



Minutes

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| Meeting | EEF Secretary Generals Meeting |
| Date | 14 March 2017 |
| Time | 09h00 – 13h00 |
| Location | Office of the SUI NF, Papiermühlestrasse 40H, 3000 Bern 22, Switzerland |
| Chair | Carina Mayer |
| Minutes | Carina Mayer |

| Participants | |
|-------------------------|------------------|
| Frank Spadinger | AUT |
| Wendy Laeremans | BEL |
| Teodor Sheytanov | BUL |
| Zeljko Gagro | CRO |
| Jacob Leth | DEN |
| Venancio Garcia Ovies | ESP |
| Sabrina Ibanez | FEI |
| Quentin Simonet | FRA |
| Iain Graham | GBR |
| Soenke Lauterbach | GER |
| Dorottya Strobl | HUN |
| James Kennedy | IRL |
| Andrea White | ITA |
| Maarten van der Heijden | NED |
| Sasa Sedlar | SLO |
| Sandra Wiedmer | SUI |
| Kaan Basoglu | TUR |
| Invited | |
| Charles Trolliet | SUI NF President |
| Hanfried Haring | EEF President |
| Jozef Klavdij Novak | SLO NF President |

| Pt. | Time | Topic | Annex | Speaker |
|------------|-------------|---|--------------|----------------|
| 1 | 09:00-09:05 | Welcome & Introduction | | C. Mayer |
| 2 | 09:05-11:00 | Preparation for FEI Sports Forum | | H. Haring |
| 2.1 | | AJO Proposal: Harmonization of Jumping Entry Fees | X | |
| 2.2 | | The Future of the FEI Nations Cup Jumping | | |
| 2.3 | | WEG Table C competition | | |
| | 11:00-11:10 | <i>Short break</i> | | |
| 3 | 11:10-11:30 | FEI Update | | S. Ibanez |
| 3.1 | | FEI Endurance Forum in Barcelona (ESP) | | |
| 3.2 | | FEI Para-Equestrian Forum & classification research project | | |
| 4 | 11:30-11:50 | Youth | | C. Mayer |
| 4.1 | | New competition formats - FEI Pony Jumping Trophy - FEI Youth Nations Cup Jumping | | |
| 4.2 | | U25 Category | | |
| 5 | 11:50-12:20 | NF Input | | A. White |
| 5.1 | | European Championships - Publication of facilities & costs - Non obligation of buying packages - Costs | | |
| 5.2 | | FEI IT - Officials: contact details - Athlete/horse CV in PDF | | |
| 5.3 | | FEI Committee Meeting Documents - timeline of publication of documents | | |
| 5.4 | | FEI Communications - harmonization of information distribution | | |
| 6 | 12:20-12:30 | Follow-up of 2016 Secretary Generals Meeting: - Helmet Rules Working Group | | C. Mayer |
| 7 | 12:30-12:35 | 2020 Paralympic Games: Training Venue Passes | | C. Mayer |
| 8 | 12:35-12:50 | EU Funding opportunities | | C. Mayer |
| 9 | 12:50-13:00 | AOB | | C. Mayer |

1. Welcome & Introduction

The EEF President and Secretary General welcome the meeting attendants and open the meeting. Charles Trolliet, President of the SUI NF presents the structure of equestrian sport in Switzerland and provides an overview of the activities in the SUI NF.

2. Preparation for FEI Sports Forum

2.1. AJO Proposal: Harmonization of Jumping Entry Fees

The EEF President in his role as Chair of the EEF Jumping Working Group briefly summarizes the proposed harmonization of entry fees in Jumping. The NF representatives are stating their strong opposition to the proposal. There is no opposition against harmonization in general but it should be a harmonization towards the European system and not away from it. It is proposed to continue the debate with a holistic view on the Event Classification System (ECS) rather than picking out single parts such as the entry fees. Sabrina Ibanez reiterates that the harmonization proposal has been put forward by the Alliance of Jumping Organizers (AJO) and suggests to send out one more clarification regarding this to all FEI members. She also refers to the new supporting documents that have been published for the FEI Sports Forum earlier the same day (14 March) according to which the discussion at the Forum shall be based on a list of questions rather than the specific AJO proposal.

