

**PROPOSALS FOR 2020 MODIFICATIONS TO THE
VETERINARY REGULATIONS**

22 October 2019

Dear National Federations,

Dear Stakeholders,

Please find below a summary of the proposed changes to the Veterinary Regulations together with the corresponding explanations, the comments received as well as the reasoning for accepting or not accepting each comment.

The proposed change will be submitted for voting at the FEI General Assembly 2019.

Sincerely,

Göran Akerstrom

ANNEX Pt 27.3

19 November 2019, Moscow (RUS)

1. General feedback on the proposed Veterinary Regulations

The ITA NFs is in support of the proposed rule changes

2. Clarification of tracheotomy/tracheostomy

Article No. 1004.1c – Prohibited Methods
Explanation for Proposed Change
<p>- IRL NF: suggest a change to the wording as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Horses are not permitted to compete in FEI Events: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) with hyposensitive or hypersensitive areas of the body; b) with a tracheotomy/tracheostomy (i.e. <u>an existing</u> surgical opening through the skin into the trachea); c) following gene doping (i.e. the non-therapeutic use of cells, genes, genetic elements or the modulation of gene expression having the capacity to improve performance); and d) following blood doping, or similar methods.
<p>FEI FEEDBACK The FEI is in agreement with the suggestion which will be incorporated into the text.</p>
Proposed Wording
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Horses are not permitted to compete in FEI Events: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) with hyposensitive or hypersensitive areas of the body; b) with a tracheotomy/tracheostomy (i.e. <u>an existing</u> surgical opening through the skin into the trachea); c) following gene doping (i.e. the non-therapeutic use of cells, genes, genetic elements or the modulation of gene expression having the capacity to improve performance); and d) following blood doping, or similar methods.
Comments received
No comments received
FEI feedback
N/A
Proposed Final Wording
Proposal stays as above

ANNEX Pt 27.3

19 November 2019, Moscow (RUS)

3. Clarification of clipping at FEI events

Article No. 1004.1h – Prohibited Methods
Explanation for Proposed Change
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - INTERNATIONAL JUMPING OFFICIALS CLUB: believes this to be a well-meant rule but the practicalities are not. Horses on tours need to be clipped for cleanliness, cooling and tidiness. If away from home stables for more than a few weeks an alternative rule is required. They suggest that an application should be made to the Chief Steward and VD, so that the monitoring of the clipping can be carried out at a venue. The FEI still should only allow clipping of body and not shaving/clipping of legs in any circumstances. <p>FEI FEEDBACK The current rule allows the clipping of the body and prevents the shaving/clipping of the limbs and no change in the article is needed. An investigation into other possible methods of control is currently taking place.</p>
Proposed Wording
N/A
Comments received
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - USA NF: The USEF supports the IJOC and notes that it is the members of the IJOC that enforce regulations such as 1004.1 and so are perhaps well versed in identifying the need for change. This was raised in 2018 (Rule proposal feedback and at the General Assembly) as an area for further discussion. Horses that spend many weeks away from their home stables need to be able to be clipped (limbs included). The Rule amendment was supported in 2018 on the condition that the concern around being able to gain permission to clip limbs was further discussed. This appears not to have happened and now there is further delay whilst an “investigation” is underway. The concerns of the IJOC are fully supported.
FEI feedback
The FEI notes that where horses are away from home for long periods of time e.g. participating in tours, clipping of the limbs may be necessary. The current wording will therefore be revised.
Proposed Final Wording
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Horses are not permitted to compete in FEI Events: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) with hyposensitive or hypersensitive areas of the body; b) with a tracheotomy/tracheostomy (i.e. a surgical opening through the skin into the trachea);

ANNEX Pt 27.3

19 November 2019, Moscow (RUS)

- c) following gene doping (i.e. the non-therapeutic use of cells, genes, genetic elements or the modulation of gene expression having the capacity to improve performance);
 - d) following any form of genetic modification;
 - e) following blood doping, or similar methods (e.g. ozone haemotherapy),
 - f) with any object that punctures the skin with the exception of wound closure materials;
 - g) wearing contact lenses unless permission has been granted from the FEI Veterinary Department; and
 - h) if the hair on their limbs has been clipped and/or shaven at any point during their ~~presence at an FEI Event site~~ Period of the Event. Permission must be granted from the VC/VD by the PTV for clipping required for veterinary purposes, prior to any investigation or treatment taking place. Horses' limbs may be clipped up to 3 days before the Period of the Event using a blade that cuts the hairs no shorter than 2mm.
2. Horses are not permitted to compete if they have received any prohibited treatments in accordance with Article 1063.
 3. Horses are not permitted to compete if they have received any prohibited supportive therapies in accordance with Article 1067.

