BOARD MEETING

23–24–25 June 2020
TELECONFERENCES

APPROVED BY THE BOARD
ON 10 SEPTEMBER 2020
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FEI BOARD
Ingmar De Vos FEI President
Mark Samuel VP/Chair Group IV
Jack Huang VP/Chair Group VIII
Maria Gretzer Chair Athletes
Brian Mangan Chair Audit & Compliance
Stephan Ellenbruch Chair Jumping
Frank Kemperman Chair Dressage
Karoly Fugli Chair Driving
David O’Connor Chair Eventing
Jennifer Hall Chair Veterinary
Mark Hart Chair Medical
Sarah Coombs Chair Endurance Temporary Committee
John Eccles Chair Vaulting
Sven Friesecke Chair Reining (Excused)
Amanda Bond Chair Para Equestrian
Armagan Ozgorkey Chair EEF Group (Excused 25 June 2020)
Soenke Lauterbach Deputy Chair EEF Group (25 June 2020)
Theo Ploegmakers Chair EEF Group (Excused 24 June 2020)
Ulf Helgstrand Deputy Chair EEF Group (24 June 2020)
Marina Sechina Chair Group III
Carmen Barrera Chair Group V
Luiz Roberto Giugni Chair Group VI
Sami Al Duhami Chair Group VII
Mary Binks Chair Group IX

FEI MANAGEMENT AND STAFF
Sabrina Ibáñez Secretary General
Malina Gueorguiev Executive Assistant, Secretary General’s office
Francisco P. Lima Director Governance, President’s office
Barbara Rodel Executive Assistant, President’s office
Ralph Straus Director, Commercial
Grania Willis Director, Communications
Olivia Robinson Senior Manager, Corporate & Internal Communications
Vanessa Martin Senior Manager, Communications
Bettina de Rham Director, Dressage, PE, Reining & Vaulting
Frank Spadinger Director, Education & Officials
Manuel Bandeira de Mello Director, Endurance & Driving
Catrin Norinder Director, Eventing & Olympic
Jacqueline Braissant Director, Solidarity
Claude Praz Director, Finance
Tim Hadaway Director, Games Operations
Gaspard Dufour Director, Information & Sports Technology
Deborah Riplinger Deputy Director, Jumping
Mikael Rentsch Director, Legal
Aine Power Deputy Director, Legal
Göran Akerström Director, Veterinary
Emergency Board Resolution*: A Resolution taken by the FEI Board as per Article 20.3 of the FEI Statutes, whereby in an Emergency Situation* the Board may, by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of votes cast, pass Resolutions which are normally the prerogatives of the General Assembly. National Federations are informed of all Emergency Resolutions and those eligible to vote have up to 30 days of the date of the notice to declare their disapproval by contacting the FEI Director Governance & Institutional Affairs. All the deadlines are clearly provided with each Resolution.

An Emergency Situation is defined in the Statutes as a serious situation or occurrence that happens unexpectedly and clearly requires immediate action.
23 JUNE 2020

1. OPENING BY FEI PRESIDENT

The FEI President opened the three-day virtual Board meeting by welcoming Members from all four corners of the globe thanking them for their flexibility and availability online and at all hours during the Covid-19 pandemic. (I)

The FEI President kept his opening address short but to the point, emphasising that the Board had a big responsibility over the coming days, with a lot of discussions and decisions which would have a big impact on the sport. The FEI President emphasised that the Board’s role was to do the right thing and ensure that the head took the lead over the heart. The FEI President also mentioned that in these unprecedented times, there were many different interests at play, but the FEI must remain united behind the decisions that had been made collectively for the sport as a whole and the safety of the community. (I)

2. APPROVAL OF BOARD MEETING AGENDA

The Board approved the Agenda of the meeting. (R)

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF BOARD TELECONFERENCE, 27 MAY 2020

The Board approved the Minutes of the Board Teleconference of 27 May 2020. (R)

4. FINANCE

4.1. Approval of 2019 accounts

The Board approved the 2019 accounts. (R)

4.2. Cost Reducing Measures undertaken to date

The Secretary General presented the FEI’s cost saving measures to date as well as contingency plans for the future. The Secretary General raised two key areas where the FEI had significantly reduced costs in order to alleviate the impact on the 2020 budget: (I)

- Postponement and/or cancellation of all non-essential projects:
  - The Secretary General commended FEI HQ staff for their rigorous review of their budgets and reductions in expenditure, resulting in savings of CHF 6,500,000.

- Staffing and Working from home
  - Temporary partial unemployment for FEI Staff: Since 15 April 2020, 60% of FEI staff had been put on temporary partial unemployment. The Covid-19 partial unemployment measure was subsidised by the Swiss Government, and would
save an estimated CHF 1.5 million by the end of the year as well as help the FEI safeguard jobs in the long-term. It was planned to deepen the partial unemployment measures in July. The Swiss Government subsidy was confirmed until October, with the possibility of a further six-month renewal under discussion.

- **Freeze on Recruitment:** The FEI had put a freeze on recruitment for all open positions, with the exception of the two Director-level appointments for Jumping and Endurance, although the recruitment process had been slowed due to the inability to conduct in-person interviews. The Secretary General thanked Manuel Bandeira de Mello, who will stay on as FEI Endurance Director until a replacement had been found, as well as Deborah Riplinger, who will be promoted to Interim Director as of 1 July and postpone her retirement until June 2021 to allow for a smooth handover to the new Director once appointed.

- **Voluntary salary cut:** All senior management had volunteered and would take a salary cut until the end of 2020. On behalf of the FEI Board, Vice President Mark Samuel commended the FEI HQ and Directors for this generous show of solidarity, saying it demonstrated the passion and dedication of the HQ staff to support the organisation through this crisis. The Vice President added that whilst the act was greatly appreciated he recommended not prolonging the measure in 2021 as he knew first-hand how hard Management was working.

- **Working from home and limited travel for staff and Committee/Board members:** Prioritising working from home and web based meetings over travel had provided significant cost reductions.

