



# Minutes

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<b>Meeting</b>	<b>EEF Board Meeting</b>
<b>Date</b>	21 July 2017
<b>Time</b>	<b>11h00 – 16h30</b>
<b>Location</b>	Best Western Hotel Regence, Peterstrasse 71, 52062 Aachen (GER)
<b>Chair</b>	Hanfried Haring
<b>Minutes</b>	Carina Mayer

<b>Participants</b>	
Hanfried Haring	President
Ulf Helgstrand	Vice President
Armagan Özgörkey	Vice President
Eleonora Ottaviani	Board Member & Athletes Representative
Nayla Stoessel (excused)	Board Member
Andrew Finding	Board Member
George Dimaras (excused)	Board Member
Theo Ploegmakers	Board Member
Carina Mayer	Secretary General
<b>Invited</b>	
Bo Helander	Chair of EEF EU Committee
Soenke Lauterbach	Chair of the EEF Strategic Planning Working Group

<b>Pt.</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Annex</b>
1	EEF Continental Representation in the FEI	X
2	FEI Rule Revisions	
3	Update on recent activities	
4	NF San Marino seminar proposal	
5	Cooperation proposal from social networking platform	X
6	AOB	



The Minutes of the previous meeting held on 07 June 2017 are approved.

## **1. EEF Continental Representation in the FEI**

Soenke Lauterbach, Chair of the EEF Strategic Planning Working Group, presents the proposal including transitory provisions to the Board. In compliance with the MOU the EEF has also consulted the FEI in the lead up to this proposal.

It shall be clarified in the EEF statutes that one person shall be allowed to occupy an EEF Board position for a maximum of 2 consecutive terms. If the same person is elected into a new position then the counting shall start from scratch. FEI Rules will need to be respected as well (ie if a person has to leave the FEI Bureau after having served 12 consecutive years then that person is no longer eligible as EEF President or Vice-President either). Due to the term of the FEI Regional Group Chair being set by the FEI for 2017-2021, the EEF term would need to be extended by one year (as a transitory provision) so that the EEF term is from 2017-2021 as well. It is proposed to prepare a Q & A document on the subject of EEF Continental Representation in the FEI.

The Board formally agrees that all information related to the proposal shall be distributed to the members as well as the three candidates for the position of Chair FEI Regional Group I after this meeting. The subject will then be put forward for approval at the 2017 EEF General Assembly.

The three candidates shall be asked to declare during their campaigning process ahead of the FEI online election whether or not they would be willing to act as EEF President or Vice-President if elected as FEI Group Chair. All three candidates will also be invited to attend the next in-person meeting of the EEF Board on 26 August 2017 in Gothenburg so that the proposal can be discussed in person and any potential questions can be answered.

The Board is extending its gratitude to Soenke Lauterbach and his working group for the excellent preparation of this proposal and the significant amount of time that was invested throughout the process.

## **2. FEI Rule Revisions**

The proposed rule changes for 2018 have been distributed by the FEI and the timeline to revert with feedback is clear. The EEF Working Groups of Eventing, Dressage, Jumping and Driving are already reviewing the proposals so that their feedback can be shared with the EEF membership and the FEI. For the other disciplines of Para-Dressage, Reining, Vaulting and Endurance the EEF will highlight major changes to NFs as well but without the creation of dedicated working groups.

### 3. Update on recent activities

#### Nations Cup Jumping Division 2

Armagan Özgörkey provides a summary of the consensus reached at the recent meeting of Division 2 countries in Vienna. The FEI was asked to provide feedback on the sponsorship situation of Division 2 and an update will be provided to the Board as soon as possible. Hanfried Haring adds that with regards to Division 1 we may run into problems of not being able to guarantee global universality at CSIO events if there are 6 guaranteed starts for each Division 1 NF. This problem could theoretically be resolved by reducing the number of guaranteed starts down to 5.