4. Clarification of the provision of ambulances at FEI events

Article No. 1007.2 – Veterinary Services

Explanation for Proposed Change

Proposal from Technical Committee for the following reason:

The FEI would like to ensure that ambulances are ready for use when needed and there are no delays in attending horses.

Proposed Wording

2. The following veterinary services must be available for all Horses at all times during Events:
 - a) effective communication method(s) for all VDs and their team of PTVs including, a radio and mobile phones for backup;
 - b) an equine referral clinic with diagnostic imaging and surgical facilities must be pre-notified and on standby to receive sick or injured Horses;
 - c) at least one PTV available 24 hours a day;
 - d) at least one PTV adjacent to the Competition area during all competitions and prize giving ceremonies;
 - e) at least one PTV present during all training times;
 - f) a qualified and experienced farrier;
 - g) veterinary equipment (e.g. medication and euthanasia agents, intravenous fluids, consumables and limb stabilisation equipment);
 - h) Support personnel familiar with and rehearsed in the necessary emergency procedures must be available to assist the PTV (e.g. erecting screens around injured Horses and operating a low-loading transporter or Horse ambulance);
 - h)i) Horse ambulances must be hooked up to a suitable towing vehicle with a trained driver immediately available

Comments received

ANNEX Pt 27.3

19 November 2019, Moscow (RUS)

- **GBR NF:**

The GBR NF suggests rewording the article to include low loaders. They ask for the meaning of a trained driver? In addition they would like clarification on what a horse ambulance is e.g. is it a purpose built ambulance or just horse transport. They finally ask if low level rides can afford to comply with this.

FEI feedback

The wording will be revised to become more comprehensive. Since horse ambulances are not universal worldwide, the FEI will allow the Veterinary Delegate to determine whether the ambulance provided is acceptable for use depending on local availability. It is not mandatory for ambulances to be fully equipped with slings and winches etc..

Proposed Final Wording

2. The following veterinary services must be available for all Horses at all times during Events:
- a) effective communication method(s) for all VDs and their team of PTVs including, a radio and mobile phones for backup;
 - b) an equine referral clinic with diagnostic imaging and surgical facilities must be pre-notified and on standby to receive sick or injured Horses;
 - c) at least one PTV available 24 hours a day;
 - d) at least one PTV adjacent to the Competition area during all competitions and prize giving ceremonies;
 - e) at least one PTV present during all training times;
 - f) a qualified and experienced farrier;
 - g) veterinary equipment (e.g. medication and euthanasia agents, intravenous fluids, consumables and limb stabilisation equipment);
 - h) Support personnel familiar with and rehearsed in the necessary emergency procedures must be available to assist the PTV (e.g. erecting screens around injured Horses and operating a low-loading transporter or Horse ambulance);
 - h)j) There must be a suitable designated Horse ambulance with a dedicated driver available immediately adjacent to the Field of Play at all times during Competition. If the Horse ambulance is a trailer than it must be attached to a towing vehicle.

5. Cleanliness of Testing Boxes

Article No. 1008.2 – Stables

Explanation for Proposed Change

Proposal from Technical Committee for the following reason:

The FEI would like to ensure that Testing Boxes remain clean and are ready to be used by the Testing Officials.

Proposed Wording

ANNEX Pt 27.3

19 November 2019, Moscow (RUS)

A minimum of two stables of at least 3x3m, labelled as 'Testing Boxes' must be provided in a safe and quiet area. They must be secured after having been appropriately cleaned. For Competitions in which there are fewer than 10 Horses entered, it is acceptable to provide only one Testing Box. They must contain clean bedding and it must be possible to observe the Horse being sampled from outside the Testing Box. If the Testing Boxes are constructed on grass, a rubber matting floor must be installed. Additional Testing Boxes may be requested by the Testing Veterinarian or FEI Veterinary Department.