### 4.3. Revised Budget 2020

With all the information currently available, the Chief Financial Officer presented a revised budget predicting a loss of CHF 8,229,000 for 2020. (I)

This figure reflected an estimated reduction in total revenues of CHF 26,620,000, which did not include the IOC contribution normally distributed in an Olympic year. A negative performance to date on the portfolio also was included in the forecasted loss for 2020. However, the loss in revenues was offset by a rigorous reduction in total expenses of CHF 20,753,000, including temporary unemployment measures for the FEI staff as well as the postponement or cancellation of all non-essential projects. (I)

The Chief Financial Officer emphasised that while the overall loss was important, it did not threaten the short/medium term existence of the FEI and that the FEI would continue to seek cost saving measures to ensure minimal draw on the reserves. The Chief Financial Officer assured the Board that the FEI was proactively monitoring the situation and would make adjustments when and where necessary to safeguard the sport and the financial well-being of the organisation. (I)

The Audit & Compliance Chair was very supportive of the revised budget for 2020, stating that the FEI had been very proactive and effective in cutting costs minimise the impact on the net result. (I)
4.4. Potential Future Cost Reducing Measures

This item was covered by the Secretary General under point 4.2. (I)

4.5. Audit & Compliance

The Chair of the Audit and Compliance Committee confirmed that, due to the Coronavirus pandemic, all in person meeting at headquarters with various department directors have been cancelled. He will work out a plan to hold these meetings via teleconference during the month of September. (I)

5. COVID 19

5.1. Update from Medical Committee Chair

The FEI Medical Committee Chair updated the Board on the global pandemic, including the latest numbers of infections (9,000,000); reported deaths (approximately 500,000); vaccine developments; regional variations; as well as concerns over a second wave. The FEI Medical Committee Chair noted that there had been increasing numbers in the “first wave” in the past two weeks across the USA, Brazil and India, while other regions were experiencing flattened curves or decreasing numbers. (I)

The FEI Medical Committee Chair stressed the importance of safety and the application of the FEI’s Policy for Enhanced Competition Safety for the global resumption of events and the future success of the sport. It was up to the National Federations and Organisers to ensure the safety of all participants at events and, since the publication of the FEI Policy in May, more than 30 risk assessment submissions for upcoming events had been received by the FEI. In order to facilitate OCs, a new FAQ section was facilitated to relevant stakeholders on the Return to Play hub. (I)

The FEI Medical Committee Chair emphasised the importance of social distancing, face masks and thorough hygiene in the battle against Covid-19 and confirmed that the discipline-specific guidelines were currently being finalised. (I)

5.2. Impact on the FEI Calendar

The Secretary General updated the Board on the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the FEI Calendar, with statistics to show per month and per discipline the number of competitions at events that had been cancelled up to 16 June 2020. (I)

Overall, 3,352 competitions had been cancelled so far, with 2,953 of these directly attributed to the Covid-19 pandemic. This amounted to approximately 50% of the competitions scheduled for 2020, with more cancellations expected in the future. (I)

The figures presented showed how different disciplines were affected at different rates, with both Reining and Para Driving experiencing a 100% rate of cancellation, followed by 82% for Vaulting and 75% for Driving while the other disciplines were around 40-50%. (I)
The Secretary General clarified that the figures shown corresponded to competitions and not to Show/Events. (I)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Discipline</th>
<th>Ordinary cancellation</th>
<th>COVID–19 cancellation</th>
<th>Grand Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jumping</td>
<td>166</td>
<td>956</td>
<td>1122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Endurance</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>492</td>
<td>590</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eventing</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>470</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dressage</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>514</td>
<td>563</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vaulting</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>117</td>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Para Dressage</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Driving</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>328</td>
<td>370</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reining</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Para Driving</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Grand Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>399</strong></td>
<td><strong>2953</strong></td>
<td><strong>3352</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Further to a request the Secretary General was tasked to provide the Board with figures per months, Disciplines, Regions and Star Levels. (T Secretary General).

### 5.3. Championships

#### 5.3.1. Allocation

Following the disruption caused by the Covid-19 pandemic to FEI Championships in the 2020 Calendar, in addition to the normal allocation process for the 2021 and 2022 allocations (see Point 21.2 below), the Board considered several requests made by the affected 2020 Organisers and National Federations (see Annex 5.3.1 for all requests submitted to the Board) (I).

The Board took the following general decisions (R):

- Organisers of cancelled 2020 Championships due to the Covid-19 pandemic would be eligible to enter bid processes for future unallocated editions of the Championships even though the deadline for submission of bids had passed.
- Youth Championships postponed from 2020 to 2021 would enforce the age limits applicable in 2021.
- The Board reconfirmed its previous decision that all FEI Youth and Pony Championships in 2020 must be held during the period of the school holidays.
- The Board would not consider any further requests to postpone or reschedule any 2020 FEI Championships that are subsequently cancelled due to the Covid-19 pandemic after the Board Teleconference.
The Board decided to cancel/confirm the cancellation of the following 2020 FEI Championships/Finals (R):

- **FEI Jumping** World Challenge Final 2020

- **FEI Eventing** European Championships for Ponies 2020 originally allocated to Strzegom (POL) as the alternate dates offered by the Organisers in Poland were not within the school holidays.

- **FEI Eventing** European Championships for Juniors and Young Riders 2020 as there was no possibility of holding these Championships during school holidays, for athlete and horse welfare reasons.

- **FEI Vaulting** European Championships for Juniors 2020. The Board made a unanimous decision not to reallocate these Championships originally scheduled to take place in Flyinge (SWE).

The Board also confirmed the cancellation and decided not to reschedule the **FEI Jumping European Championships for Children, Juniors and Young Riders 2020 (R)**. This decision was taken further to the unanimous recommendation of the FEI Jumping Committee due to concerns that Athletes and Horses would not have had the opportunity to prepare fully for the Championships and to avoid any risk to athletes and horses safety (I).

