Session 3 – Monday, 15 April, 14.00 – 16.30

Review of Legal System (Chapter VIII, FEI General Regulations)

**Format:** This session will include a presentation of some proposed changes to the FEI Legal System followed by a panel discussion and Q&As.

**Presenters:** Mikael Rentsch, FEI Legal Director
Áine Power, FEI Deputy Legal Director

**Topics:**

1. **On-site Legal Processes**
   - **Protests**
     - Clarification on what can/cannot be challenged onsite and who makes final decision.
   - **Future of Appeal Committee**
     - Review of Appeal Committee’s current role and proposals for changes
   - **Use of Video Evidence**
     - When should FEI Officials be allowed to rely on/request video evidence as part of the decision making/protest processes?
     - Use of videos recorded on personal devices (smart phones, tablets etc.)
   - **Yellow Warning Cards**
     - Should Athletes be held responsible for actions of their Support Personnel & receive a Yellow Warning Card for that?

2. **Sanctions**
   - **Introduction of a catalogue/table of sanctions with more guidance for Athletes, Officials etc. as to what sanctions apply for particular offences.**
     - Today, the range of sanctions for some offences goes from a warning up to lifetime ban. For more general offences e.g. horse abuse, new proposal to have 4 different categories of sanctions depending on seriousness of offence:
       - “Low-end”, “Mid-range”, “Top-end”, “Max”

3. **Administrative Disciplinary Process**
   - **Proposed clarification that FEI HQ can directly impose sanctions for less serious offences up to a certain level (e.g. fines up to CHF 2000, suspensions up to 3 months, provisional suspensions, demotion of officials).**
     - More efficient way of dealing with “minor” cases.
     - Right to be heard before sanction is imposed.
     - Right of appeal to the FEI Tribunal
4. **Start Date of Suspensions**

- **General principle:** Suspension starts from the date of notification of the suspension.
  - New Proposal: FEI HQ would have the possibility to start the suspension from a later date. This is to deal with those disciplines that have “off seasons” in order to ensure that the suspension has a real effect.