Comments received

No comments received

FEI feedback

N/A

Proposed Final Wording

Proposal stays as above

6. New rules concerning biosecurity measures

Article No. 1029 – Biosecurity at FEI Events

Explanation for Proposed Change

Proposal from Technical Committee for the following reason:

The FEI would like to ensure that horses competing in FEI events are not at risk from developing neurological Equine Herpes Virus through close contact with other horses at the event site. In addition, the FEI would like to prohibit equine reproductive activities at FEI events since specific importation requirements would need to be met which extends beyond the purpose of travel for competition.

Proposed Wording

1. The VD/VC must ensure the Examination on Arrival is carried out according to Article 1031.
2. While Horses are present on the Event venue, their temperature should be taken at least once daily and recorded by the PR. Any change in the health status of the Horse should be immediately reported to the VD.
3. OCs must provide Isolation Stables as described in Article 1008 and a contingency plan according to Article 1018 should an infectious disease outbreak occur.
4. Horses must be stabled in the isolation stables if they show any clinical signs of infectious disease, or have been in contact with other Horses that show clinical signs of infectious disease. These Horses must be refused permission to enter the Event stables and stabled in isolation stables pending recovery, or until alternative arrangements have been made.

ANNEX Pt 27.3

19 November 2019, Moscow (RUS)

5. Horse(s) developing clinical signs of infectious disease must be immediately managed according to Article 1078.

6. Horses recently recovered from an illness, or suspected of illness during an Event, must be reported to the VC/VD. On the written recommendation of the VC/VD and in accordance with the GRs and VRs, the GJ will decide whether the Horse may compete or continue to compete at the Event.

7. Horses that show clinical signs of neurological Equine Herpes Virus, or have been in-contact with such Horses, will not be allowed to access FEI Events by the VC/VD and GJ. Any affected or in-contact Horse may not be entered in future FEI Events until they have fulfilled health requirements as determined by the FEI Veterinary Department.

6-8. No equine reproductive activity may take place at FEI Events.

Comments received

- **GER NF:**
The GER NF request the definition of "in-contact" horses and would like to know where to find the health requirements that have to be fulfilled before the next start.
- **NED NF:**
The NED NF has no objection to this article, but asks the FEI to realize that the transport of an EHV-1 neurological horse is difficult and not something people will do easily. Furthermore it is uncontrollable because in the Netherlands people are not obligated to declare EHV-1.

FEI feedback

The health requirements are currently being finalised and will be available later in the year.

Proposed Final Wording

Proposal stays as above.

7. Clarification to the personnel involved with In-Harness inspections

Article No. 1036 – Horse Inspection Panel

Explanation for Proposed Change

PROPOSAL RECEIVED FROM NFs AND/OR SHs AND AGREED TO BY TECHNICAL COMMITTEE:

- **Alliance of Driving Organisers:**
Combined with proposal for Art. 1035: If first horse inspection is in-harness before dressage there is no member of the GJ available. In this case the horse inspection should be done by the VD supported by a steward

FEI FEEDBACK

The FEI is in agreement with the proposed change.

Proposed Wording

ANNEX Pt 27.3

19 November 2019, Moscow (RUS)

In Harness Inspection

- One member of the GJ or a Steward
- One Treating Veterinarian

In Harness Inspection Before Cones

- One member of the GJ or a Steward
- VD or VC

Comments received

- **GER NF:**

The GER NF believe that at the in-harness inspection before Dressage, the power of decision should stay with the Ground Jury.

FEI feedback

The FEI is in agreement with the feedback from the GER NF and the proposal will be removed from the Veterinary Regulations.

Proposed Final Wording

No change to current wording.

8. Clarification of Horse Inspection Panel Members for Jumping events

Article No. 1036 – Horse Inspection Panel

Explanation for Proposed Change

Proposal from Technical Committee for the following reason:

The FEI would like to clarify the Panel Members concerning Horse Inspections for Jumping.

