

13 November 2022, Cape Town (RSA)

Committee name	EVENTING
Date	14.10.2022
Chair	David O'Connor

Committee Report

Pt.	Subject
	REPORT OF THE FEI EVENTING COMMITTEE 2022
	<p>INTRODUCTION</p> <p>The Eventing Committee meet in 2022 on a monthly basis by Video conference led by the Chair David O'Connor with the participation of all Committee members and the Eventing Department. An in-person meeting was organised at FEI HQ in July to discuss Eventing general and strategic items including the challenges faced by the discipline in regard to the Olympic Games, license to operate. Other Eventing related meetings organised on-line in 2022 included the Risk Management Steering Group, Risk Management seminars as well as Eventing Officials Education meetings.</p> <p>EVENTING WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS - PRATONI DEL VIVARO (ITA) September 2022: The Eventing Committee praised the Organising committee of the Eventing World Championships recognising that it had been a great success. The Cross Country course designed by Giuseppe Della Chiesa (ITA) had been highly innovative reflecting the highest level of competition.</p> <p>A total of 27 nations with 90 athletes and 16 Teams participated. Three different continents with Germany followed by USA and New Zealand made the podium of the team competition and for the Individual Medals Yasmin Ingham (GBR) won Gold, Julia Krajewski (GER) silver and Tim Price (NZL), the Bronze medal.</p> <p>1. IOC President Thomas Bach (GER) had attended the Cross Country day and hosted by the FEI President Ingmar de Vos, Eventing Chair David O'Connor and Sabrina Ibanez Secretary General as well as the ITA NF. President Bach had expressed his appreciation for the venue and stated that "it had been a pleasure to experience a real Olympic legacy and sustainability success story. He also commented on the many measures the FEI had taken to safeguard the wellbeing and health of horses and the action of the FEI to ensure the future of the sport".</p> <p>However, the discussion still continued in regard to how to increase broadcasting figures of the discipline and fan interest on eventing on social media platforms.</p> <p>COMMITTEE MEETINGS</p> <p>The main points discussed during the 2022 Eventing Committee meetings had been:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Olympic Games: Regular updates were made on the progress of the preparation of the Olympic Games, particularly the challenges surrounding the cost and complexity of the design of the Cross Country course, the review of Olympic MERs and the competition format as well as the appointment of the Officials. A preliminary site visit was organised in early January where appointed

13 November 2022, Cape Town (RSA)

	<p>Course Designer Pierre Le Goupil (FRA) presented the detailed XC course plan as well as a venue map including warm-up area and stabling to a small working group. The Eventing Committee had approved the recommendation to allow flexibility for a shorter XC course to allow flexibility for purpose of cost reduction (min. 5'600 meters and 9min50sec optimum time).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk Management: Measures and recommendations of the Risk Management Report had been reviewed including review of Athlete Categorisation, Return to Play of Horses, improvement of Horse injury reporting, Horse Form Index studies and use of Frangible Devices including the new yellow MIM clip for fences jumped at an angle and protective equipment standards. (Details in sections 3 & 4 below.) • 2023 Eventing rules proposals: See below, Eventing rules section 2. Education: The revision of the Officials Education programme to line up with the FEI Education Department's all-discipline-approach had been a big subject for discussion with the Officials Education working group during the year. This review also included the redefinition of Officials' roles and responsibilities, the criteria of appointment of Eventing Overall Course Director, and the adjustment proposals of the CES System to the current circumstances were reviewed (see below, section 7). • Eventing Documents supporting Rules: The Cross Country Guide for Officials, Memorandum and Equipment & Tack FAQ had been updated on a regular basis during the year to allow for clarification to the existing Rules and to ensure consistent interpretation specifically of Tack and Equipment rules and published on the FEI Website. The purpose of the document was to provide Officials up to date information on variations of tack for a consistent implementation of the rules worldwide. <p>An HQ Tack revision group had also been created to also review between disciplines the application and different tack rules as a support to the Technical Committees.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2023 Eventing Nations Cup: the Nation's Cup Series had been very successful in 2022 and taking into account the numerous applications a set of selection criteria had been defined for 2023 applications to maintain a set number of events for media promotion purposes i.e. a maximum of 10 events with 9 results to count. The best team from the overall classification (not already qualified for the Olympic Games) from the 2023 Nations Cup Series would qualify for the 2024 Paris Olympic Games.
2.	<p>2023 RULES REVISION: (refer to GA Annex 19.2 – Eventing Rules)</p> <p>All suggestions for modifications received from the National Federations (NFs) and Stakeholders for the 2023 Eventing rules full Revision had been reviewed according to the FEI rules policy and the final proposal is now presented for approval by the GA,</p> <p>The proposals included (please refer to the GA annex for full list):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>New article regarding rotation for Course Designers.</i> • <i>Additional requirements for CCI4*-L and CCI5*-L for horses having not completed at FEI Competition for a period of 13 consecutive months or more.</i>