2.2. The Future of the FEI Nations Cup Jumping

Following a summary of the EEF proposals related to this topic the attendants agree to the proposal, with the exception of Italy. The ITA NF has submitted an extensive proposal which also includes ideas on an entirely new ranking points system. The CRO NF strongly disagrees with its position in the proposed group allocation in the new Division 2 proposal which is understood and supported by the attendants. The President emphasizes again that the grouping is only a proposal which is not fixed yet and a separate meeting shall be organized to reach agreement on the grouping.

The meeting participants also clearly state their dissatisfaction with regards to the lack of transparency in the lead up to the agreement between the FEI and the GCT/GCL. It is felt that the 20 GCT/GCL shows allowed in 2018 will harm the FEI Nations Cup Jumping and that this agreement has possibly set a dangerous precedent in the world of equestrian event organization.

2.3. WEG Table C competition

This agenda item is no longer relevant for discussion after the FEI Bureau has reinstated the Table C competition for future World Equestrian Games.

3. FEI Update

3.1. FEI Endurance Forum in Barcelona (ESP)

The FEI Secretary General provides an update on the planned content of the FEI Endurance Forum to be held in Spain on 23 & 24 May 2017. The Forum will only be open to NFs and stakeholder delegates and the invitation will be sent out in the following days.

3.2. FEI Para-Equestrian Forum & classification research project

The official invitation for the FEI Para-Equestrian Forum has already been communicated to NFs via an FEI Update and Sabrina Ibanez informs about the topics on the Forum agenda as well as the progress that has been made with the FEI Classification Research Project.

3.3. Question from IRL NF

James Kennedy asks for advice with regards to event organizers working outside of NF and FEI rules and receives feedback from various NF representatives, stating that their sanctioning system in such cases is automatic and working well. Following a request the EEF President agrees to send a letter to the Irish NF, stating the EEF's position in such a case.

4. Youth

4.1. New competition formats

Carina Mayer summarizes the outcome of the meeting recently held between the FEI Jumping Youth Development Working Group, the EEF and European delegates representing CSIO Youth organizers, Youth Chef d'Equipes and National Federations. In 2017 there will be two new competition formats available to the youth in Jumping, namely the FEI Pony Jumping Trophy and the FEI Youth Nations Cup Jumping. The rules for both formats have been published on the FEI website and a detailed presentation will follow at the FEI Sports Forum in April 2017. The FEI is currently still looking for indoor CSI4* and 5* events that are willing to include the FEI Pony Jumping Trophy in their calendar with Stuttgart having already confirmed their interest. Further OCs that might be interested are: Lyon (FRA), Bordeaux (FRA) , Verona (ITA) and Salzburg (AUT). With regards to the FEI Youth Nations Cup Jumping the CSIO Arezzo has already expressed its interest in becoming a qualifier.

All participants agree that the FEI calendar of youth events is the biggest challenge that needs to be resolved in order to turn these new competition formats into a success. Currently the CSIO youth events are too condensed in the FEI calendar and need to be spread out more, still ensuring that the events are held during school holidays so that the young athletes don't have to be taken out of school too often.

It is decided that a meeting shall be organized by the EEF in September 2017, inviting all OCs of CSIO youth events in order to discuss the calendar issue and trying to find a good solution for the future youth calendar.

4.2. U25 Category

The Secretary Generals agree that it is not desirable to introduce a U25 European Jumping Championship but to formally add the U25 category to the FEI Jumping rules for 2018 in order to give organizers the option to schedule competitions for this age category. Further proposals are an introduction of U25 rankings in jumping (as they already exist in Dressage) and a mentorship program with start-up support for young professionals in equestrian sport (mentees between 20-30 years of age).

4.3. EU-CH for Ponies

As it appears to become increasingly difficult to find OCs that are able to organize combined EU-CH for Ponies in the three disciplines of Jumping, Dressage and Eventing it is agreed that a proposal shall be put forward to the FEI Technical Committees in these three disciplines to consider a split-up of this championship.

