the 2018 UWW Continental Championships will not serve as automatic admission, selection or participation in any UWW World Championships for 2019, final selection to National teams will be on recommendation of the SAWF Coaches Council and approval by the SAWF Executive management. The final recommendation if a wrestler is ready for international participation will be considered by the Coaches Council for final approval by the SA Executive Management. This is applicable to any international participation or team.

Note Please on the following:

1. Junior, cadet and U/15 youth wrestlers that participate in a higher age category are expected to win their own age category before he/ she will be considered for selection in the higher age category for international participation. Men must participate in the same style in both age categories. The SAWF Coaches Council will make a final recommendation to the SAWF Executive Management regarding the possible selection in a higher age category irrespective of the wrestler's final placing during the trials. The safety and well-being of the wrestler is first priority. **(The requirement set out in paragraph 3 above remain applicable)**

2. No wrestler will be allowed to participate in a different style or category during any international competition but in the style and category in which the wrestler was selected, without the express consent of the SAWF Executive Management.

Overseas wrestlers: (Wrestlers who live and prepare overseas)

Specific requirements for participation in the National trials and election to 2019 UWW Continental Championships teams: (The National trials on 3 November 2018 will only be used for selection of the 2019 Continental Championship teams)

1. Wrestlers who reside and train overseas must inform the SAWF of their circumstances before **15 February** each year. Information with regards to the name of their university, college, club and contact information of their overseas coach. Details of their annual exercise program regarding strength and conditioning, fitness, periodisation in respect of competition must also be provided.
2. Wrestlers must send a monthly report on their training activities and attendance to the SAWF Coaches council. These reports must be handed in from January each year.
3. Participation to the National trials are limited to one style per wrestler. Wrestlers in the men's category must choose in advance in which style he wants to participate and can only be entered in one style for the National trials.
4. Participation in the National trials in the specific wrestling style, age and weight category in which the wrestlers will participate internationally, is compulsory.
5. Placement in the first three wrestlers at the national trials will not serve as automatic admission to any National team, final selection to National teams will be on recommendation of the SAWF Coaches Council and approval by the SAWF Executive management. The final recommendation if a wrestler is ready for international participation will be considered by the Coaches Council for final approval by the SA Executive Management. This is applicable to any international participation or team.
6. **One (1)** of the following SAWF Championships as scheduled on the 2018 SAWF official calendar. Participation in the National Championships must be in the specific wrestling style, age and weight category in which the wrestlers will participate internationally. Participation. *Please note: Wrestlers that are too young to participate in the specific age category in which he/ she intends to participate internationally must participate in the SA Championships of his specific age group at the time of the SA Championships.*
 1. SA Presidents Championships on 6 and 7 April 2018 (Will be considered for Cadet and Junior wrestlers only)

2. SA Senior, Junior and Cadet National Championships 29 and 30 June 2018
3. SA Youth Championships 5 and 6 October 2018
4. National Trails for 2018 on 21 October 2017

Please note:

Wrestlers that couldn't participate in the stipulated SA Championships or National trials due to medical disability, must apply for exception on the following conditions:

- The wrestler should have entered for the SA event beforehand, withdrawing by handing in a valid doctor's certificate.
- Wrestlers busy with long term recovery from a serious injury had to inform the SAWFCC beforehand of their injury. Only doctors' letters and evidence from specialist doctors for treatment and/or surgeries will be considered.
- Applications for exemption must be submitted to the SAWFCC before the closing date for entries as determined on the SASF invitation for the relevant National trials by the Secretary of the Wrestling Associations with a supporting letter from the Association as well as all the medical evidence.
- Wrestlers will be responsible for the enrolment fee of the SA event.
- Incomplete or late applications will not be considered.
- Wrestlers can't apply for two consecutive National events, regardless of the period which has elapsed after the first application.
- All applications for exemption will be considered and approved by the SAWFCC. Submission of applications will not mean automatic exemption.
- Medical exemption is only applicable to SA Championships and National trails and not calendar Open tournaments.

Wrestlers selected for official SAWF teams, busy with preparation and/or competition abroad or mandatory local predeparture camps for SASCOC, will be exemption for the relevant SA event.

7. There will be no requirement with regards to attendance of national training sessions or training camps for the 2017 National trials on 21 October 2017.
8. Wrestlers selected to the 2017 UWW Commonwealth and 2018 UWW Continental Championships teams must attend at least 80% of the scheduled National training sessions and physically participate and complete the workout. The attendance requirement will be applicable from the

National trials on 21 October up to and including the date on which the above Championships takes place.