13 November 2022, Cape Town (RSA)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Calculation of the Athlete Categorisation at the end of each month, reduction of the timeframe from 8 to 4 years and adjustment of the numbers of MERs necessary.</i> • <i>Clarification of number of Technical Delegates per Event.</i> • <i>Use of Course Designer expertise, allowing them to monitor possible cases of dangerous riding.</i> • <i>Modification to the tie procedure to include highest positive Dressage points in order to reduce the impact of rounding the Dressage score to one decimal</i> • <i>Automatic elimination of athletes incurring 20 or more Obstacles penalties during the Jumping test in short format competitions</i> • <i>Clarification on use of earphones devices.</i> • <i>Nose net use for the Eventing Dressage test and clarification of length of lever arm bits.</i> • <i>Clarification of mandatory use of a ground line and the measurement of the spread of an obstacle.</i> • <i>Recommendation to allocate a per diem of EUR 100 per day for Officials.</i>
3.	<p>FEI EVENTING RISK MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME</p> <p>The FEI Eventing Risk Management Programme, ongoing since 2000, includes 22 years of data collection. The data from each competition including fence description forms, fall reports and fence analysis was collected by the Eventing Department. The amount of data allowed significant data mining and extractions of invaluable information for the Risk Management Steering Group such as queries linked to Athlete and Horse qualification and the discipline's technical issues. This data also allowed the Eventing Committee to make informed decisions on policy making and technical improvements of Cross Country course concepts.</p> <p>The next step would be to update the data collection from manual collection process to an online system. It would enable Officials to enter data digitally to be uploaded to the FEI database and increase data accuracy and facilitate the work for Officials and FEI Headquarters to process the paperwork into the database.</p> <p>For 2022, the number of competitions has increased by 21% from 660 in 2021 to 796 (figures at 3 October 2022)</p> <p>EVENTING RISK MANAGEMENT POLICY AND ACTION PLAN</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The ongoing primary commitment of the FEI Eventing Committee is to ensure that the FEI Risk Management Policy and Action plan is endorsed and implemented by all involved in the Sport with the support and dynamic involvement of National Federations, National Safety Officers, Athletes, Officials, Organisers, Owners and Sponsors. The FEI Eventing Risk management Steering group was formed to monitor and oversee the overall Eventing Risk Management Program. 2. The FEI Eventing Risk Management and NSO Seminar was organised online in January 2022. A total of 141 participants from 31 countries attended. All sessions of the Seminar were recorded and the replay available on the FEI website. <p>The main points of discussion of the Seminar included the main 2022 Rules changes, Risk Management data, Risk Management Studies, EquiRatings presenting the Horse Form Index (HFI), Frangible devices, Cross Country Course Design, Future of</p>