Proposed Wording

First and any Further Horse Inspections

- ~~Members of the GJ~~ President of the GJ and Foreign Judge
- VD or VC

Comments received

- **NED NF :**

The NED NF do not believe it practical for the schedule to make it obligatory for both the President of the GJ and the Foreign Judge to be present at the Horse inspection. One of them being present should be sufficient.

FEI feedback

This is a request from the FEI Jumping Committee; "The Jumping Committee maintains the position that both the PGJ and the FJ must be present at the Horse Inspection, as these two officials have completely different roles and it would not be sufficient for one or the other to be present".

Proposed Final Wording

ANNEX Pt 27.3

19 November 2019, Moscow (RUS)

Proposal stays as above.

9. Clarification of lead rope length at Horse Inspections

Article No. 1037 – Presentation of Horses
Explanation for Proposed Change
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SUI NF: would strongly recommend prohibiting or regulating the length of ropes of the handlers as their ends are often used like a whip. - <p>FEI FEEDBACK</p> <p>Following discussion the FEI believes that using of ropes for any purpose other than control of the horse is unacceptable but long lines are for some horses a valuable safety issue.</p>
Proposed Wording
N/A
Comments received
None
FEI feedback
N/A
Proposed Final Wording
No change to the current wording.

10. New rule permitting ear plugs/hoods in Dressage Horse Inspections

Article No Article No. 1037 – Presentation of Horses
Explanation for Proposed Change
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - INTERNATIONAL DRESSAGE OFFICIALS CLUB: would like to suggest that for safety reasons, ear plugs/hoods should be permitted during vet inspection. The sole purpose of the vet check is to assess fitness to compete; possible health concerns (e.g. ring worms) should be identified during the inspection on arrival. <p>FEI FEEDBACK</p> <p>Following discussion, the FEI is in favour of the proposal.</p>
Proposed Wording

ANNEX Pt 27.3

19 November 2019, Moscow (RUS)

1. Horses are presented for Horse Inspections by the Athlete, driver, lunger or groom (the "Handler") who must be suitably dressed for handling Horses.
2. For all Dressage and Eventing competitions and for Jumping FEI World Cup™ Finals, Championships and Games, the PR must present his own Horse(s) at the Horse inspection, unless the PR has been excused from this requirement in advance by the President of the GJ.
3. Chefs d'Equipe, when present, must accompany their team Horses, in addition to their grooms and/or their Athletes.
4. Horses' competition number must be clearly displayed.
5. All Horses must be presented for the Horse Inspection in a controlled and safe manner. This normally requires a bridle unless Discipline regulations permit a halter. Any equipment used for presentation of the Horse must be in accordance with the FEI Code of Conduct for the Welfare of the Horse and its use is at the discretion of the GJ.
6. Handlers may carry a whip of up to 120cm only, if necessary, in the disciplines of Jumping, Eventing, Dressage, Reining, Vaulting and Para-Dressage.
7. Handlers may not carry a whip in the disciplines of Driving and Endurance.
8. No Horse may be presented with its identity concealed in any manner by application of paint or dye for example.
9. Horses are not permitted to wear bandages or blankets/rugs or equivalent.

10. Horses may wear ear hoods or plugs at Dressage and Para Dressage Horse Inspections.

Comments received

- **DEN NF :**
The DEN NF ask why this rule is only proposed for the two disciplines listed and not for all disciplines including vaulting. The argumentation for the rule change would apply to all disciplines.
- **GER NF:**
The GER NF believes that every horse presented at a horse inspection in FEI events should be able to participate without an impaired sense of hearing otherwise they should be classified as "not fit to compete". The assessment of fitness of a horse needs a horse with full consciousness! Therefore ear hoods or plugs must not be allowed at horse inspections in any discipline. To permit the influence of the senses of the horse, here only for Dressage and Para-Dressage horses, is not meaningful.
- **NED NF:**
The NED NF considers earplugs to be an eyesore to the welfare and to animal rights people. They believe it would be better to only grant permission for wearing ear plugs if there is a veterinary reason for it (for example head shaking). They do support the use of ear hoods with noise reduction material, because it can reduce stress.

