

Minutes



Meeting	EEF Secretary Generals Meeting
Date	13 August 2018
Time	11h00 – 15h30
Location	Hotel Hungaria City Center, Rákóczi út 90, 1074 Budapest, Hungary
Chair & Minutes	Carina Mayer

Participants	
Frank Spadinger	AUT
Wendy Laeremans	BEL
Marketa Svenkova	CZE
Bob Reijnek	CZE
Carina Mayer	EEF
Sabrina Ibanez	FEI
Soenke Lauterbach	GER
Dorottya Strobl	HUN
Andrea White	ITA
Lukasz Jankowski	POL
Rebeka Grabar	SLO
Sandra Wiedmer	SUI
Annika Tjernström	SWE
Wiveka Lundh	SWE
Murat Batur	TUR
Invited Guests	
Daniel Göhlen	CEO of Black Horse One GmbH

Pt.	Topic
1	Welcome & Introduction
2	FEI Rule Revisions & Discipline matters - FEI Rule Revision Policy
2.1	Endurance: - Art. 812.1 & 812.2 Weight - Art. 815.3.8 Injury definitions
2.2	Driving: - Art. 912: Grooms registration, elimination & medical assessment (“Participating Support Personnel”) - Art. 955: General impression mark - Art. 988: Introduction of Assistant TDs - Art. 989: Introduction of Assistant Course Designers

2.3	Para-Equestrian Dressage: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Regulations? - Removal of equipment drawings - Update on Paralympic Training Venue Passes
2.4	Para-Equestrian Classification Manual (currently no discussion items)
2.5	Vaulting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Youth Olympic Games
2.6	Reining (currently no discussion items)
2.7	EADCMRs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Art. 7.4 Provisional suspension of trainers in Endurance
2.8	Veterinary Regulations (currently no discussion items)
2.9	FEI Statutes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - EEF Regional Group in the FEI
2.10	General Regulations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Art. 140 Introduction of Participating Support Personnel
2.11	Internal Regulations
2.12	Olympic Regulations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - IOC feedback on strategic reserve in Dressage and Jumping? - Art. 607 Why NOC CoC requirement on 31 Dec 2019 when NF CoC deadline is set for 1 June 2020? - Art. 609 Why is NOC longlist due on 29 April 2020 when NF CoC deadline is set for 01 June 2020?
2.13	Eventing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Art. 526.4 Blood on horses - Art. 544 Scoring the flying change - Art. 544.2.5 Harmony of athlete & horse mark - European CIC2** Cup (former rural riders championship)
2.14	Jumping: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Art. 224.3 Falls (apply to all FEI disciplines?) - Invitation system
2.15	Dressage: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Takeaways from the 2018 Global Dressage Forum in Aachen: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Wish to have 3 different, short Grand Prix tests. Draw of the test at the event o Wish to have only one Nations Cup formula o Request to better coordinate Nations Cup calendar so that min. 1 weekend in between two Nations Cup events o Wish to better include the Youth into Nations Cup formula (mixed teams?) - Removal of equipment drawings
3	Sports Presentation & Technology in Equestrian <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Presentation of recent innovations and future potentials, by Daniel Göhlen - eDressage pilot project <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o learnings and conclusions from the 3 test events o Art. 433.1 E-scribes o Art. 433.2 Remarks are intended for the information of the rider o Art. 429.6.1 No media nor recording are allowed in the Judges' hut

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Control and certification of new technology, proposal to initiate an EEF or FEI Working Group - Proposals for the 2018/19 WEL Dressage World Cup season & 2019 European Championships
4	<p>Proposed EEF seminars, courses & brotherhood programs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Brotherhood: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Para-Equestrian Reining (ITA?) o Eventing in Croatia (GBR?) - Judging youth classes in Dressage - Training with a sports psychologist against judging biases (in Dressage, Para-Dressage, Vaulting, Reining Driving-Dressage & Eventing-Dressage) - Co-commentator training for judges & athletes
5	<p>Proposed pilot projects / test events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - athletes in sporty competition dress & more national identification - new sports presentation technology
6	<p>AOB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - FEI position on the new concept of combined “European Championships Glasgow 2018” (https://www.glasgow2018.com/championships/about-european-championships)

1. Welcome & Introduction

The EEF Secretary General welcomes the meeting attendants and introduces Daniel Göhlen. Special gratitude is expressed to Dorottya Strobl for hosting this meeting after a very successful Division 2 Final at the CSIO of Hungary. Special thanks also goes to Sabrina Ibanez for attending this meeting in her role as FEI Secretary General.