13 November 2022, Cape Town (RSA)

	<p>Eventing – Social Licence, Horse Welfare – Alogo Equine Sensor “Move Pro” update, Medical Update on Medical response during Cross Country and Paris Olympic Games qualification system.</p> <p>The Risk Management Seminar was followed by a NSO Seminar where 46 National Safety Officers (NSOs) and NF representatives from 32 countries participated. NSOs gave presentations on Risk Management projects and Eventing related topics in their respective countries.</p> <p>3. A FEI Hybrid Eventing Forum and NSO Seminar would be organised in January 2023 in Paris (FRA) TBC. The subjects would include Horse welfare – Social Licensing, Five Star level competitions, Sanction system during XC, Frangible device updates and way forward, Horse Form Index (HFI), Alogo Move Pro device update, etc.</p> <p>4. Horse Form Index (HFI)</p> <p>Continuous work in partnership with EquiRatings® supported the Eventing Committee/Department to implement the Horse Form Index (HFI) in the FEI Database in January 2022. This tool had been developed for Athletes, Owners, National Federations to measure horses’ performance, track their progress and to enable more informed decisions prior to the competitions. The tool was designed to also allow Officials to monitor horses entered at events and assess horse’s preparedness and performance during the Cross Country test. EquiRatings® mandate with the FEI also included specific data analysis of Eventing results for decision making support to the Eventing Committee and Eventing Risk Management Steering Group.</p> <p>EVENTING RISK MANAGEMENT STATISTICS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The number of competitions increased by 21% in 2022 with 796 compared to 660 in 2021. The provisional data (30 June 2022) showed a total fall rate of 4.92% (519 falls for 10,546 starters). The slight decrease from 4.98% for 2021 could evolve as the remainder of the 2022 competitions were not yet entered in the Risk Management database. • Falls: The total falls had decreased, except at the 5 star level (previous 4 star level) where the low number of starters had an influence on the percentage of falls. Horse falls have decreased from 1.40 % in 2016 to 1.12 % in 2021. 29 rotational falls were recorded in 2021, the percentage has dropped over the last 10 years from 0.27 % in 2012 to 0.15 % in 2021. <p>Out of 958 falls reported for 2021, 738 were cross country fence related falls (77.04%), 64 were cross country falls non fence related (6.68%), 104 in Jumping (10.86 %), 1 in Dressage (0.10%) and 51 in warm-up (5.32 %).</p>
4.	<p>Eventing Risk Management Steering Group (RMSG)</p> <p>The RMSG Meeting, a subgroup for the Eventing Committee, met four times online in 2022.</p> <p>The following points had been discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MERs validity period for Athlete Categorisation • Return to play for horses (requirements for horses away from competition for a defined period of time)

13 November 2022, Cape Town (RSA)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EquiRatings® HFI implementation in the FEI database • Cross Country Guide for Officials updates • Frangible Technologies: feedback on the use of frangible technologies at events • Alogo Move Pro sensor study taking place at the CCI3*-S / CCI2*-S / CCI1*-Intro Montelibretti, February 2022 and CCI4*-L / CCI4*-S / CCI3*-I / CCI3*-S / CCI2*-L / CCI2*-S / CCI1*-Intro / CCIP2-L Montelibretti, March 2022 and CH-M Pratoni del Vivaro, September 2022. • Communication: increased number of posts on NSO Facebook page and FEI Eventing Department Updates • Horse Injury Reporting: continued work with the Veterinary Department to improve the correlation of information between the Veterinary Reports and the Eventing fall reports • Online reporting for Officials: the importance of developing for Officials the possibility to enter the Risk Management related data in the FEI database was again emphasised. Manual data entry was time consuming and carried an increased risk of error <p>The Risk Management Steering Group members included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geoff Sinclair (AUS) (Chair) • Stuart Buntine (GBR) • Jonathan Holling (USA) • Rob Stevenson (CAN) (on leave for 2021) • Gert Naber (NED) • Staffan Lidbeck (SWE) • Laurent Bousquet (FRA) • Dave Vos (USA)
5.	<p>EVENTING SERIES AND CHAMPIONSHIPS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. FEI EVENTING CHAMPIONSHIPS b. FEI NATIONS CUP - EVENTING c. FEI EVENTING WORLD ATHLETES RANKINGS d. OTHER SERIES APPROVED BY THE FEI
	<p>a. FEI Eventing Championships</p> <p>Both FEI European Championships for Junior (60 Athletes and 10 teams) & Young Rider (47 athletes and 8 teams) were held in Hartpury (GBR) jointly with the Dressage Young Rider & Junior Championships in July were a great success. Equally successful was the European Pony Championships (43 Athletes and 8 teams) took place in Strzegom (POL) in August together with the Jumping and Dressage Pony Championships.</p> <p>b. FEI Eventing Nation's Cup Series:</p> <p>In 2022, and with the end of the travel and border restrictions imposed by the pandemic, the Eventing Nations Cup season was a great success. Eight (8) out of the eleven (11) originally allocated legs took place. Boekelo (NED) hosted the final competition of the season after Bromont (CAN), Arville (BEL), Le Pin au Haras (FRA), Avenches (SUI), Strzegom (POL), Houghton Hall (GBR) and Pratoni del Vivaro (ITA).</p>