The Board decided to **postpone** the following 2020 FEI Championships to 2021 (R):

- *FEI Driving** European Championship for Young Drivers, Juniors & Children, Lamotte-Beuvron (FRA), dates TBC

- *FEI Para Driving** World Championship for Singles – Schildau (GER), dates TBC

*The above postponements were both approved as Emergency Board Resolutions under Article 20.3 of the FEI Statutes.

**NOTE FROM HEADQUARTERS:** No NFs signified disapproval by the deadline of 27 July 2020. The FEI Board Resolution is therefore final.

Following cancellation by the original Organiser, Kronenberg (NED), the Board decided to reallocate the **FEI Driving World Championship, Four-in-Hand** 2020 to Valkenswaard (NED) on 7 – 11 October 2020, subject to receipt of a Host Agreement signed by the Organiser and the NED NF by Friday, 3 July 2020 (R).

**NOTE FROM HEADQUARTERS:** The FEI received the signed Host Agreement on 2 July 2020 and allocation was confirmed by the FEI on Monday, 6 July 2020.

The Board took the following other decisions in response to requests received regarding 2020 FEI Championships (R):

- The Board decided (i) not to approve the request of Vic (ESP) to provide financial support towards the organisation of the FEI Endurance World Championships for Young Horses 2020 and/or the FEI Endurance European Championships for Juniors and Young Riders; and (ii) not to postpone these Championships to 2021.
**FEI Vaulting World Championships for Seniors 2020**

**NOTE FROM HEADQUARTERS:** The Board at its Teleconference on 11 August 2020 (which finally took place on 12 August 2020), having received the agreement of the European Equestrian Federation’s Board, agreed to transform the FEI Vaulting European Championship 2021 in Budapest (HUN) from 23 to 29 August into a World Championship subject to the Organiser agreeing on the terms, conditions and requirements to organise a World Championship.

Furthermore, the Board acknowledged that if the Covid-19 prevented the organisation of an FEI World Championship in 2021 it would grant the possibility for Budapest to host a European Championship instead.

**FEI Jumping European Championships 2021**

The Board discussed the letter from the European Equestrian Federation (EEF) to the EEF member NFs in which the EEF set out the basis upon which it would support the reallocation of the cancelled FEI Jumping European Championships 2021 and in which the EEF stated that it was confident that a solution could be found. (I)

In light of the EEF’s public support for an FEI Jumping European Championship 2021, the FEI Board mandated the EEF to present a realistic proposal (venue, host NF, dates, etc.) that addresses all the concerns that originally led to the cancellation at the next Board Teleconference on 21 July 2020 in line with the requirements stipulated in the FEI Host Agreement for European Championships (R).

**NOTE FROM HEADQUARTERS:** FEI Headquarters provided the EEF with a copy of the Bid Guide for the FEI European Championships 2021 on 26 June 2020.

### 5.3.2. Qualification for Championships

**JUMPING**

Due to the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the 2020 Calendar and the uncertainty of its impact on the 2021 Calendar the Jumping Committee had requested the Board’s approval of a temporary amendment to JRs Annex IX, Art. 6.7 (Certificates of Capability) for the 2021 FEI Jumping European Championships for Young Riders and Juniors. As international competitions had resumed on a small scale in several European countries the Board agreed that it would be premature to approve the temporary amendment at this stage but that this could be reconsidered in the spring of 2021 if deemed necessary. (I)

**EVENTING**

The Board supported the Eventing Committee’s recommendation of an official statement that the principle of Minimum Eligibility Requirements per category and levels would remain unchanged for all Eventing championships taking place in 2020 and 2021 according to risk management policies set for this Discipline. The situation with COVID19-related cancelled events would be closely monitored by the Eventing Committee and possible solutions may be considered for 2021 without compromising policies in place. (R)
DRIVING

The Board approved an *Emergency Board Resolution to amend Article 914.2 (which is linked to Article 913) of the FEI Driving Rules to allow National Federations participating in the FEI Driving World Championship for Singles 2020 in Pau (FRA), 21-26 October, to select the athletes who will compete. The athletes will be required to possess a 2* status rating or higher to compete at the Championship. (R)

**NOTE FROM HEADQUARTERS:** No NFs signified disapproval by the deadline of 27 July 2020. The FEI Board Resolution is therefore final.

5.4. Pending Resolutions from Calendar Task Forces

The Secretary General informed the Board that there were no pending Resolutions from any Calendar Task Forces. (I)

5.5. Pending Resolutions regarding Education & Officials

The Director of Education & Officials referred and briefly explained the relevant Annex which outlines the Covid-19 measurements for FEI Officials and the effect on the maintenance. (I)

The FEI Board approved that 2020-2021 should be considered as one year, making it a 24-month period for all Officials to fulfil their requirements. (R)

5.6. Possible Measures to safeguard the Sport

The Board discussed this topic and made special references to the Letters received from the Equestrian Organisers (EO) on 7 June 2020 and from the International Jumping Riders Club (IJRC) on 19 June 2020 (see relevant Annexes). (I)

The Board was given an overview of the financial measures already taken in 2020, such as:

- Waive of any Calendar Fee or Events organised after 15 March 2020 until the end of 2020, either a regular Calendar Fee, a late application or a modification Calendar Fee (Board Resolution of 15 April 2020);

- Reimbursement of Hosting Fee to a number of Events cancelled in 2020 due to Covid-19.