The objective of this meeting is to facilitate thorough discussions on major rule changes for 2019 and to formulate a unified European position whenever possible.

Due to the length of the agenda and the importance of the subject it is agreed that the World Equestrian Games will be discussed at the very beginning of the meeting but related to the item of “AOB”. On behalf of several NFs Wendy Laeremans raises the following issues that urgently need to be addressed by the OC/FEI in order to allow NFs to manage their teams for the WEG:

o Accommodation

This remains the major concerns of the SGs because the lists received from the OC remain incorrect (with major mistakes). Although these lists have not been corrected until today, the OC has sent invoices to the NFs which cannot be paid until the lists are correct. NFs are getting increasingly worried that there are simply not enough rooms available to accommodate all delegations and that there will be unpleasant surprises upon arrival in Tryon. Such situation needs to be avoided at all cost in order to ensure that athlete performances are not negatively impacted by organizational matters. There is a clear request from the SGs to the OC to communicate the reason for the persistent accommodation problem in an honest and transparent manner. The SGs acknowledge that

WEG is a complex project and NFs would be willing to provide assistance (ie through the Chef de Missions) if it can be of any help to the OC in resolving the accommodation issues.

- Logistics/transportation

In the recent teleconference with the OC, NFs were told to cancel their rental cars with AVIS and use the arrangements of the OC instead. However, when comparing the costs it became apparent that NFs can get cheaper deals when making their own arrangements rather than using the options that are currently offered by the OC.

- Accreditations

NFs are still waiting for information with regards to the access rights for each function.

- Ratecard

NFs cannot order Ratecard items which means that this will all have to be done at the very last minute. NFs were asked to pay deposits without having confidence that the system is actually functioning.

Sabrina Ibanez is engaging in the discussion and provides the meeting attendants with the latest information on these items of concern:

- Accommodation – Yes, this continues to be challenging. The FEI Games Director has been continually pushing the Tryon team to keep pressure on Housing Connections to get this all resolved.

- Transport – The OC advised NFs to cancel reservations they may have already made with AVIS only so that all bookings (OC responsible and other) could be made as one and the AVIS credit be set against this. There is nothing to stop an NF either (a) ignoring this advice and making an independent booking with AVIS, and/or (b) making additional reservations through different companies, if this is a cheaper option for them.

- Accreditation – Final details, including access rights, are being finalised and will soon be published for NFs, including a Q&A on Hippobase. Access privileges will be largely consistent with WEG 2014 which can be accessed through the 2014 FEI Schedule.

The EEF will stay in close contact with the FEI to ensure that the above requests made by the SGs will be addressed and resolved by the OC before the first arrivals in Tryon.

2. FEI Rule Revisions & Discipline matters

FEI Rule Revision Policy

Andrea White states that it remains challenging for NFs to review the proposed rule changes in the short given timeframe that is always colliding with the major Championship/Games of the year. The SGs present agree.

It is felt that the EEF SG meeting is a very good opportunity to discuss the major rule changes at an early stage in the consultation process so that the NFs can benefit from each other's expertise and input before having to submit their feedback to the FEI. It is proposed that the EEF SG Meeting shall continue to take place in Phase III of the FEI Rule Revision timeline and that discipline experts of various NFs shall prepare summaries of the major rule changes in each discipline which shall then be presented for discussion at the EEF SG Meeting.

Frank Spadinger asks Sabrina Ibanez for clarification regarding the timeline to propose new rule changes. This refers to the intention of the AUT NF to propose the following rule changes in Dressage:

- re-introduction of the collective marks
- number of tests per category in the youth categories
- 60% qualification score for Children

Sabrina Ibanez states that the above proposals, if not related to any proposed changes that were published by the FEI in July 2018, would fall under Phase I of the FEI Rule Revision Policy and thus need to be submitted to the FEI before 01 March 2019 for consideration in the 2019 FEI Rule Revision process.

2.1 Endurance

Art. 812.1 & 812.2 Weight

Strong opposition to the new proposal to increase from 70kg to 75kg. Deadweight is a problem for horses, thus the proposed rule change is not supported.