ANNEX Pt 27.3

19 November 2019, Moscow (RUS)

They have requested, for years, for more harmonization between the disciplines and request the FEI to proceed with the allowance of ear hoods for all disciplines during vet inspection and prize giving ceremonies, not only for Dressage and Para dressage, but for all disciplines.

FEI feedback

In view of the feedback, the FEI believes that horses should behave sufficiently to not need ear hoods or plugs for safety reasons and promotes harmonisation between disciplines. The proposal will be removed from the rules.

Proposed Final Wording

No change to current wording.

11. New rule to allow the presentation of reserve horses at Second Horse Inspections at Dressage Championships and Games

Article No. 1037 – Presentation of Horses

Explanation for Proposed Change

Proposal from Technical Committee for the following reason:

The FEI proposes to allow six reserve Horses to be presented at the Second Horse Inspection at Dressage Championships and Games. This is to ensure there are the correct number of qualified athlete/horse combinations in the Final Competition.

Proposed Wording

1. Horses are presented for Horse Inspections by the Athlete, driver, lungeur or groom (the "Handler") who must be suitably dressed for handling Horses.
2. For all Dressage and Eventing competitions and for Jumping FEI World Cup™ Finals, Championships and Games, the PR must present his own Horse(s) at the Horse inspection, unless the PR has been excused from this requirement in advance by the President of the GJ.
3. Chefs d'Equipe, when present, must accompany their team Horses, in addition to their grooms and/or their Athletes.
4. Horses' competition number must be clearly displayed.
5. All Horses must be presented for the Horse Inspection in a controlled and safe manner. This normally requires a bridle unless Discipline regulations permit a halter. Any equipment used for presentation of the Horse must be in accordance with the FEI Code of Conduct for the Welfare of the Horse and its use is at the discretion of the GJ.

ANNEX Pt 27.3

19 November 2019, Moscow (RUS)

6. Handlers may carry a whip of up to 120cm only, if necessary, in the disciplines of Jumping, Eventing, Dressage, Reining, Vaulting and Para-Dressage.
7. Handlers may not carry a whip in the disciplines of Driving and Endurance.
8. No Horse may be presented with its identity concealed in any manner by application of paint or dye for example.
9. Horses are not permitted to wear bandages or blankets/rugs or equivalent.
10. A maximum of six reserve Horses may be presented at the Second Horse Inspection for Dressage at Championships and Games.

Comments received

- **USA NF :**

The USA NF suggests this should just state Reserves and Substitutes can be presented as per Discipline and Games specific Rules. Dressage Reserves are covered but not Jumping and Eventing at, say, the Olympic Games (see FEI Rules for the 2020 Olympic Games).

FEI feedback

The above change relates to Events other than the Olympic Games. There is a requirement to state the specific number of reserve Horses in Dressage. According to the Jumping Committee this is not relevant for Jumping since for the WEG there is a reserve list of five for the Individual Final so those horses would in any case need to be presented, but for the CH-EU there is no limit on the reserve list. It is logical for Dressage to have a reserve list of six horses as this represents 50% of riders for the Final but it would not make sense to apply a standard number across disciplines as for Jumping this would need to be 12 or 13 horses for the WEG and the CH-EU, which is too many. VC agree to inclusion but question why this is only applicable to dressage and not to other disciplines
A minor amendment will be made to the proposed wording for clarity.

Proposed Final Wording

1. Horses are presented for Horse Inspections by the Athlete, driver, lunger or groom (the "Handler") who must be suitably dressed for handling Horses.
2. For all Dressage and Eventing competitions and for Jumping FEI World Cup™ Finals, Championships and Games, the PR must present his own Horse(s) at the Horse inspection, unless the PR has been excused from this requirement in advance by the President of the GJ.
3. Chefs d'Equipe, when present, must accompany their team Horses, in addition to their grooms and/or their Athletes.
4. Horses' competition number must be clearly displayed.
5. All Horses must be presented for the Horse Inspection in a controlled and safe manner. This normally requires a bridle unless Discipline regulations permit a halter. Any equipment used for presentation of the Horse must be in accordance with the FEI Code of Conduct for the Welfare of the Horse and its use is at the discretion of the GJ.

