

International Event, Zambia: 30 April to 4 May 2014. Kiara Farm, Lusaka

A Tri African Nations team competition in Dressage and Show Jumping

Team Members – under 19s		Chef d'equipe	Results
Megan Van Schie	Gauteng	Claire Wager	1 st overall
Shannon Watt	Western Cape		
Kyle Trollip	KZN		
Chelsey Carlisle	KZN		
Reserve			
Julia Tiffin	Western Cape		

There were 6 teams in the under-19 category, with South Africa being one, Zimbabwe being another, and with 4 teams from Zambia.

Zambia provided 9 horses for our team to choose from, for the competition. The horses ranged in size, and level of experience, and each of our team members was able to ride each horse and work out who suited which ride best. Except for our 2m tall rider, Kyle, who was assigned the two tallest horses!

On day 1 of the competition, we rode dressage, with team members achieving 2nd, tie 3rd, and a 5th, to place 2nd overall in the team dressage competition.

On day 2, the team members competed as individuals in the speed show jumping class, and the arena eventing classes. This was an excellent opportunity for each of them to get a feel as to how their horses would 'go' in the show jumping.

Day 3 saw the team event take place and South Africa took second place overall in the jumping, being beaten by a local team of speedy ponies and determined riders.

However, with a team 2nd in dressage and a team 2nd in show-jumping, South Africa eased into the lead in the overall Team placing.

Our team members helped build jumps, scribe, clear plates, etc, and Julia became the resident musician on the piano. They coped well with various set-backs, maintaining good team spirit, and their determination and flexibility saw them come out as overall winners.

Our riders were accommodated by Zara and Chris Nicolle, at their home, a beautiful farmhouse. They were warm and welcoming, as were all the other people who made this event happen. The event was much enjoyed by all.