9. All scheduled National training camps for wrestlers selected to the 2017 UWW Commonwealth and 2018 Continental Championships teams are compulsory. The attendance requirement will be applicable from the National trials on 21 October up to and including the date on which the above Championships takes place.
10. Wrestlers that wants to be considered for participation in the 2018 World Championships must conform to the requirements as stipulated in paragraph 6 and 7 above after the Continental Championships for 2018.
11. Placement in the first three wrestlers at the 2018 UWW Continental Championships will not serve as automatic admission, selection or participation in any UWW World Championships for 2018, final selection to National teams will be on recommendation of the SAWF Coaches Council and approval by the SAWF Executive management. The final recommendation if a wrestler is ready for international participation will be considered by the Coaches Council for final approval by the SA Executive Management. This is applicable to any international participation or team.

Please note the following:

1. Junior, cadet and U/15 youth wrestlers that participate in a higher age category are expected to win their own age category before he/ she will be considered for selection in the higher age category for international participation. Men must participate in the same style in both age categories. The SAWF Coaches Council will make a final recommendation to the SAWF Executive Management regarding the possible selection in a higher age category irrespective of the wrestler's final placing during the trials. The safety and well-being of the wrestler is first priority. **(The requirement set out in paragraph 3 above remain applicable)**
2. No wrestler will be allowed to participate in a different style or category during any international competition but in the style and category in which the wrestler was selected, without the express consent of the SAWF Executive Management.

General eligibility requirements (applicable to local and overseas wrestlers):

South African Wrestling Federation:

1. Must be a South African Citizen in possession of a legal identification document and a valid passport. All u/18 wrestlers must be in possession of a valid unabridged birth certificate.
2. Must be registered with a legally affiliated wrestling club of the SAWF.

3. Wrestlers may not be the subject of a disciplinary investigation or disciplinary suspension for any violation (including but not limited to illegal substances) during the period of his selection to the team.
4. Wrestlers must comply with the Rules and Code of Conduct of the SA Wrestling Federation and adhere to these rules at all times.
5. Wrestlers must comply with the Rules and Code of Conduct of the International Federation United World Wrestling.
6. Must have participated in the required National tournaments as well as other qualification tournaments as determined in the selection criteria.
7. Comply with the requirements for attendance of the National training and training camps as determined in the criteria.
8. All wrestlers will be required to pass a fitness and skill test as determined by the SAWF Coaching Council within the norms and standards of the testing protocol for Olympic Wrestling performed by an accredited institution. Attached please find the current protocol.
9. Respect and uphold the principals of sportsmanship as well as the principal of no violence.
10. Respect and uphold the rules of “World Anti-doping Agency” as well as the South African Institute for Drug Free Sport.
11. The SAWF Coaches Council may at any time make a recommendation to the SAWF Executive Management with regards to the readiness and fitness of a wrestler for participation in an international level tournament considering the well-being and safety of the wrestler.
12. To ensure the well-being and safety of wrestlers and team members wrestlers must be within a 5% allowance of the weight category before departure in which he/ she will participate in during the competition.
13. SAWFCC will monitor the weights of wrestlers on eTMS before National trials and make specific recommendations regarding wrestlers that reduce too much weight for National trials.
14. The S.A. Executive Management will consider the requirements as set by SASCOC and SRSA as a priority during the selection of teams.

South African Sports Confederation and Olympic Committee:

In case of selection for teams administered by SASCOC wrestlers must conform to the selection policies and criteria as stipulated by SASCOC.

General requirements for wrestling who living overseas:

1. Wrestlers who reside and train overseas must inform the SAWF of their circumstances before **15 February** each year. Information with regards to the name of their university, college, club and contact information of their overseas coach, as well as, details relating to their annual training program with regards to fitness, strength and conditioning and periodisation with regards to competition must be provided.
2. Wrestlers must send a monthly report on their training activities and attendance to the SAWF Coaches council.
3. The results of competitions in which wrestlers participated must be sent to SAWFCC.
4. Wrestlers must participate in at least one (1) SAWFCC approved tournament in the selected style annually. Wrestlers must inform SAWFCC in advance with regards to the plan participation as well as the results of the competition. The selection of the tournament depends on the age category and level and expertise of the specific wrestlers and the appropriate tournament will be approved by SAWFCC.
5. Qualify and participation in the SA National Trails.
6. Wrestlers need to be available for international training camps as determined by the SAWFCC.
7. Wrestlers need to be available for selection to National team participating at international competitions.
8. Wrestlers are required to be registered in terms of the requirements for Foreign based wrestlers as determined by UWW.

Regards

Coaches Council

Nico Coetzee