#### European Horse Network (EHN)

Bo Helander provides a summary of activities in the EHN and highlights the importance of EEF's involvement to ensure that EU legislation can be influenced to the advantage of the equine sector. Due to Brexit the MEP Julie Girling from Great Britain will probably regretfully no longer be able to lobby for the equine sector which would certainly be a loss for the industry. There is currently an undesirable initiative being formed which would like to see horses being taken out of the agricultural sector and being categorized as a pet instead. This would be bad for the equine sector and the EEF EU-Committee will need to act very strongly on this.

#### Movement of horses

Armagan Özgörkey raises an issue of movement of horses which is currently faced by a rider from Romania. The Belgian authorities are keeping the competition horses under quarantine until September and it is not clear yet whether the reasoning behind this is valid or not. Lawyers are currently addressing the issue and Göran Akerstöm, FEI Veterinary Director, will be consulted for his opinion as well.

#### Riders Masters Cup

Carina Mayer provides an update on the progress of preparations for the Riders Masters Cup following a teleconference recently held with EEM. The new trademark shall be transferred over to the EEF as soon as possible and in compliance with the contract.

#### FEI Working Group on CSI/CSIO invitation system

Hanfried Haring summarizes the outcome of the in-person working group meeting held in Lausanne (SUI) where a compromise was reached among the participants which is also visible in the proposed changes of the FEI Jumping Rules for 2018. The outcome of the meeting is considered as satisfactory except for the fact that NFs will lose a certain percentage of home riders that they will be entitled to enter for home events.

The Working Group recommended:

- max 1 ranking class a day
- more ranking points for the Nations Cup
- less invitations for NFs

#### FEI Nominations Committee

Andrew Finding informs about the list of candidates for open FEI positions in the Committees and the Regional Groups. The EEF is asked to use its communication channels in order to encourage all NFs to carefully read all annexes and CVs of candidates that will be up for election soon.

Following-up on previous recommendation of the Nominations Committee there is now a slow improvement with regards to the representation of women in FEI Committees. In 2017 the Nominations Committee is issuing the recommendation for the FEI to undertake interviews with Bureau members that have opted not to stand for another term in their position and leave the FEI Bureau accordingly. This follows principles of good governance. The Nominations Committee has also observed that a lot of time has to be dedicated by Bureau members in order to fulfill their position and there is an argument to look at how Bureau members may be supported in the future (ie consider job sharing). Armagan Özgörkey adds that conflicts of interest are also a very important subject which need to be addressed during the entire process of candidate applications and appointments in order to ensure the highest standard of good governance.

The Board agrees that the EEF Strategic Planning Working Group shall be tasked to establish a solid election process for European candidates going for FEI positions so that any candidate recommended by the FEI is determined in a democratic process. This however will never prevent a NF to submit a candidacy forward directly to the FEI.

#### **4. NF San Marino seminar proposal**

The Board greatly appreciates the initiative of the SMR NF to host a seminar or an event in cooperation with the EEF in their country. As the NF wishes to address the subjects of horse welfare and/or anti-doping the Board proposes to wait for the outcome of the seminar that will be held on exactly that topic during the 2017 European Championships in Gothenburg to see whether there are specific elements of this subject that could be interesting for further discussions in San Marino. The proposed subject of contamination is considered as very important but further topics would probably be required in order to fill a full day of seminars. It is also a good idea to consider a combination with the 2018 EEF Secretary Generals Meeting so that delegates can attend the seminar as well as the Secretary Generals meeting.

## **5. Cooperation proposal from social networking platform**

The proposal is discussed in detail but it currently doesn't fit into the EEF's strategy to enter into such a partnership. The Board nonetheless sincerely thanks the company for its interest in a cooperation with the EEF.

## **6. AOB**

### Good Governance

Good governance is identified as a subject of high importance for the EEF and shall be addressed in the coming months, ie as an additional one-hour session at the 2017 EEF General Assembly in Luxembourg.

### EU-CH Gothenburg (SWE)

Carina Mayer reports that there is very good contact with the OC of the EU-CH and preparations are well under way. The EEF is delighted to be involved in a series of seminars that will address horse welfare and will also host an in-person Board meeting as well as a Dressage meeting in Gothenburg.

### Balkan Championships

No input has been received from the Balkan Working Group so far and follow-up action will be taken.

The President thanks the meeting participants for their contributions and closes the meeting at 16:30.