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ATTENDANCE LIST

Peter Bollen (PB)
Alain Guillet (AG)
Hanfried Haring (HH)
Maarten van der Heijden (MH)
Soenke Lauterbach (SL)
Kjell Myhre (KM)
Eleonora Ottaviani (EO)
Janice Shardlow (JS)

Excused: Nici Kennedy, Kristin Kloster Aasen

Welcome

SL welcomes the members of the EEF Clean Sport Working Group. KKA had to leave after the congress, but Norway is represented by KM. PB is representative of the organisers.

1. Update on latest developments in FEI and NFs present

The members update the Working Group on progress and developments in their respective countries and NFs. In almost all countries the media situation is quiet at the moment.

SL:

- in general the development is positive. No high profile cases, new rules working more or less smoothly.

KM:

- NOR is waiting for the decision of FEI GA before deciding about future national policy.
- A list of withdrawal times from trotting organisations was sent to many riders in Scandinavia. It is not known, who sent this out. CSWG recommends to NFs not to send out this list when referring to the FEI rules as it includes banned substances, which should never be used. This list is considered as confusing for riders and vets.

MH:

- Legally NED have no problem. But the strong animal welfare party could get interested and interfere if the subject is brought up again.

JS:

- working on harmonization of national and international systems.

PB:

- no legal or other issues in Belgium; following FEI rules 100%
- the public opinion and sponsors views are most important and there is sensitivity for the issue if NSAIDs.

AG:

- The Sapphire case was not handled satisfactory, especially where it comes to communication with the OC and SUI NF.
- A decision about national rules will be made after FEI GA.
- authorities are closely watching the development.

EO:

- Nothing to report for NF MON.
- In ITA there were 2 high profile cases and media reacted aggressively.

HH:

- A group of members of the European Parliament were informed about the situation and the approach to clean sport by HH and Graeme Cooke. It is to be expected that these MoP may form a working group that watches the development in equestrian sport. Therefore it is vital to keep them informed.
- transport of horses is another issue that will come up. There are attempts to reduce the limit for transports from 8 to 4 hours. Even though this aims at transport of animals for slaughter, sport horses might be affected. So again, it is vital to be active in this area.

2. Analysis of NSAID congress outcome

EO:

- even though she does not represent the IJRC in this meeting, she gives an overview about their wishes:
 1. They want to compete with fit horses.
 2. They do not want to be positive with traces of substances from older and legitimate treatments; not all riders are aware of ISL.

Conclusions:

- Important is that ISLs are harmonized among the different laboratories. This process is underway now.
- The CSWG suggests to NFs to be as open as possible when working on the harmonization of national and FEI rules.
- One main issue identified during the congress was the show system and the management of the shows and horses. The horses are going too many shows in a too short period of time.
- The scientific information presented varied significantly. There is not enough clarity in this area.
- The WG unanimously agreed that following the information presented during the congress and subsequent debates there is currently not a convincing case for the removal of NSAIDs from the list of prohibited substances.

3. Discussion of FEI proposal for changes in lists of prohibited substance (dated 4th August)

This topic was not discussed during the meeting.

4. Preparation of

a) CSWG report to EEF GA

SL will not be able to attend the EEF GA. The CSWG agrees to his proposal that MH and AG report to the EEF GA.

MH: WG activity and statement on use of NSAID in competition.

AG: WG opinion on education.

b) EEF statement re. use of NSAID in competition and FEI lists of prohibited substances

CSWG prepares a draft statement for the EEF board and GA approval (annex 1).

If a result from the list advisory is made public in time the opinion could be included in the CSWG statement.

5. Education

- CSWG sees big need and demand for education of riders, grooms, vets etc.
- People do not have the possibility to take enough time to read all information available. Consequently seminars seem to be the most effective approach to inform and to educate.
- CSWG deems this as a responsibility of the NFs. EEF should urge them to be active in this area. IJRC and FEI are ready to help and can provide materials and speakers from time to time.
The group of authors around EO and AG specifically offers the book "Awareness + Ride Fair" and a ppt.
- Groups attending seminars should be put together thoughtfully, because different target groups need to be addressed with different contents.

6. AOB

NIL

7. To Do

- Prepare minutes and circular to WG for approval: SL
- Afterwards send to EEF.
- Prepare written report for EEF GA: SL
- Present report to EEF: MH (WG results, congress, statement) and AG (education)

Conclusion:

- SL thanks the members of the working group for the constructive and fruitful meeting and especially for taking the time and staying one more day.
- Discussion about “plan B” in case that the FEI General Assembly votes in favour of NSAID implementation. NFs and FEI need to prepare for this situation. It has to be expected that in this case European rules would need to be implemented to guarantee that international events could be organised at all in the affected countries.