Further to the discussions held when evaluating the review Budget 2020 (see Annex 4.3) and based on the uncertainty of how the Covid-19 would evolve and would financially impact the FEI in the future, the Board agreed not to take any additional measures for the time being that would generally apply to the sport but rather organise a meeting with the EO and IJRC in order to explore further possible and workable solutions that would re-energise the equestrian sporting calendar and address the concerns of the Athletes and the Organisers for consideration of the FEI Board. (R)
6. PLANNING FOR THE NEXT SESSION (POINT 7 - ENDURANCE)

This item was dropped from the Agenda. (I)
7. **ENDURANCE UAE NF CASE**

   This item was dropped from the Agenda. (I)

7.1. **Hearing with UAE NF Representatives**

7.2. **Board Discussion and Resolution**

8. **GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

8.1. **2020**

   The Secretary General referred to the Annex. (I)

   Based on the explanations provided on the Annex, the Board agreed to hold the General Assembly 2020 online. (R)

   Further organisational and technical details about the online General Assembly 2020 (such as dates, Agenda, video conference system, number of meetings, etc.) would be provided to the Board in due course. (I)

8.2. **2021**

   The Board allocated the General Assembly 2021 to Johannesburg (RSA) on a date to be confirmed. (R)

9. **ELECTIONS & APPOINTMENTS 2020**

   This point was included the Agenda for the information of the Board. (I)

   The FEI Director Governance & Institutional Affairs informed the Board: (I)

   - That all Candidates were vetted by the Nominations Committee during its Teleconference on 9 and 10 June 2020; and

   - Showed the timeline for the online election of Regional Group Chair VIII.

   In addition, the Board agreed to re-open one position for membership on the Audit & Compliance Committee for election at the General Assembly 2020 as one of the current members was the only candidate for the position as Chair and as consequence, upon election of the Chair, there would be an open position for her remaining term on the Committee. It was agreed that the Chair of the Committee would reach all Regional Groups Chairs for them to promote candidacies for this position among potential Candidates preferably with an accounting background. (R + T Chair of Audit & Compliance Committee)
NOTE FORM HEADQUARTERS: Following the Board Resolution the open position for one Member of the Audit & Compliance Committee was published on the Website. The deadline to submit application was 31 August 2020.

10. RULES REVISION 2020

10.1. FEI Statutes & Internal Regulations of the FEI

The FEI Director Governance & Institutional Affairs informed the Board that in line with the Decision taken by the Board regarding the General Assembly 2020 and with the aim of keeping the agenda of the General Assembly 2020 to the minimum necessary, no Rules change proposals was to be submitted this year for the Statutes and the Internal Regulations of the FEI. (I)

10.2. FEI General Regulations

The Legal Director presented the key proposed changes to the Board (see Annex 10.2). (I)

The Board unanimously approved the proposed changes to the FEI General Regulations as presented in the Annex. (R)

10.3. Equine Anti-Doping & Controlled Medications Regulations

The Deputy Legal Director informed the Board that the EADCMR would undergo a full revision in line in order to ensure compliance with the new WADA Code that will take effect on 1 January 2021 (I). The Deputy Legal Director presented the key proposed changes to the Board (I) (see Annex 10.4).

The Board approved the proposed changes (R)

The draft of the 2021 EADCMR will be provided to the National Federations and Stakeholders on 13 July 2020 (I).

10.4. Anti-Doping Rules for Human Athletes

The Legal Director informed the Board that the Anti-Doping Rules for Human Athletes would undergo a full revision in order to ensure compliance with the new WADA Code that will take effect on 1 January 2021. (I)

The Board approved the proposed changes to the FEI Anti-Doping Rules for Human Athletes as presented in the Annex. (R)

10.5. Jumping Rules

The Jumping Committee adhered to the FEI Periodical Rules Revision Policy when reviewing the proposed modifications to the Jumping Rules for 2021 and considered only those proposals that fulfilled one or more of the criteria set forth in the Policy; proposals that did not meet the criteria were deferred until the full revision of the Jumping Rules in 2021. All proposed modifications received within the framework of the 2020 Rules FEI Revision Policy
and the Jumping Committee’s position on each item would be published on 13 July in the rule revision section of the FEI website. (I)

The Board approved the proposed changes (R)

10.6. Dressage Rules

There were no controversial Rules proposals to be reported to the Board. (I)

The Board approved the proposed changes (R)

10.7. Para Dressage Rules

There were no controversial Rules proposals to be reported to the Board. (I)

The Board approved the proposed changes (R)

10.8. Eventing Rules

The full document of Eventing Committee’s proposed rule changes for 2021 including only the essential modifications that could not be postponed until the Rules revision in 2023 was provided the following day to the Board. (I)

The Committee’s proposal of introducing a limited flexibility for Organisers on the allocation of prize money was submitted to the Board. The Organisers would have possibility to include two options of total amount and breakdown of the Prizemoney in the schedule and confirm the prizemoney and breakdown option further to having received the number of definite entries. (I)

This proposal took into account both the low amount of prizemoney distributed in International Eventing competitions and the request from the Athletes to adapt the prize money with the number of actual number of participants, specifically if more entries than initially expected were received. The adjustment of Prizemoney to the actual entries would also support Organisers to cope with the financial uncertainties related to the Covid19 Pandemic. (I)

The proposal would line-up with the General Regulations as the total amount of money published in the Schedule would be distributed. (I)

It was agreed that the Legal Department would review it and the proposal would be included in the rules document for NFs consultation. (T Legal Department before 8 July).

The Board approved the proposed changes (R)

10.9. Endurance Rules

The Chair of the Temporary Committee explained to the Board the reasoning for the introduction of an additional article 801.2.4 to the Endurance Rules, that was recommended by the Veterinary Committee and it was related to horse welfare issues. (I)
The FEI President asked if this article would apply to the other Disciplines as well. The Chair of the Veterinary Committee explained the urgent need to apply it in Endurance and informed that it was the intention of the Veterinary Committee to add it to the Veterinary Regulations for 2022 and it will then apply to all Disciplines. (I)

Regarding the rules modifications to Annex 6 of the Endurance Rules, the Chair of the Temporary Committee were in line with the modifications of the Veterinary new education system for 2021. (I)

In line with the requirements of the FEI Policy for Enhanced Competition Safety during the Covid-19 Pandemic (effective for all FEI Events held as of 1 July 2020), the Board unanimously approved an *Emergency Board Resolution to allow a derogation from Article 807.2 of the Endurance Rules until 31 December 2020, extending the possibility of staggered starts to CEI 2* and 3*. This resolution will be reviewed in November 2020 to discuss whether the end of year deadline potentially needs to be extended, depending on the evolution of the pandemic. (R)

**NOTE FROM HEADQUARTERS:** No NFs signified disapproval by the deadline of 25 July 2020. The FEI Board Resolution is therefore final.