Art. 815.3.8 Injury definitions

Ok

Art. 815.3.1 Rest periods

Strong support to increase the rest periods by 7 days for each category, based on recent scientific findings that were also presented at the FEI Sports Forum. Horse welfare must be paramount in all our efforts, thus this proposed rule change is strongly supported.

Following a question from Soenke Lauterbach, Sabrina Ibanez provides an update on the current status of Endurance in the UAE. A meeting between the FEI and UAE NF will be held soon to discuss the agreement again and other NFs will be informed of the outcome of these conversations in due course. The SGs agree that it would be desirable to gather more intelligence in the discipline of endurance, for example by means of post-mortem reports from national endurance events, but that this would be very difficult to impose due to the significant cost it would cause for NFs.

2.2 Driving

Art. 912: Grooms registration, elimination & medical assessment (“Participating Support Personnel)

Currently opposed to this proposal due to concerns related to additional cost and additional workload for NFs. Too bureaucratic.

Art. 955: General impression mark

Ok

Art. 988: Introduction of Assistant TDs

Art. 989: Introduction of Assistant Course Designers

Strong opposition against mandatory Assistant TDs and mandatory Assistant Course Designers due to exploding costs for event organizers. If these roles are optional (but not mandatory) for OCs then this would be acceptable.

2.3 Para-Equestrian Dressage

Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Regulations

A summary of proposed changes to these regulations have been submitted to NFs by email and no discussion items are raised during the meeting.

Removal of equipment drawings

Strong opposition against the removal of the equipment drawings because the sole text cannot be understood by a non-native English speaker which makes good stewarding almost impossible and opens the door to individual interpretations. It is agreed that the drawings that were used up to now may be outdated but it is desirable to have a combination of both in the sport rules, updated equipment drawings together with a detailed text explanation.

Update on Paralympic Training Venue Passes

Reference is made to the 2017 EEF SG Meeting after which the EEF has been in contact with the IPC and the FEI regarding the request for Training Venue Passes for the 2020 Tokyo Paralympic Games. Generally the IPC does not want to introduce this access category for the Paralympic Games. However, they are looking into ways of accommodating the demand via a generous allocation of “P” passes at the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games. Once the IPC has drafted the Accreditation Guide for the Games (Q1 2019) the IPC will discuss this with its NPC advisory group and the IPC will consult the FEI in this context as well.

It is agreed that Sabrina Ibanez will put this subject on the agenda for the next meeting of the Association of Paralympic Sports Organizations (APSO) which will take place on 07 November 2018.

2.4 Para-Equestrian Classification Manual

No comments

2.5 Vaulting

Youth Olympic Games

Sabrina Ibanez provides an update on the FEI's efforts to get Vaulting added to the program of the Youth Olympic Games. This subject is also being discussed in the FEI Vaulting Committee in order to formulate a good concept.

It is agreed that the FEI shall be asked to provide a timeline with regards to the internal discussion process related to this subject.

2.6 Reining

No comments

2.7 EADCMRs

Art. 7.4 Provisional suspension of trainers in Endurance

Supported in general but concerns are raised with regards to the feasibility of enforcing this rule (difficulty to ensure that the registered trainer is also the real trainer for the respective horse).

2.8 Veterinary Regulations

Article 1037.6 Presentation of Horses

Handlers may not carry a whip in the disciplines of Driving and Endurance. However, there is a concern that handlers in Endurance use long ropes in order to activate their horses at the vet check. It should thus be added to the proposed rule change that the rope may have a maximum length of 1.5m only.

2.9 FEI Statutes

EEF Regional Group in the FEI

The proposed concept of an EEF Regional Group in the FEI has been incorporated into the FEI Statutes. As these proposed changes are in line with the new EEF Statutes that were discussed again at the 2018 EEF General Assembly in Rome, no further comments are made related to this subject.

2.10 General Regulations

Art. 140 Introduction of Participating Support Personnel

Currently opposed to this proposal due to concerns related to additional cost and additional workload for NFs. Too bureaucratic.

Art. 169.7.2 Warning Card

Soenke Lauterbach raises the question whether it should be added that the two warning cards must be “for the same offence“ (like in the Eventing rules). No agreement can be reached between the SGs, thus no EEF position at this stage.