ANNEX Pt 27.3

19 November 2019, Moscow (RUS)

6. Handlers may carry a whip of up to 120cm only, if necessary, in the disciplines of Jumping, Eventing, Dressage, Reining, Vaulting and Para-Dressage.
7. Handlers may not carry a whip in the disciplines of Driving and Endurance.
8. No Horse may be presented with its identity concealed in any manner by application of paint or dye for example.
9. Horses are not permitted to wear bandages or blankets/rugs or equivalent.
10. A maximum of six next reserve Horses may be presented at the Second Horse Inspection for Dressage at Championships and Games.

12. Clarification concerning the documentation of inhaled substances

Article No. 1062 – Treatments with non-oral medication and therapies not included on the ESPL

Explanation for Proposed Change

- **GBR NF:** The NF proposes that since a Veterinary Form B is not required for oral products, logically it should be restricted to injectable products only. It is therefore suggested that inhaled products which are not on the ESPL should not require a form.
- **IJOC:** They believe there is confusion as to whether the use of nebulised substances requires a Veterinary Form B.

FEI FEEDBACK

Following discussion the FEI is in favour of maintaining the current rule where the use of nebulised substances are to be supported with a Veterinary Form B. It is considered an important control measure to support any potential abuse of the regulation

Proposed Wording

N/A

Comments received

None

FEI feedback

N/A

Proposed Final Wording

No change to the current wording.

13. Proposal to reclassify kinesiotaping as a Restricted Supportive Therapy

ANNEX Pt 27.3

19 November 2019, Moscow (RUS)

Article No. 1064 – Non-Restricted Supportive therapies
Explanation for Proposed Change
<p>- ITA NF: The NF proposes that the term 'kinesiotaping' should be changed to 'kinesiology taping' and that it should be listed as a Restricted Supportive Therapy rather than an Non-Restricted Supportive Therapy. They understand the therapy to be not safe is carried out by untrained persons.</p> <p>FEI FEEDBACK</p> <p>The FEI is not in favour of making the suggested changes to the wording and see no need to change the classification of the therapy.</p>
Proposed Wording
N/A
Comments received
None
FEI feedback
N/A
Proposed Final Wording
No change to current wording.

14. Clarification regarding the location in which Non-Restricted Supportive Therapies can be carried out

Article No. 1064 – Non-Restricted Supportive Therapies
Explanation for Proposed Change
<p>Proposal from Technical Committee for the following reason:</p> <p>The FEI would like to provide clarity in that Non-Restricted Supportive Therapies may take place in the Horse's stable.</p>
Proposed Wording
<p>1. Non-Restricted Supportive Therapies include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) static magnetic equipment (e.g. magnetic rugs, magnetic leg and neck wraps); b) low frequency pulsed electromagnetic field (PEMF) machines (e.g. battery powered magnetic rugs and leg wraps, cytowave); c) laser therapy using lasers of classes I to III;

ANNEX Pt 27.3

19 November 2019, Moscow (RUS)

- d) massage and massage equipment (e.g. equissage);
 - e) cooling equipment;
 - f) light emitting diode (LED) therapy devices;
 - g) cooling and heating pads;
 - h) ionic boots;
 - i) kinesio-taping; and
 - j) vibration plates.
2. Non-Restricted Supportive Therapies may be carried out by PRs, additional PRs and/or Support Personnel. PRs, additional PRs and/or Support Personnel must only carry out Non-Restricted Supportive Therapies on Horses they are directly responsible for.
 3. PRs, additional PRs and/or Support Personnel must seek specific approval from the VC/VD to carry out any therapies not listed above.
 4. The carrying out of Non-Restricted Supportive Therapies and associated equipment are subject to routine checks by the VC/VD, Stewards and other FEI Officials.
 5. The use of PEMF machines is only permitted if their electromagnetic field is below 0.1 Tesla (1000 Gauss).
 6. Cooling with ice and water is not permitted if the temperature is below 0°C.
 7. Cooling with machines and other cooling equipment is only permitted if the VC/VD can lock the devices so the temperature does not fall below 0°C.
 8. It is not permitted to insert ice or cold water into the Horse's rectum.
 9. Non-Restricted Supportive Therapies may be carried out in the Horse's stable.

