



# EUROPEAN EQUESTRIAN FEDERATION NEWS

## 01 March 2017

### Contents:

Next Events.....	1
Introduction of the EEF Expert Commentary.....	2
EEF Working Groups: Call for applications .....	2
2017 EEF Secretary Generals Meetings .....	2
Funding opportunity through Erasmus+ Sport.....	3
EEF Board Meeting.....	3
European Equine Health and Nutrition Congress (EEHNC).....	3
Meeting of the EEF Jumping Working Group.....	4
EEF EU-Committee Meeting.....	4
New Copa Chairman of Horse Working Party elected.....	4

### Next Events

- **08-09 March 2017:** EU Sport Forum in St. Julian's, Malta
- **14 March 2017:** EEF Secretary Generals Meeting in Bern (SUI).
- **23 March 2017:** EEF in-person Board meeting in Essen (GER)
- **23-24 March 2017:** European Equine Health and Nutrition Congress (EEHNC) in Antwerp (BEL)
- **09 April 2017:** General Assembly of the Euro-Pony Club in Prague (CZE)
- **10-11 April 2017:** FEI Sports Forum in Lausanne (SUI)
- **21-22 April 2017:** National Para-Equestrian Classification Course in Waregem (BEL)
- **11 May 2017:** EEF Strategic Planning & Marketing Working Group Meeting in Milano (ITA)
- **13-14 May 2017:** FEI Para-Equestrian Forum in Gloucestershire (GBR)
- **23-25 May 2017:** FEI Endurance Forum in Barcelona (ESP)

## Introduction of the EEF Expert Commentary

The EEF is pleased to announce a new series of expert commentaries that will be published on the EEF website in regular intervals from now on. The first issue is related to the topic of “The Social License” and presented to you by the EEF President. For the next issues we will have the honor of contributions from experts of both the equestrian and non-equestrian sector, providing innovative input on matters of high relevance in sports governance & sports politics. Check out the first edition of the series on our website at <http://www.euroequestrian.eu/media/expert-commentary> !

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## EEF Working Groups: Call for applications

Besides the permanent EEF EU-Committee there are several temporary EEF Working Groups that are formed on an ad hoc basis to address matters of relevance for equestrian sport in Europe. The list of current EEF Working Groups can be accessed at <http://www.euroequestrian.eu/eef/committees> and the EEF Board is welcoming applications of individuals wishing to contribute to one of the Working Groups. There is also a possibility to recommend to the Board the creation of a new Working Group if a creation is considered relevant by our stakeholders.

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## 2017 EEF Secretary Generals Meetings

The agenda and detailed program for the upcoming Secretary Generals Meeting has been distributed to our members and is also available on the EEF website at <http://www.euroequestrian.eu/documents/general-meetings> . National Federations wishing to submit a late registration can still do so by submitting an email to [carina.mayer@euroequestrian.eu](mailto:carina.mayer@euroequestrian.eu) .

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## EEF General Assembly in Luxemburg (LUX)

We are pleased to inform you that the 2017 EEF General Assembly will be taking place in Luxemburg on 10 October 2017. Kindly save the date in your calendars until further details regarding travel & accommodation will be communicated to all EEF members in due course.

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## Funding opportunity through Erasmus+ Sport

The EEF Secretary General attended the Erasmus+ Sport Info Day that took place in the European Commission in Brussels on 31 January 2017.

Detailed information was provided on the various funding opportunities available to the sports sector, particularly related to

- small collaborative partnerships (max funding of EUR 60'000/project)
- collaborative partnerships (max funding of EUR 400'000/project) and
- not-for-profit European sports events (max funding of EUR 500'000/project).

A good overview on the purpose of the Erasmus+ Sport funding program and the application requirements is available on the EU-Commission website at <http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/home/erasmus-plus/actions/sport> . The deadline for projects starting on 01 January 2018 is set for 06 April 2017.

The EEF will consider applying for Erasmus+ Sport funding in the future and welcomes project proposals from EEF regions interested in the creation of a funding-eligible project.