13 November 2022, Cape Town (RSA)

	<p>With 8 legs held, the seven best results were taken into account for the final classification. In total, sixteen teams competed in the 8 legs with Germany finishing on top of the overall standings.</p> <p>c. FEI World Eventing Athlete Rankings:</p> <p>Further to the freezing of the World Rider Rankings during the Covid period, the Eventing Rider Ranking system returned to the 12 months rolling period as normal as of January 2022 ranking.</p> <p>The 2022 FEI Eventing World Athlete Rankings overall classification as of September 2022 is led by Tim Price (NZL) with a total of 610 points. Second ranked is Jonelle Price (NZL) with a total of 569 points and third, Oliver Townend (GBR) with a total of 559 points.</p> <p>The FEI Eventing World Athlete Zone Rankings will be published at the end of the calendar year.</p>
6.	EDUCATION OF OFFICIALS
	<p>The new FEI Eventing Officials Education System was published on 1 September 2022; it would be effective as of 1 January 2023, with a transition period running until 14 December 2023.</p> <p>Two free webinars had been organised for the NFs, Officials and Organisers, to explain the key differences.</p> <p>The Education Programmes for Officials in Eventing had run in full speed in 2022:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) The Official Exchange Programme - ten Officials had received support for travel in 2022 to officiate within the programme. b) The Course Calendar 2022 and the regular training courses for all four categories of Eventing Officials: there had been a huge demand due to two years backlog of Covid. Seven in-person courses for Judges/TD/Course Designers were able to take place, in ARG, CAN, FRA (extended capacity), GBR, HUN, NZL (extended capacity), POL (extended capacity) whilst the Stewards were able to join five in-person course, in COL, FRA, POL, NZL and SWE. Two online sessions had also been organised. c) A dedicated Course Designer workshop with examination would take place in ARG, early December. It would also be open to Judges or Technical Delegates as Observers for their own education. <p>The Overall Course Directors Conformity seminar had been held online in February 2022: the latest information related to the Risk Management had been shared, and discussions included on-line maintenance courses, Education System, structure and themes of in-person courses took place.</p> <p>The 2023 course calendar had been published: 5 in-persons courses were planned for J/TD/CD in AUS, BRA, GBR, and POL (2), and 5 for Stewards, in AUS, BRA, GBR, POL and USA.</p> <p>In addition 2-3 Course Designer Workshops would also be included for 2023.</p>
7.	EVENTING DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME
	<p>The FEI Solidarity department developed the Equestrian Sport Educative Events (ESEE), focusing on Officials' Education. This tool made to help developing NFs to grow and manage the FEI disciplines at a NATIONAL level in a sustainable manner is quite successful. It counts as a FEI level 1 course if Officials attend 3 of these courses.</p>

ESEE should be organised until the end of the year in NAM, KEN, and SWZ, and four for 2023: KEN, PAN, PER and VEN.

FEI Eventing World Challenge

Following the announcement of the creation of a new Challenge series in 2022, 17 NFs have announced their interest in taking part in the pilot season to test the format.

The format of the FEI Eventing World Challenge has been developed as an introduction to Eventing, and serves as an education basis at grassroots level.

The Challenge offers three Categories and will give a chance to the less experienced countries to progress towards the first International level.

The project is in its final stage of development with the creation of the course plans and will be available in 2023.