Comments received

- **GBR NF:**
The GBR NF ask how the use of Non-Restricted Supportive Therapies will be monitored in their stables.

FEI feedback

The use of Non-Restricted Supportive Therapies is monitored by Stewards.

Proposed Final Wording

No change to proposed wording.

15. Clarification regarding the location in which Restricted Supportive Therapies can be carried out

Article No. 1065 – Restricted Supportive Therapies

Explanation for Proposed Change

Proposal from Technical Committee for the following reason:

The FEI would like to provide clarity in that Restricted Supportive Therapies may take place in the Horse's stable.

Proposed Wording

1. Restricted Supportive Therapies include:
 - a) electrical current devices (e.g. TENS machines, NMES and H-wave);
 - b) therapeutic ultrasound therapy*;
 - c) vacuum therapy;
 - d) diathermy; and
 - e) physical therapies (e.g. physiotherapy, acupuncture, trigger point massage, myofascial release, osteopathy, chiropractic and spinal manipulation).

*Therapeutic ultrasound may be carried out by PRs, Additional PRs and/or Support Personnel provided they have obtained prior written permission of a PET or PTV with a suitable qualification.
2. Restricted Supportive Therapies may only be carried out by a Permitted Equine Therapist or a PTV who has undergone specific training in the therapy they are carrying out.
3. The carrying out of Restricted Supportive Therapies and associated equipment are subject to routine checks by the VC/VD, Stewards and other FEI Officials.
4. The VD may not approve the use of Restricted Therapies should the Horse's welfare be compromised.
5. Equine Permitted Therapists or PTVs must seek specific approval from the VC/VD to carry out any therapies not listed above.
6. Restricted Supportive Therapies may be carried out in the Horse's stable.

Comments received

- **GBR NF:**
The GBR NF ask how the use of Restricted Supportive Therapies will be monitored in their stables.
- **USA NF:** Although not an FEI proposed Rule Change the USA NF recommends that Article 1065.2 is reinforced. This is where everyone looks up the rules for a PET, not how they become one. Regrettably we have instances of people who submit for one therapy and then end up wanting to do others even though they have no qualifications.
They suggest Article 1065.2 Restricted Supportive Therapies be re-worded to:
"Restricted Supportive Therapies may only be carried out by a PTV or Permitted Equine Therapist who has undergone specific training in the therapy they are carrying out. The Permitted Equine Therapist must have been approved by the FEI for the specific Restricted Therapy being implemented."

ANNEX Pt 27.3

19 November 2019, Moscow (RUS)

FEI feedback

The FEI is in agreement to the USA NF's suggestion and the relevant change will be made to the Veterinary Regulations. The use of Restricted Supportive Therapies is monitored by Stewards.

Proposed Final Wording

1. Restricted Supportive Therapies include:
 - a) electrical current devices (e.g. TENS machines, NMES and H-wave);
 - b) therapeutic ultrasound therapy*;
 - c) vacuum therapy;
 - d) diathermy; and
 - e) physical therapies (e.g. physiotherapy, acupuncture, trigger point massage, myofascial release, osteopathy, chiropractic and spinal manipulation).

*Therapeutic ultrasound may be carried out by PRs, Additional PRs and/or Support Personnel provided they have obtained prior written permission of a PET or PTV with a suitable qualification.
 2. Restricted Supportive Therapies may only be carried out by a Permitted Equine Therapist or a PTV who has undergone specific training in the therapy they are carrying out. The Permitted Equine Therapist must have been approved by the FEI for the specific Restricted Supportive Therapy being implemented.
 3. The carrying out of Restricted Supportive Therapies and associated equipment are subject to routine checks by the VC/VD, Stewards and other FEI Officials.
 4. The VD may not approve the use of Restricted Therapies should the Horse's welfare be compromised.
 5. Equine Permitted Therapists or PTVs must seek specific approval from the VC/VD to carry out any therapies not listed above.
- 5.6. Restricted Supportive Therapies may be carried out in the Horse's stable.