No further questions were raised and the Board accepted the Rules modifications proposals. (R)

**10.10. Driving & Para Driving Rules**

The Chair of the Driving Committee informed the Board that the Driving Rules modifications were not expected to raise any sort of problems. (I)

No questions were raised and the Board accepted the Rules modifications proposals. (R)

**10.11. Reining Rules**

There were no controversial Rules proposals to be reported to the Board. (I)

The Board approved the proposed changes (R)

**10.12. Vaulting Rules**

There were no controversial Rules proposals to be reported to the Board. (I)

The Board approved the proposed changes (R)

**10.13. Veterinary Regulations**

The Veterinary Chair informed the Board on the proposed changes to the FEI Veterinary Regulations and especially pointed out the introduction of a ban to compete for horses with clipped or removed sensory hairs. This proposal is due to Equine Welfare and an adjustment to legislation in several major equestrian countries. (I)

The Board approved the proposed changes (R)
11. **FEI MEMBERSHIP**

The Director Governance & Institutional Affairs informed the Board that the Covid-19 had had also an impact on FEI Membership as no FEI Membership application had been received in 2020, most likely due to the fact that the National Federations that are not yet members of the FEI had also suffered a change on their priorities and agendas. (I)

The Director Governance & Institutional Affairs informed the Board that Nepal was the National Federation that were currently subject to the FEI Membership application process with the aim of having them accepted by the General Assembly in 2020. (I)

12. **FEI DISCIPLINES**

12.1. **Jumping**

12.1.1. **Resolutions to be taken by the Board**

12.1.1.1. **Major League Show Jumping MOU & Rules**

The Chair of the Jumping Committee explained to the Board that there were still a few open questions to the proposed rules for the Major League Show Jumping (MLSJ) Series that required further clarification. (I)

The FEI Legal Director informed the Board that the organisers of the MLSJ Series had signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the FEI to clarify organisational rules and sport rules for the Series. (I)

In addition, in view of a legal dispute between the MLSJ organisers and the creators of the JumpingClash Challenge Team series, the MLSJ organisers had been asked to provide the FEI with an indemnity agreement confirming that the MLSJ organisation would indemnify the FEI for the costs of any legal challenge and/or future appeals in connection with the FEI’s approval of the MLSJ Series. (I)

The Board agreed to defer a decision on the MLSJ series until another Teleconference, pending receipt of the indemnity agreement and requested clarifications to the rules. (T-Legal & Jumping Directors)

12.1.1.2. **FEI Jumping Ponies’ Trophy Rules 2020**

The Board approved the modifications to the FEI Jumping Ponies’ Trophy Rules for 2020, with the following clarification to be added to Art. 3.7: “An Athlete may ride maximum one Pony in each of the FEI Jumping Ponies’ Trophy Competitions.”

The rules as approved by the Board were published on the FEI website (R)
12.1.1.3. FEI Jumping World Challenge Rules 2021

The Board approved the modifications to the FEI Jumping World Challenge Rules for 2021. (R)

The 2021 rules as approved by the Board were published on the FEI website.

NOTE FROM HEADQUARTERS: Further to the announcement by the IOC on 15 July 2020 that the Youth Olympic Games Dakar 2022 would be postponed to 2026, all references to the “2022” YOG would be removed from the 2021 FEI Jumping World Challenge Rules prior to publication

12.1.1.4. FEI Jumping World Cup™ Rules 2020/2021

The Interim Jumping Director informed the Board that the Jumping Committee had approved a small number of corrections and modifications to the FEI Jumping World Cup™ rules for the 2020/2021 season but as it was anticipated that additional discussions would take place to address the impact of Covid-19 on the Series, the proposed modifications and any additional Covid-19 related provisions would be presented together for the Board’s approval at the July teleconference. (I)

12.2. Dressage

12.2.1. e-Dressage & e-Para Dressage

The FEI Board was provided with an update on the FEI e-Dressage and e-Para Dressage concept which was launched on 24 June 2020. The Chair of the EEF expressed his appreciation for the initiative and requested if trainers could be added to provide training advice to the Athletes. The Chair of the Para Equestrian Committee congratulated the team with the achievement and mentioned that this was an important service to the para dressage community. (I)

The Chair of the Driving Committee expressed the need to harmonise the star levels of the FEI Judges. The Dressage and Para Dressage Director mentioned that the FEI e-Dressage platform was launched under the current Rules and hence the current star rating of Judges was to be used. (I)

12.3. Para Dressage

There were no decisions to be taken by the Board. (I)

12.4. Eventing

No items were raised for Eventing. (I)

13. PLANNING FOR THE NEXT SESSION (POINT 14 - REINING)

The President informed the Board that in order to discuss point 14.1 of the Agenda the following persons would join the Teleconference: (I)
- Mike Hancock, National Reining Horse Association (NRHA) President;
- Gary Carpenter, NRHA Commissioner; and
- Adam Heaton (GBR), Deputy Chair of the Reining Committee.