2.11 Internal Regulations

No comments

2.12 Olympic Regulations

IOC feedback on strategic reserve in Dressage and Jumping?

Sabrina Ibanez states that the IOC has not provided a final answer to this question yet.

Soenke Lauterbach asks to allow a strategic reserve/substitution for tactical reasons also for Eventing. Other NFs are against such strategic reserve in Eventing because it is considered as the Triathlon in Equestrian sport. There is no agreement between NFs on this subject and thus no EEF position at this stage.

Reserve horses

Andrea White raises the subject of reserve athletes and horses. The FEI is asked to confirm whether the reserve horses will be stabled in the Olympic stables at the Tokyo 2020 venue.

Dressage

With regards to Olympic Dressage it is felt that the text related to the qualification for the Freestyle is confusing. The qualification through the heat system is also not described clearly enough.

2.13 Eventing

Art. 514.2.3 Conflict of Interest

Strong opposition against the proposed text which aims to clarify that the appointed Cross Country Course Designer may compete in minor events for which he has designed the Cross Country Course. This is a clear conflict of interest and no course designer should be allowed to compete when he/she has designed the course.

Art. 526.4 Blood on horses

Supported in general although it would still be desirable to have one overall rule for all disciplines in the FEI General Regulations (as already discussed at the EEF meeting in Montevideo 2017). The SUI NF has already implemented such general rule on a national level.

Art. 544 Scoring the flying change

It is agreed that this should be tried out but there are concerns that we go away from the principle of “judge what you see“ and move further towards video reviewing. It should be clarified in the

rules that only the official video can be used to review the flying change (not just any video from the spectator stands or kiss & cry area etc).

Art. 544.2.5 Removal of collective marks & Harmony of athlete and horse mark

Ok for a majority of NFs but opposed by the GER NF.

European CIC2 Cup (former rural riders championship)**

The EEF SG provides a summary of the request that has been received from Peter Buist and Jonathan Chapman. The SGs agree to the proposal to rename the event into “European CIC2** Cup“ to ensure the future longevity of the event. This will also allow the EEF to promote the event more widely and effectively among the European nations.

2.14 Jumping

Art. 224.3 Falls

Supported

Invitation system

The SGs reiterate their support to the proposal that was also discussed at the 2018 EEF General Assembly in Rome:

Annex V CSI Invitation Rules

Invitation Rules for CSI2*/CSI3*/CSI4*/CSI5* Events (Worldwide)

Compromise Proposal

Event Level	Athletes from the Longines Ranking	Athletes selected by the host NF	OC Invitations
CSI5*	60%	20%	20%
CSI4*	35-50%	25-40%	25%
CSI3*	25-45%	25-45%	30%
CSI2* "stand-alone"	15-35%	25-45%	40%
CSI2* "big event"	0%	20%	80%

It is also noted that the IJRC intends to propose an application of the new FEI invitation system to all events except for the FEI Nations Cup. This would basically mean that the World Cup would be sacrificed. Such move would only make sense if there is solid legal advice that this would make a significantly positive impact in the context of the ongoing legal challenges. The question is raised whether such potential sacrifice of the World Cup would be helpful or harmful in the longterm.

The FIN NF would like to see an amendment to the current invitation rules which would oblige an event organizer to invite one individual athlete from each NF that belongs to the same Olympic Group as the host NF. This would provide opportunities for regional participation and increase chances for small NFs to get invited to CSI events. The FIN NF is asked to submit a

written proposal so that the details can be studied by other NFs in preparation for the EEF meeting in Bahrain.

Hindboots

The SUI NF objects against the step-by-step introduction of the hindboot rule. For its national Jumping events the SUI NF is prohibiting all long hindboots and also elastic straps in general.

Division 2

Frank Spadinger summarizes the key challenges that are faced by countries competing in and organizing events in Division 2 of the FEI Nations Cup Jumping series. One major challenge is the fact that OCs are obliged to cover the accommodation cost for participating teams. In the context of the Division 2 Group C meeting that was held in Laxenburg (AUT) the countries belonging to Group C in Division 2 have proposed to initiate a rule change so that OCs (in Division 2) are no longer obliged to cover the expenses of participating teams. The NFs of Group C would be willing to cover the costs for their teams participating in “O” events as a gesture of their commitment to the FEI Nations Cup Jumping.

