



EEF General Assembly 2022, President Election

Application Form and Curriculum Vitae

Position Applied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EEF President <input type="checkbox"/> EEF Vice-President <input type="checkbox"/> EEF Board Member <input type="checkbox"/> EEF Board Member Athlete's Representative * Candidates can tick more than one box
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Personal Information	
Name, Surname	Theo Ploegmakers
Address	5251 LB Vlijmen, The Netherlands
Cell phone	+31 610977857
Email	th.ploegmakers@gmail.com
Year of Birth	1946
Nationality	NED
National Federation(NF) Proposing the Candidate	NED, Royal Dutch Equestrian Federation

Motivation for the application
<p>After having gained experience in business as well as in sport leadership I am now in the comfortable situation to devote my time to the development of equestrian sport in Europe. The challenges for our sport here in Europe are the most sincere ones and they apply to every NF, regardless of whether the NF is big or small, wealthy or less wealthy, north or south, east or west. And this goes for all disciplines and any level from top sport to grassroots. It effects all stakeholders in our NFs – athletes, organizers, trainers, officials, volunteers, breeders, owners, etc – simply all horse people.</p> <p>We have to identify the questions and problems in order to discuss them with our members – with all of our member federations and not only with the biggest and most influential ones. Every NF is more than welcome and I trust in our members that they will cooperate very closely, taking and giving as initiated in the Brotherhood Program of the EEF. All NFs can learn from each other without inventing the wheel again and again.</p> <p>One of my most prominent goals in a leading position in equestrian sport in Europe is the</p>



welfare for both horses and athletes, it always has to be in the forefront of our work. Horse welfare policy must go far beyond clean sport. This is essential and it thus has to incorporate transport, training, competing, etc and has to respect above all the changing sensitivity of the society regarding animals in general and horses in particular. A well functioning and widely accepted horse welfare program is also the basis to get the youth more interested and engaged in our wonderful sport.

As former President of the NED NF and current Board Member of the EEF I made the experience that the 40+ European NFs have a very limited chance to be heard in the concert of the 134 FEI members if they do not cooperate extremely well. This is also important because of the overwhelming concentration of our sport in Europe – more than 75% of the sport takes place here. For this reason I am backing the work of the European Equestrian Federation with all my heart. The EEF is the necessary – and only – tool to realize the interest of European NFs in the context of global equestrian sport. You already gave your approval for the statutory changes of the EEF that are necessary for this and I am very motivated to implement these in a democratic and transparent process, based on openness, transparency and respect.

I respect our given differences in Europe and I am even proud of them. What we need is to understand each other and to work hard to bridge the existing gaps.

In the four years as president of the European Equestrian Federation I have been able to manage the growth of the EEF organisation. This was necessary to be able to carry out the strategy of the EEF as approved by the GA. Development is a key part of this strategic plan as well as communication with the members. To employ a sport development manager and a communications manager are important for the future of the EEF. In the strategy, approved in Vienna last year, the EEF is seeking to strengthen its position as continental representative further and looking for a cooperation with the FEI to take over the responsibility for European Championships in the future. It is therefore that I will be available to lead the EEF the next four years managing those developments

Sports Career / Equestrian Background	
Dates	Experience / Position
1994 – 1999	Sponsor of showjumping Rider Eric van der Vleuten (VINK)/Headsponsor FEI WC Jumping (VINK)
2001 – 2011	Vice President of CDI/CSI 's-Hertogenbosch (Indoor Brabant)



Official functions at the NF and/or EEF/FEI	
2009 – 2011	Board Member KNHS responsible for the High Performance Sport
2011 – 2018	President of the KNHS (Royal Dutch Equestrian Federation) Chair Dutch Equestrian Knowledge Centre (NHK) Vice Chair of the Dutch Horse Society (Sectorraad Paarden)
2011 - 2018	Board Member of the European Equestrian Federation & Member of the FEI Solidarity Committee
2018 - 2022 2020-2021	President of the EEF & FEI Board member. Chair of the Jumping Round Table
2019-	Member of the FEI Jumping Taskforce

Professional Career/Work Experience	
Dates	Position
1965 – 1975	Officer Shell Tankers (Mechanical Engineering)
1975 – 1976	Product manager Michelin France (Pneumatic Engineering)
1976 – 1978	Technical Director Witteman NED/USA (CO2 Recovery Plant)
1978 – 1980	Sales & Marketing Director at Van Arendonk BV (Tannery projects) for Eastern Europe
1980 – 1983	Sales & Marketing Director at Ameron BV (Maritime/Offshore) for Europe, Africa and the Middle East
1983 – 1988	Vice-President Ameron PTE. Responsible for Southeast Asia.
1988 – 1998	Board Member Schuttersveld Holding BV (Investment Company) . Responsible for Trading Group VINK
1998 - 2013	DGA (President) of the Gropeco Group BV (Investment Company)
2013 - 2018	Part-time consultant for production companies.



Date and signature of the candidate:

18/05/2022

APPROVAL & SUPPORT OF THE NF

Name of the National Federation: Royal Dutch Equestrian Federation (KNHS)

Name of the person signing on behalf of the NF: Mrs Iris Boelhouwer

Title: Secretary General

Signature and stamp of the NF: Koninklijke Nederlandse Hippische Sportfederatie