The President excused the Chair of the Reining Committee who would not be able to join the discussion due to health reasons. (I)

The President also informed the Board that on a first instance the floor would be given to the NRHA representatives, for them to explain their interpretation of the Agreement (discussed between NRHA and FEI on 2019, the “New Agreement”); specifically on the jurisdiction of NRHA and FEI over International Reining Competitions with mixed age Horses (i.e. 3-20 year-old horses) and the implementation of control mechanisms (see relevant Annex for further details). (I)

The Legal Director, clarified to the Board that the New Agreement had been signed by the NRHA representatives on 13 November 2019 but had not been countersigned by the FEI. (I)

Following NRHA representatives’ intervention, the floor would be given to the Reining Committee Deputy Chair. (I)

After a discussion with the above mentioned participants they would be invited to leave the call. (I)

Ultimately, in point 14.2 of the Agenda, the Board would have the opportunity to further discuss this topic, based on the discussion with the three participants and the information provided in the Annex, and finally take a Resolution on the future of Reining as FEI Discipline. (I)
14. FUTURE OF REINING (NRHA DISCUSSION)

14.1. Discussion with NRHA Representatives

As mentioned in point 13, the following persons joined this point of the Agenda for its discussion with the Board: (I)

- Mike Hancock, National Reining Horse Association (NRHA) President;
- Gary Carpenter, NRHA Commissioner; and
- Adam Heaton (GBR), Deputy Chair of the Reining Committee.

The FEI President welcomed these participants and emphasised that regretfully and in-person discussion could not take place due to Covid-19. (I)

The FEI President kindly reminded that any discussion must remain confidential until a Resolution was taken by the Board and subsequently published. (I)

Following an introduction of the subject of discussion made by the FEI President (based on the Annex provided to the Board), the floor was given to the NRHA representatives. (I)

NRHA representatives explained to the Board the implications for their organisation if the New Agreement was to be interpreted as per FEI’s view (i.e. the FEI as the sole worldwide authority and governing body for all International Reining Competitions which were organised for Horses 7 years old and above, regardless whether these Competitions were with mixed age Horses), highlighted that NRHA had a fundamental problem with FEI’s interpretation of the New Agreement and confirmed once more its interpretation as communicated several times to the FEI (see e.g. the NRHA Board of Director Letter to FEI of 13 February 2020); (i.e. NRHA would be the sole worldwide authority and governing body for all International Reining Competitions with mixed age Horses, regardless of the Horses’ age, hence including Horses 7 years old and above.) (I)

Furthermore, the NRHA representatives confirmed to the Board that there were cultural and business differences in the two competition management systems (NRHA and FEI systems). As a consequence of it the creation by NRHA of control mechanisms for non FEI International Reining Competitions to ensure that no more than 4 National Federations (including the host National Federation) and/or more than 15 foreign Athletes (not counting Athletes Living Outside their Country of Nationality) enter and/or participate in the Competitions was difficult to implement. In conclusion, the NRHA representatives confirmed the impossibility for their Organisation to abide by the terms of Agreement as per FEI’s interpretation (I)

NOTE FROM FEI HEADQUARTERS: This Agreement was never counter signed by the FEI because on 25 November 2019 (few days after the voting by FEI General Assembly on 19 November 2019 to retain Reining as FEI Discipline) NRHA communicated to the FEI about its own interpretation regarding FEI’s jurisdiction over International Reining Competitions with mixed age Horses (refer to Annex 13 for further details).
The FEI President explained to NRHA representatives that if the New Agreement was not interpreted as per FEI’s view, the FEI would be in breach of its own Statutes according to which the FEI was the sole authority for all International Events in Reining (Article 1.1). (I)

Following the discussion, the FEI President thanked the NRHA representatives for their time and availability to discuss once again this long pending issue, emphasised the respect that the FEI had for NRHA and informed its representatives that based on the discussions held the Board would take a Resolution on the future of Reining as FEI Discipline. (I)

The NRHA representatives thanked back the FEI for their efforts in trying to find a solution whereby the NRHA and the FEI, within their legal framework, could work together in the promotion and development of the Discipline. The NRHA representatives left the Teleconference. (I)

14.2. Board Discussion and Resolution

As it is mentioned in the relevant Annex, the main legal consequence for the Discipline should an agreement not exist between FEI and NRHA is the application of the “Unsanctioned Event Rule” as defined in the FEI General Regulations. (I)

Based on the discussions held in point 14.1, the Reining Committee Deputy Chair explained to the Board that if there would not be an agreement between NRHA and the FEI, Reining, as FEI Discipline, would most likely struggle because most of the Athletes, Officials and Horses currently participate in NRHA competitions. However, given the differences that the sport has experimented in the last years in different parts of the world (mainly Europe and North America) the Reining Committee Deputy Chair would be willing to evaluate what possibilities the Discipline would have to be promoted and developed in the future under the FEI’s sole jurisdiction. (I)

In light of the fundamental difference in the interpretation of the Agreement, as well as control mechanisms around international competitions, the FEI Board accepted that there were irreparable differences between the two bodies, therefore the Board agreed: (R)

- Not to counter sign the New Agreement signed by NRHA on 13 November 2019;

- To establish a Working Group composed by FEI Headquarters Representatives, the FEI Reining Technical Committee and other representatives (to be confirmed by the FEI) to evaluate the consequences for FEI of governing Reining without an agreement with NRHA (e.g. but not only: governance, legal and sport consequences) and reconsider, under these new circumstances, the KPIs defined by the Reining Committee in November 2019; and

- To defer any decisions on Reining Championship allocations until a decision on next steps for FEI Reining had been confirmed.
15. FEI DISCIPLINES (CONTINUATION)

15.1. Endurance

15.1.1. Resolutions to be taken by the Board

15.1.1.1. Qualification for CEIs

Due to the fact that of the Endurance Rules coming into force on 1 July 2020 there was no need to discuss this point. (I)

15.2. Reining

There were no decisions to be taken by the Board. (I)

15.3. Vaulting

15.3.1. Resolutions to be taken by the Board

15.3.1.1. FEI Vaulting World Cup™ 2021-2022

The Vaulting Director presented to the Board the new FEI Vaulting World Cup™ Rules for 2021-2022. (I)

Further to the cancellation of the FEI Vaulting World Cup™ Series in 2019-2020, the Vaulting Committee had aimed their review and new proposal at launching the new concept with the FEI Vaulting World Cup™ Final allocated to Leipzig in 2022.