Other SGs from NFs competing in Division 1 raise their concerns related to such a rule change because it would take a very long time to possibly get this through a formal rule revision process. However, if Division 2 would be able to reach agreement among its participating NFs then probably a solution can be found on a smaller scale and much easier than discussing this subject with all member NFs of the FEI. Due to the complexity of this subject and the length of the agenda at this SG meeting it is agreed that this subject shall be further discussed at a separate occasion.

2.15 Dressage

Takeaways from the 2018 Global Dressage Forum in Aachen

The EEF SG summarizes the key takeaways from the meeting and will also share the meeting minutes with the SGs. As these proposals do not fall under the FEI Rule Revision process they can still be discussed at a later stage for consideration by the FEI Dressage Committee and FEI Bureau.

Removal of equipment drawings

Strong opposition against the removal of the equipment drawings because the sole text cannot be understood by a non-native English speaker which makes good stewarding almost impossible and opens the door to individual interpretations. It is agreed that the drawings that were used up to now may be outdated but it is desirable to have a combination of both in the sport rules, updated equipment drawings together with a detailed text explanation.

Article 422.2.11 Consolation classes

Frank Spadinger is asking why the Consolation GP cannot count as a CoC for Championships and Games. The FEI Dressage Director shall be asked for her feedback.

3. Sports Presentation & Technology in Equestrian

Daniel Göhlen presents recent innovations and future potentials in the context of “eDressage“ to the SGs. The learnings and conclusions following the three test events in Achleiten (AUT), Leudelange (LUX) and Cappelrn (GER) are summarized.

There is support for the concept of eDressage and in particular with regards to paperless judging. At the same time the SGs emphasize that it is of utmost importance that the quality and reliability of such a new system is secured when there is no more paper backup. Thus the FEI is asked to initiate a certification process for this new technology and to consider an FEI Working Group dedicated to sports presentation & technology matters. Daniel Göhlen will share a proposal for recommended certification criteria with the FEI IT Director.

As this new system has proved its reliability it would be ready for implementation at bigger events such as the WEL World Cup or the European Championships. However, this will require a pre-check of the sponsorship contract between the FEI and SAP.

Art. 433.1 E-scribes

Supported.

Art. 433.2 Remarks

Supported. Consideration may be given to use these remarks also for judges education purposes.

Art. 429.6.1 No media nor recording are allowed in the Judges' hut

Supported. Consideration may be given to allow for an exemption to this rule when testing new sports presentation technology if supported by a potential FEI Technology Working Group.

4. Proposed EEF seminars, courses & brotherhood programs

The EEF SG provides a short summary of the topics for seminars and courses that were proposed by NFs or individuals to the EEF over the past months. Particular interest is generated with the proposal of a co-commentator training for judges & athletes.

In addition to the mentioned topics the SWE NF proposes to organize a seminar/forum for the Youth. It is also proposed to consult with the youth departments of the European NFs in order to define the best way forward in better involving the youth.

The EEF will evaluate all proposals and define a priority list to decide upon those initiatives that will be realized in 2018 and 2019.

5. Proposed pilot projects / test events

It is agreed that continued openness with regards to new sports presentation technology is appropriate.

A test with regards to competition dress & more national identification is considered as rather irrelevant and should not be further pursued.

6. AOB

FEI position on the new concept of combined “European Championships Glasgow 2018“

The FEI has not been approached by the European Broadcasting Union (EBU) with regards to a potential inclusion of equestrian disciplines in the new competition concept of combined European Championships. It is also questionable whether the integration of equestrian sport would be feasible. In case the EBU will contact the FEI in this regard the EEF will be consulted for its opinion accordingly.

The SWE NF states that this concept is already applied nationally in Sweden for both summer and winter sports and that equestrian is sometimes part of it (for example Vaulting, maybe Dressage in the future). In Germany there will also be combined German Championships for several sports as of 2019.

Data protection regulation

Soenke Lauterbach refers to the discussion at the 2018 EEF General Assembly in Rome with regards to the implications of the new EU Data Protection legislation for NFs. Sabrina Ibanez states that the FEI is currently working on this subject and will get back to NFs once the best way forward has been determined.

The EEF SG thanks the SGs for their active discussions and very valuable contributions and closes the meeting at 15h30.