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## EEF Board Meeting

The EEF Board held its first in-person meeting on 03 February 2017 in Zaventem (BEL) and the full meeting minutes are available at <http://www.euroequestrian.eu/documents/board-meetings> .

The Board would like to specifically remind European NFs to study the list of FEI positions open for election and appointment (published on the FEI website at <http://inside.fei.org/fei/elections>) and consider the submission of an application no later than 1 May 2017.

In order to ensure gender equity and diversity among the members of the FEI Committees, the FEI Bureau strongly encourages the National Federations to nominate female candidates and representatives of developing nations.

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## European Equine Health and Nutrition Congress (EEHNC)

The European Equine Health and Nutrition Congress (EEHNC) will take place on 23-24 March 2017 in Antwerp (BEL). The focus of the Congress will be "From Nutrition to Disease and Back".

For further information including registration, please check out the Congress website at <http://www.equine-congress.com/en/home/> .

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## Meeting of the EEF Jumping Working Group

The Jumping Working Group met on 09 February 2017 in Düsseldorf (GER) and focused mainly on a European position related to the proposed harmonization of CSI/CSIO requirements and the future of the FEI Nations Cup Jumping. The full meeting minutes are available at <http://www.euroequestrian.eu/documents/wg-jumping>.

The EEF's position has been shared with the FEI and all EEF members and will be further discussed during the EEF Secretary Generals Meeting in Bern (SUI) on 14 March 2017. The FEI is currently in the review process of the feedback received and will send out a proposal for the FEI Sports Forum on 13 March 2017.

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## EEF EU-Committee Meeting

The EU-Committee held its annual in-person meeting on 02 February 2017 in Zaventem (BEL). Key discussions were held on the topics of the EU Equine passports regulation as well as the EU Consumer rights legislation which severely affect the equine industry in Europe. The EEF will contribute to the political review process of these regulations and will keep its members up-to-date on these matters. The full meeting minutes are also available on the EEF website at <http://www.euroequestrian.eu/documents/eef-eu-committee>.

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## New Copa Chairman of Horse Working Party elected

The new Copa Chairman of the Horse Working Party (Copa = the European agricultural union) underlined the need to have a true European policy for horses to maximize the economic potential of the sector and to take better account of the benefits of the equine sector for rural areas.

Speaking after his election in Brussels on 23 February 2017, Mr Murphy said, "Horses play a vital role for the economies of rural areas, contributing to growth and jobs and encouraging consumers to have a healthier lifestyle through agriculture, equestrian schools, sport, education, agri-tourism and therapy. Horse production and training has an important role to play in supporting sustainable rural communities".

"We therefore need to create the right environment in which farmers can earn enough to make their businesses viable. This also impacts on the welfare of horses which can be improved when there is an economically viable production system. Primary producers need to remain profitable if they are to respond effectively to new challenges such as limited natural resources, the effects of climate change or the emergence and spread of new diseases", he stressed.

The EU Commission recently recognised the contribution of the horse sector to the objectives of the European 2020 Strategy. Copa believes that taxation is the first thing that needs to be looked at in order to develop a real European policy for horses. A fair fiscal system adapted to the different needs of each Member State and that allows professional horse owners to generate the necessary revenues to maintain their economic activity is not yet in place at EU level".



Other priorities for Mr Murphy focus on exchanging best practices on research and innovation in the sector to ensure a viable sector and ensuring that simplification of policy is extended to the equine sector. He would like to cooperate with other EU organisations to ensure that equines are high on the political agenda. James Murphy is from Fiddawn, Inistioge, Co. Kilkenny, Ireland, and a member of the Irish Farmers' Association (IFA). He is a producer of both thoroughbred and sport horses on his farm and is also a livestock and tillage farmer. He is keen on many equestrian sports including eventing, show jumping, hunting and racing. He will be supported by two Vice-Chairpersons Erica Lindberg from the Swedish Farm Organisation LRF and Marianne Dutoit from the French farm organisation FNSEA.

Source: <http://www.copa-cogeca.be/Download.ashx?ID=1629534&fmt=pdf>

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