



18 June 2020

EEF position statement re the 2021 European Senior Championships

Dear National Federations,

Dear Associated Members,

As per FEI Announcement dated 8 May 2020 and the subsequent press release, *“the FEI European Championships in the Olympic and Paralympic disciplines of Jumping, Eventing, Dressage and Para Dressage will not be held in 2021 due to the revised dates for the Tokyo Games next year”*. *“The FEI Board has agreed that the bid process for the European Championships 2021 in these four disciplines will not be reopened as all organisers would face the same challenges of trying to host major Championships so close to the Tokyo Games.”*

Since the above announcement, the following related developments specific to the discipline of Jumping have been communicated to the EEF Board :

- The recommendation of the EEF Working Group Jumping in favor of hosting both the OG and the EU CH in 2021 under conditions
- The letters from EEF NF members stating that they will not oppose the hosting of both OG and EU CH Jumping in 2021
- The official position of the IJRC to support the hosting of both the OG and the EU CH Jumping in 2021 and to provide material assistance to participating riders
- The availability of more than one organizers who are ready to host the EU CH Jumping in 2021 under conditions
- The overwhelming support of riders, owners and other stakeholders of the Jumping sport in Europe to host both the OG and EU CH Jumping in 2021
- The fact that the organization of Tokyo 2020 remains uncertain due to COVID-19 and a final decision will be taken at the latest on March 2021

Following the above, the EEF Board, at its board meeting of 16 June 2020, addressed the matter of hosting the EU CH Jumping in the same year as the OG and, taking into consideration the immense importance of the EU CH Jumping for the equestrian sport and community in Europe. The EEF Board has reached the unanimous decision to endorse and support all efforts to reschedule and host the EU CH Jumping in 2021, i.e. in the same year and in spite of the organization of the TOKYO 2020, under the following conditions :

1. Horse welfare shall be paramount in any decision to be taken
2. The 2021 FEI Calendar Jumping shall be organized to accommodate and protect main Jumping events in 2021 (i.e. OG, Longines EEF Series Final, Longines FEI Nations Cup





Final. For possible 2021 calendar dates, the EEF Board refers to the attached EEF Working Group Jumping proposal dated 3.6.2020

3. The EU CH shall remain a “closed European championship”

If the above conditions are successfully met, the EEF Board strongly believes that it is possible to offer a level playing field to all eligible countries taking part both in the TOKYO 2020 OG and in the EU CH Jumping 2021 in the same year, while Tokyo will always remain everyone’s main focus.

The EEF will submit to the FEI its recommendation and statement of support to host the EU CH 2021 Jumping in the same year as the TOKYO 2020 OG, but the final decision will be made by the FEI Board.

Should related developments similar to those for the Jumping discipline come to the knowledge of the EEF Board in a timely fashion about the disciplines of Eventing, Dressage and Para Dressage, the EEF Board will immediately address anew the matter of hosting EU CH in 2021 also for those disciplines.

Sincerely yours,

Theo Ploegmakers

EEF President



18 June 2020

EEF PROPOSAL re. 2021 EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS JUMPING

Submitted by the EEF Jumping Working Group and approved by the EEF Board on 16 June 2020.

The EEF Jumping Working Group consists of the following members:

George Dimaras, GRE (Chair)

Otto Becker, GER

Quentin Simonet, FRA

Henrik Ankarcrona, SWE

Dorottya Strobl, HUN

Lukasz Jankowski, POL

Eleonora Ottaviani, IJRC

At its meeting of 3.6.2020, the EEF WG Jumping reached the decision to propose to the EEF Board to exhaust all possibilities to organize the EU CH Jumping 2021 for Seniors, taking all factors into consideration (such as pandemic status, calendar, venues, sponsors, stakeholders etc.).

In particular, regarding proposed dates for EU CH Jumping 2021, and given that the TOKYO OG dates for Jumping are 4-8 August 2021, i.e. **week 31** (if they take place), the WG proposes the following :

- Move LONGINES EEF Series Final 2021 to **week 30** (preferably) or to **week 32** (alternatively) subject to FEI extraordinary waiver of FEI JUMPING RULES, ARTICLE 200 GENERAL, para 8 (“*From the Monday of the week preceding and all days during the Jumping Events at the World Equestrian Games and the Olympic Games and the FEI World Cup™ Jumping Final it is forbidden to host an FEI Nations Cup™ Jumping Event (worldwide)*”).





The above have been proposed with the following in mind :

1. EEF Series Final is at 4* level and does not affect OG participation. Only teams to possibly have a problem to line up competitive teams for both events are CZE and ISR, that is if they have qualified for the EEF Series Final 2021
2. Organizing EU CH J 2021 in **week 34** (original Budapest dates) or **week 35** would allow enough time after the OG and LONGINES EEF Series Final 2021 and before the FEI LONGINES Nations Cup Final 2021