5. NF Input

Andrea White shares in the presence of the FEI Secretary General several proposals with regards to improved collaboration between the FEI and NFs, related to the following subjects:

- OCs that have been allocated FEI Championships shall be asked to provide information to NFs regarding facilities and services that will (or will not) be provided by the OC to participating NFs. The aim is to avoid double work for NFs, for example with regards to hotel bookings.
- The FEI shall not approve Championship schedules in which NFs are obliged to buy expensive packages for their athletes and team members. More flexibility shall be provided to the NFs with the offer of a very basic package in addition to the all-inclusive package. The FEI is also asked to look at the packages offered for the 2017 Vaulting Championships which are considered by NFs to be very expensive.
- NFs would appreciate if the FEI could provide the contact details of FEI officials in the FEI database so that less time is wasted in contacting individual FEI employees by email and requesting those details in writing. One suggested solution would be to add a tick box to the FEI profile of officials in the FEI database in which they can agree to make their contact details visible to NFs. Another solution could be the addition of a “contact me” function to the FEI officials database.
- The FEI is asked to look into possibilities to allow for a pdf printout of athlete/horse results as well as event results from the FEI database.
- The FEI is informed that some FEI Committees take a very long time to publish their meeting minutes on FEI documents which makes it difficult for NFs to stay up-to-date with ongoing matters.

- The FEI is asked to try to harmonize the information distribution to NFs because some information is sent through the FEI Update, others through the FEI NF Liaison office and sometimes the publication of important documents is not communicated at all.

James Kennedy also asks for the possibility to establish an EEF photo catalogue to which NFs could contribute with their photos and at the same time use the photos provided by other NFs, aiming to reduce costs for all NFs involved. This will be considered by the EEF and during the absence of a an EEF photo catalogue Sabrina Zeender offers NFs to get in touch with Grania Willis and ask for access to the FEI photo catalogue.

6. Follow-up of 2016 Secretary Generals Meeting: Helmet Rules Working Group

It is decided that the Helmet Rules Working Group will not be reactivated but James Kennedy offers to send a document to the EEF Secretary General, outlining the actions that have recently been taking in Ireland with regards to the EN number for helmets.

7. 2020 Paralympic Games: Training Venue Passes (TVPs)

It is agree that the subject of TPVs shall be addressed again with regards to the 2020 Paralympic Games, asking the IPC to include the Training Venue Passes for the Paralympic Games in alignment with the Olympic Games. The EEF will draft a letter that can be used by NFs and NPCs to submit their request to the IPC. All NFs present agree that it is absolutely necessary to obtain more accreditations and Paralympic Village access for athlete assistants.

8. EU Funding opportunities

Carina Mayer provides a summary of the Erasmus+ Sport funding opportunities that are currently available to the sports sector with the EEF considering the submission of a project proposal in 2018. Andrea White is sharing details on two projects that the Italian NF is currently planning which would also fall under the scope of the Erasmus+ Sport program. Once the project details are available these will be shared with EEF members in order to see whether program partnerships can be established with other NFs.

9. AOB

- Soenke Lauterbach provides an update on the work of the FEI Officials Working Group and briefly summarizes the outcome which will be presented in detail during the FEI Sports Forum in April. Jacob Leth states that according to the current FEI rules the officials have to be paid net which is hardly possible in reality. For the 2018 rules revision process it should be considered to change this to gros payment.
- The NFs present propose to consider as of 2018 an earlier date for the EEF General Assembly, ideally towards the end of August. The aim would be to find a date after the

FEI documents have been published for NF feedback so that the outcome of the EEF GA can still be relevant for the preparation of the FEI GA.

- Frank Spadinger provides an update on the recently founded Central European Dressage Working Group which aims to further develop the discipline of Dressage in this region.
- The NFs present agree that a change in the Driving rules shall be initiated for 2018 to allow for the Para World Driving Championship to take place only every second year, otherwise NFs will not be able to send drivers to an annual event for financial reasons.
- The FEI is asked to illustrate the bidding deadline more clearly in the published document for event bidders.
- The EEF President refers to his recent article published on the topic of “The Social License” and offers further conversations on this subject.

The EEF Secretary General closes the meeting at 13h00 and thanks the Swiss NF for their extraordinary hospitality and fantastic organisation of this meeting.