The new qualification process for the Final consisted in all CVI3*/CVIO4* potentially getting the label of CVI World Cup Qualifiers provided they met certain conditions as laid down in the rules in annex. Athletes competing at these CVI World Cup Qualifiers would earn points and the FEI would produce standings per region to determine the top Individual Female, Male and PDD Vaulters who qualified for the Final. (I)

The Board unanimously approved the FEI Vaulting World Cup™ Rules for 2021-2022. (R)

15.4. Driving

There were no decisions to be taken by the Board. (I)

16. VETERINARY

See Point 10.13 above. (I)

17. INTERNATIONAL MOVEMENT OF HORSES

Due to time constraint the Veterinary Director was asked to give a short summary of items at this meeting and that a more comprehensive update was to be given at the next Board Meeting on 21 July 2020. (I)
17.1. Brexit

The Veterinary Director informed briefly about the ongoing work by the International Horse Sport Confederation Taskforce for EU Animal Health Law and Brexit and his upcoming meeting with DG Santé (European Commission). The FEI President pointed out the close cooperation between FEI and Ronan Murphy (from the European Equestrian Federation) on this matter. (I)

17.2. European Animal Health Law

The Veterinary Director informed briefly about the derogations in the EU Animal Health Law (AHL) that were provided for FEI National Federations and their events. Furthermore the Veterinary Director briefly informed about the actions taken by the International Horse Sport Confederation Taskforce to accomplish more provisions and clarifications in the AHL that could facilitate horse movement. The Veterinary Director also informed about his upcoming meeting with Dr Fuessel at DG Santé (European Commission. (I)

17.3. African Horse Sickness

The item was referred to next meeting since the Board has been continuously updated on the matter in their previous meetings. (I)

18. IOC/IPC

18.1. Olympism & Corona

The FEI President refer to the Annexes (Letter from the International Olympic Committee President and a Memo) and invited the Board to provide him and the Headquarters with any feedback that they had. (I)

19. OLYMPIC GAMES & PARALYMPIC GAMES

19.1. Tokyo 2020 Olympic & Paralympic Games

19.1.1. Update

An update was provided by the Olympic Director on the work being undertaken by the IOC and the Tokyo 2020 Taskforce to adapt the planning of the postponed 2020 Olympic Games to 2021. The main principles included whilst maintaining the focus on the sport, the simplification of the complexity of the Games operations as well reducing the cost impact of the postponement. (I)

The Tokyo 2020 Taskforce had identified a list of 200 opportunities to address the above of which 16 specifically were relevant to International Federations. A number of scenarios including the holding of the Olympic Games as normal as well as with the possible COVID impact in the upcoming months were being reviewed. (I)
These measures would be shared with International Federations in the following weeks and the International Federations /FEI would have up to end august to provide feedback. (I)

The confirmation of the Officials appointed for the Olympic Games was differed to the autumn Board meeting. (I)

The Paralympic Director confirmed that similar discussions were being held for Paralympic Games. (I)

**19.1.2. Approval of Olympic Regulations**

The updated Olympic Regulations for 2021 were approved by the Board without any comment with the additional inclusion of the adjustment of the accreditation deadline to 23 April 2021 for Athletes to be entered by their National Olympic Committee. It was noted that the major modifications had been approved at the earlier Board meeting in regard to the Athlete and horse Minimum qualification procedure. (R)

**19.1.3. Approval of Paralympic Regulations**

The Board approved the revised Paralympic Games Rules for Tokyo 2020 taking place in 2021. (R).

The Rules had been approved by the International Paralympic Committee prior to the Board meeting and the only amendments were related to dates. (I)

**19.2. Youth Olympic Games 2022**

The President informed the Board that there would be a team competition at the 2022 Youth Olympic Games but it was not certain whether it would be a YOG medal competition; the FEI hoped that this could be further discussed with the IOC. (I)

**NOTE FROM HEADQUARTERS:** The IOC announced on 15 July 2020 that the Youth Olympic Games Dakar 2022 would be postponed to 2026.

**20. CONTINENTAL & REGIONAL GAMES**

The Board was referred to the Annex to this point and no questions were raised. (I)

**21. ALLOCATION OF FEI NAMED EVENTS**

**21.1. Allocation of FEI World Championships 2022 (Endurance and Reining)**

Further to the Board’s decision on the future of Reining following the discussion with the representatives of the NRHA (see Point 14.2 above), the Board decided to defer allocation of the **FEI Reining World Championships 2022** until a decision on next steps for FEI Reining had been confirmed.

The Board also decided to postpone allocation of the **FEI Endurance World Championships 2022** to its meeting in November to allow for a further review of the bids.
received from Dubai (UAE), Padise (EST), Riyadh (KSA) and Verona, Isola della Scala (ITA) and for further follow-up with the bidders.

21.2. Allocation of FEI Named Events

The Board decided to defer allocation of all FEI Reining Championships 2022 until a decision on next steps for FEI Reining had been confirmed (See Point 14.2 above).

The following FEI Championships were allocated by the FEI Board (R):

**FEI Championships 2021**

**Jumping**

- South American Jumping Championships for Young Riders, Juniors, PreJuniors and Children – Carrasco, Montevideo (URU), 7-13 September 2021

- FEI Jumping European Championships for Young Riders, Juniors & Children – Vilamoura (POR), dates TBC (subject to signature of an Addendum to the 2020 Host Agreement)

**Driving**

- FEI Driving World Championship for Young Horses – Mezohegyes (HUN), dates TBC

**2022 Championships**

**Jumping**

- FEI Jumping European Championships for Young Riders, Juniors & Children – Oliva (ESP), dates TBC (subject to signature of an Addendum to the 2021 Host Agreement)

**Dressage**

- FEI Dressage European Championship for Juniors & Young Riders – Hartpury (GBR), dates TBC (subject to signature of an Addendum to the 2020 Host Agreement)

Pilisjárszal (HUN) had originally bid for the Juniors and U25 categories but as the Junior category was allocated to Hartpury (GBR), the Board mandated: (i) FEI Headquarters to follow up with Pilisjárszal Organiser to enquire whether the Organiser would be interested in hosting U25 and Children categories (R); and (ii) FEI HQ to allocate the U25 and Children categories to Pilisjárszal if they were in agreement and subject to the Organiser and NF signing an Addendum to the Host Agreement (R).

