



CSI/CSIO requirements

FRA NF input following the FEI letter of 20/12/2016

As NFs we operate at equestrian sports premises and represent their interests. We consider what is making our sport successful thanks to strong culture and what could make it in the future more popular and more global. We are also aware of the fact that we need to drive our sport to become more and more sustainable from all aspects.

As representative of the french equestrian stakeholders who contribute with success to the balance of our sport at all steps, even at international level as it is witnessed by FEI figures, we can't be in favour of this proposal which is a threat for our sport.

To make progressing the sport at the worldwide stage, we all should take in account Europe (nearly 80% of the sport) equestrian landscape instead of proposing to apply an other system which is more promoting an "elite sport" than a "popular sport".

Like it has been raised by the EEF Show Jumping Working Group :

- *It goes entirely against the concept of a people's sport but brings equestrianism in Europe back to an elite sport with unforeseeable consequences for the industry and the interest of the media*
- *It is far too expensive, a system that is positive only for a few organizers and not for riders/owners*
- *It destroys the structure of building up young horses and riders and the important connection of sport and breeding*
- *It widens the gap between basic and high performance sport. This will result in less identification and interest of „normal“ equestrians with the international top sport; less interest leads to less spectators, sponsors interest and media coverage and consequently a weakened perspective for the Olympic future.*
- *It leads to a decline in the number of international events, whereas it is likely that shows will become national events again. There will be less FEI registered athletes and horses. This results in less income for the FEI due to fewer events and less universality due to less rider registrations.*
- *If European OCs can finance their events almost purely by entry fees, there is less need for the integration of sponsors and media. Again, this will weaken the equestrian position in the international world of sports.*

Therefore we recommend to withdraw this proposal.

By this concept note we would also to take the opportunity to remind you our position for important concerns for which we would support FEI to

- keep FEI Nations Cup central & reinforce it in the landscape of equestrian competitions just behind OG & FEI Championships. 2 division as it is now
- limit FEI invitation system for CSI3* and higher only.