

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Question

Who can qualify for Colours

### Answer

Sporting Colours, more often known merely as Colours are awarded to members of the National Federation (NF) who have excelled in a sport.

Colours are traditionally worn in or on scarves, ties, blazers, gowns, cuff links, and other items of apparel. It is the highest award that an athlete or official can earn in recognition of their achievements.

The NF is the SA National Archery Association and membership is open to all national associations who fulfill basic requirements (<http://tinyurl.com/kahoyq2>) as well as individuals who are members in good standing with recognized archery clubs.

Each national archery body who has been granted membership of the Sanaa is recognized in their own right by the NF and has their own membership rules.

Colours can be earned by both amateur and professional athletes after a ruling following the 1988 games where the IOC decided to make all professional athletes eligible for the Olympics, with only boxing and wrestling still competed on an "amateur" basis, although this revolves around rules, and not payment.

There are currently four main bodies that are authorized to issue recognized Colours, each on different levels and under different conditions. Clubs of course, have the right to issue their own Colours, but only the clubs themselves recognizes these.

- " Provincial bodies
- " National Associations
- " National Federations
- " SA Colours Board

### Provincial Colours

At provincial level, on the recommendation of the provincial archery body to the Provincial Sports Confederation, members who have reached specific standards, and who are participating in recognized National Championships are eligible. The province sets the standards.

Only provincial bodies that are recognized by their respective national bodies and where the national body is a member in good standing with the NF may apply for Provincial Colours.

All national championships as published in the SA Archer are officially recognized and eligible tournaments for provincial Colours.

Members who shoot at national championships represent the province and not themselves as individuals.

We are responsible for the awarding for Provincial Colours to athletes/officials who have met the criteria to represent the Province in different sporting codes and arenas - Gauteng Provincial Sports Confederation

So, it is quite possible to earn Provincial Colours if you represent your province at an indoor national as well as at 3-D or outdoor National championship. Once Colours are awarded, they are held for life.

Provincial Colours are controlled through the Constitution of the Provincial Sports Confederation, a body that comprises of elected volunteers from the various sporting codes.

#### **Association or National Colours**

The National Associations who are recognized by the NF also have the authority to issue National Colours (often called Association Colours). Once again, certain standards have to be reached.

These standards are often publicized and available in the public domain. These Colours are normally governed by the Constitution of the National Association.

The NF recognizes Association Colours as the highest award that the national body can award a member for both officials and athletes.

#### **National Federation Colours**

Federation Colours are governed by the Colours Board regulations. The rules read;

16(1) National federations (NF s) are entitled to their own colours, emblems and insignia which they award and use as they please. This also applies to NOCSA, DISSA, SACGA, AAG, SASSU and USSASA. Federation colours can be used in the case of invitation matches, B - and Veteran (Master)- sides, Development teams competing against other countries in friendly matches honorary/long service awards, etc.

16(2) No national federation is allowed to use the Protea, or any combination thereof as NF s colours or in a manner similar to that of the two marks as used for purposes of awarding national colours.

16(3) National federations are allowed to incorporate in their designs the Protea, and a combination thereof, provided that such inclusion will not demean the national symbol, nor create an impression that such a design is in fact a national symbol.

16(4) National colours are reserved for international participation only, i.e. not for domestic competitions and as such are reserved for the very best athletes representing South Africa in competitions of the highest level (continental and world championships, or test matches against fully representative teams or individuals from another country/countries. National colours can be awarded in the form of colours (the badge is embroidered in gold on green background).

16(5) The national badge consists of the logo with the wording SOUTH AFRICA appearing under it followed by the name of the code of sport, e.g. Athletics. The only other wording allowed on the badge is the designation MANAGER / Assistant Manager and/or COACH / Assistant Coach. In the case of multi-coded teams the additional wording e.g. COMMONWEALTH GAMES 1998" will also appear on the badge.

#### **SA Colours Board : Protea Colours**

The NF can recommend to the SA Colours Board that a member who has achieved certain standards and who will be competing in a recognized international event, be awarded Protea Colours.

Protea Colours are controlled through legislation by the National Colours Board [Section 11 Act 110 of 1998].

Article 12(1) of the regulations state that National colours shall be awarded to members of national federations and macro bodies who are members of the General Assembly and are recognised as such by the Commission. As it currently stands, only members in good standing of Sanaa and its members would qualify for Protea Colours should they meet the requirements.

This stands true for Provincial and National Colours as well.

There are a number of important points which are common to the awarding of Colours and which validates the accolade.

" That the member is in good standing with the NF.

" That there are clear and defined standards

" That participation takes place.

Standards are significant and which is why we publish our requirements. Article 12(2) of the regulations state &. may only apply as such only for sportsmen and sportswomen who represent South Africa in international competitions of the required nature and standard as recommended by the national federation and macro body and approved by the Commission.

These basic conditions apply to both officials and athletes. Any organization or body who purports to be able to award Colours can be found guilty of an offence.

When it comes to Protea Colours, Section 10(1) of the regulations state that a person may not;

- (a) without the necessary authority, use the national colours or any colours confusingly or deceptively similar thereto in the course of trade or otherwise;
- (b) project himself or herself as representing South Africa in a sporting authority without written consent from the SASC;
- (c) unlawfully and without the authority of the Board misrepresent that he or she is entitled to wear national colours;
- (d) commit any act or causes the commission thereof, which brings the national colours into disrepute.

The penalty for transgression is a fine not exceeding R25,000. In a recent ruling, the Colours Board and Sascoc advised that no member may wear apparel with the Protea Colours if they are not competing in a recognized international event.

The regulations define clearly who qualifies for Colours and takes into account unfair selection. For example,

13(2) A selection process shall be deemed unfair and inequitable if:

- i. qualifying players are excluded from such national team on the basis of them not being able to finance their participation in the national team;
- ii. qualifying players are excluded from such national team(s) on the ground of their religion, colour or creed.

With the new sports structures in place, and each province now supported by the provincial sports confederation, new rules come into play. In some cases, affecting our rules. For example, where previously it would have been possible to earn provincial colours without having to attend a national championship, the new regulations prevent this from happening. The logic follows on from Protea Colours, where you would represent your country; and in this case your province.

But it also raises interesting questions. What happens if the national bodies rules allow for a postal shoot at nationals? That could be defined as participation, and therefore qualify an archer for provincial colours without being present. The provincial authorities are new, and I m sure that over time, and with the right representation, will soon realize that not all sports are the same.

Sooner or later, the SA Colours Board will be taking action against those who claim to offer Colours when they have no right to do so; and at the same time elevate those who have earned Colours the right way to new levels, something to strive for and wear with pride.

Colours can be awarded on multiple levels. In all cases, the award is subject to certain conditions, some governed by the Constitution, such as in the case of clubs and provinces; while others by law. However, in all cases, only bodies recognized by the National Federation are permitted to issue Colours. There are serious consequences for those without the necessary authority, use the national colours or any colours confusingly or deceptively similar thereto in the course of trade or otherwise;

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#### **Details**

*Posted on Wednesday 09 April 2014 - 14:25:11 by SANAA*