**NOTE FROM HEADQUARTERS:** The FEI Headquarters followed up with the Pilisjárszal Organiser who requested the FEI Board to reconsider allocating them the Junior category but if the Board does not agree, the Organiser confirmed that they would host the U25 and Children category. This item was placed on the agenda for the Board Teleconference on 22 July 2020.
Eventing
- FEI Eventing European Championship for Juniors & Young Riders – Hartpury (GBR), dates TBC (subject to signature of an Addendum to the 2020 Host Agreement)

Driving
- FEI Driving European Championship for Young Drivers, Juniors & Children, Ászár-Kisbér (HUN), dates TBC
- FEI Driving World Championship for Singles, Haras du Pin (FRA), dates TBC

Endurance
- + FEI Endurance World Championships for Young Horses, Vic (ESP)
- + FEI Endurance European Championships for Juniors and Young Riders, Vic (ESP)
+ The Board’s allocation of the above Championships was subject to the ESP NF formally cancelling the 2020 editions of these Championships.

NOTE FROM HEADQUARTERS: Confirmation of the cancellation of the 2020 Championships was received from the ESP NF on 30 June 2020 and allocation of the 2022 Championships to Vic was confirmed by the FEI on 1 July 2020.

Vaulting
- FEI Vaulting European Championship for Juniors, Kaposvár (HUN), 27-31 July

The Board also allocated the following Series qualifiers (R):

**FEI Driving World Cup 2020-21**

The legs of the FEI Driving World Cup™ series for the 2020-2021 season were allocated as follows:

- Lyon (FRA) 31 October-1 November 2020
- Maastricht (NED) 6-7 November 2020
- Stuttgart (GER) 11-15 November 2020
- Budapest (HUN) 28-29 November 2020
- Geneva (SUI) 12-13 December 2020
- London (GBR) 18-19 December 2020
- Mechelen (BEL) 26-30 December 2020
- Leipzig (GER) 14-17 January 2021

The Final of the FEI Driving World Cup™ 2021 had already been allocated to Bordeaux (FRA) on 4-7 February 2021 during the November 2019 Board Meeting in Moscow (RUS) (I).
**FEI Dressage World Cup 2020 – 21**

The Board approved a change in venue for the Danish leg of the FEI Dressage World Cup™ Series 2020/21 from Herning to the National Equestrian Centre in Vilhelmsborg (R).

**FEI European Championships, (Jumping, Dressage and Para Dressage) 2023, 2025 and 2027 – Proposal from Vejer de la Frontera (ESP)**

The Board considered the letter to the FEI and EEF from the Vejer de la Frontera (ESP) Organising Committee expressing its interest to bid for the FEI European Championships (Jumping, Dressage and Para Dressage) in 2023 in all categories (children, juniors, young riders, seniors, veterans, ponies) in the last week of August (or first week of September) but only if they would be allocated the next 3 European Championships (2023, 2025 and 2027) (I).

The Board noted the following (I):

- The bid processes for the 2025 and 2027 European Championships had no bid processes not been opened yet;

- According to the FEI General Regulations, Article 106.5, no NF shall be allocated two (2) consecutive FEI World or FEI Continental Championships in the same Discipline for the same Category of Athletes, unless there are no other suitable applications;

- The EEF was of the opinion that in the absence of other suitable bids consideration should be given to allocate this Championship for three consecutive years. However, the option of organising three consecutive years must be communicated to the community in advance so that other OCs also have the opportunity to bid for this event for three years in a row;

- The EEF was generally in favour of having a geographical spread of Championships across multiple Organisers.

The Board mandated FEI Headquarters to follow up with the Vejer de la Frontera Organising Committee to discuss their proposal further and to revert to the Board with more information at a future Board Meeting/Teleconference (T for FEI HQ).

**NOTE FROM HEADQUARTERS:** The FEI Headquarters held a call with the Organisers on 15 July 2020. that a multi-year bid is not the OC’s priority and they now seem comfortable with submitting a standalone bid for the EU-CH 2023 (Jumping, Dressage & Para-Dressage) in all categories.

**FEI Eventing European Championships 2023 – Request from Haras du Pin**

The Board noted the expression of interest from Haras du Pin Organising Committee (which has been originally scheduled to host the FEI Eventing European Championships 2021 prior to its cancellation due to the postponement of the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games) to host the 2023 edition and the Organiser’s request to be given priority due to the cancellation of these Championships in 2021. (I) The Board noted that the bid process for the FEI Eventing European Championships 2023 was open until 2 October 2020. (I)
Therefore, the Board decided to consider the request of Haras du Pin once the deadline for submission of bids had passed (R).

22. FEI MANAGEMENT

22.1. FEI Media Strategy – ClipMyHorse

This point was not discussed due to time constraints. Further to the agreement signed between FEI and ClipMyHorse, the Director Commercial would provide the Board with an update on next steps of the FEI Media Strategy in another Board Teleconference on 21 July 2020. (I)

22.2. Equipment Expert Group

The Board unanimously approved the proposal for a structural change of the Equipment Expert Group as presented in the Annex. (R)

22.3. Approval of Annual Report 2019

The Board approved the Annual Report 2019. (R)

23. FEI SOLIDARITY

The FEI President and Chair of the FEI Solidarity Committee referred the Board to the update on FEI Solidarity activities under Annex 23 of the Agenda. In addition the FEI President mentioned that due to the Covid-19, almost all ongoing projects due to be initiated in 2020 had been postponed to 2021. Consequently, FEI Solidarity had requested all National Federations to take into account any projects "on standby" as part of the maximum quota of 3 projects per National Federation per year and not to apply for new projects for 2021 that would exceed this quota (I).

24. NEXT BOARD TELECONFERENCE, 15 JULY 2020

The next Board Teleconference would take place on 21 July 2020. (I)