

DEUTSCHE REITERLICHE VEREINIGUNG E.V.

Bundesverband für Pferdesport und Pferdezucht – Fédération Equestre Nationale (FN)



Deutsche Reiterliche Vereinigung, 48229 Warendorf

**Der Generalsekretär und
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By e-mail to John.Roche@fei.org

21 February 2017

Worldwide CSI/CSIO Requirements Reply to the proposals sent on 20 December 2016

Dear John,

We have thoroughly reviewed the currently valid CSI/CSIO Requirements as laid down in Annex VI of the FEI Jumping Rules as well as the proposed modifications for the longterm worldwide standardisation of entry fees.

Our foremost concern pertains to the suggested entry fee harmonisation. We have discussed it in the recent meeting with our Jumping squad members who strongly oppose any such attempts. We do not consider it beneficial but on the contrary detrimental for the future of Jumping to apply the high entry fees of American shows to the European ones.

- 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 stakeholders and the interest of the media
- It is far too expensive, a system that is positive only for a few organisers 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 not only limits, but makes impossible the development of the sport in European developing countries
- 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.

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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.

Consequently our proposal is

- a) to align the North American system with the European system
or
- b) not to introduce worldwide equality in entry fees, but to leave the entry fee regulations as they are.

With regard to the current categorisation system of CSI events, we remind you of our suggestions already made last year (referring to our letter of 13 May 2016). We were told last year that in view of the fact that there would be a full revision of the Jumping Rules this year and that it was intended to also introduce rules for the U25 category, the Committee had recommended deferring our NF's proposals on higher/lower level events until then. So we look forward to having these discussed now as well.

Kind regards,

Soenke Lauterbach

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