16. Addition of a cross-reference to the EADCMRs

Article No. 1068 – Sampling

Explanation for Proposed Change

ANNEX Pt 27.3

19 November 2019, Moscow (RUS)

Proposal from Technical Committee for the following reason:

The FEI would like to provide clarity in the Veterinary Regulations that evading, refusing or failing to submit to sample collection is a violation of the EADCMRs.

Proposed Wording

1. The EADCMP is administered by the FEI Veterinary Department who selects the FEI Events at which sampling will take place, appoints the Testing Veterinarians and decides the number of Horses to be tested.
2. Targeted sampling may take place at other FEI Events, when necessary.
3. Sampling may take place at any FEI Event.
4. Sampling is carried out by the appointed Testing Veterinarian, or VD in the absence of a Testing Veterinarian, who may be assisted by a Testing Technician(s). The Testing Veterinarian or VD is ultimately held responsible for sampling at FEI Events.
5. Sampling must be carried out in the designated Testing Box, however the Testing Veterinarian or VD may approve to have Horses tested in their own stable in exceptional circumstances.
6. The PR is responsible for the Horse at all times.
7. Evading, refusing or failing to submit to sample collection is a violation of the EADCMRs Article 2.3.

Comments received

No comments received

FEI feedback

N/A

Proposed Final Wording

Proposal stays as above

17. Change to the maximum sum payable by the FEI for post mortem examinations

ANNEX Pt 27.3

19 November 2019, Moscow (RUS)

Article No. 1081 – Post mortem examinations
Explanation for Proposed Change
<p>- SUI NF: believe 650 euros is not enough to cover the full cost of a full post mortem examination and transport.</p> <p>FEI FEEDBACK</p> <p>Following discussion the FEI The FEI considers this figure to be reasonable and additional funds are available where necessary. No change to the article is needed.</p>
Proposed Wording
N/A
Comments received
None
FEI feedback
N/A
Proposed Final Wording
No change to current wording

18. Change to the pony measuring system

Article No. 1082-1088 – Pony Measuring
Explanation for Proposed Change
<p>Proposal from Technical Committee for the following reason:</p> <p>The FEI proposes a new pony measuring system, in which measuring will take place away from FEI events. The new system has been established to reduce the stress of measuring ponies at events and to remove the height tolerance. Removing the height tolerance prevent ponies that exceed the regulatory height form competing in pony events and prevent ponies that have measured-in at appeal measurements from being measured out at in-competition measurements.</p>
Proposed Wording
The changes to the rules concerning Pony Measuring are extensive. Please kindly refer to the marked up version of the Veterinary Regulations.
Comments received
<p>- BEL NF :</p> <p>The BEL NF would like information on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ the sanction that will be applied for anyone who reveals the Measuring Veterinarians names before the Measuring Session (Article 1083.5); and

- whether the FEI Testing Veterinarian is appointed by the FEI or the NF and who bears these costs (Article 1083.8)

They believe a transition period of 3 years for ponies that have been registered at the FEI before the 1 January 2020 is too short. Owners who register a seven-year-old pony today under the rules set forth in Annex IX may receive in 2023 (when the pony is 11y) a refusal to participate when the transition period is over. A transition period of 5 or 6 years would be a better solution.

- **EEF:**

The EEF supports the new pony measuring system in general but suggests the timeframe to be extended from 10 minutes to 20 minutes per pony.

- **GBR NF:**

The GBR NF provided feedback on the following articles:

Article 1082 (Regulatory Height): The definition of a pony is 148cms without shoes and 149cms with shoes, but twelve years ago on day of competition the FEI said the FEI Pony could be 151cms with shoes allowing for fitness on day of competition - but now you want to bring in a new system.

The GBR NF is in support the move to separate pony measuring sessions from events, for welfare and safety reasons, due to the challenging environment and difficult conditions often experienced at competition. However, they agree with the GER NF that the maximum permitted height of 150.0cm without shoes or 151.0cm with shoes should be maintained for measuring purposes.

There are number of reasons for this; primarily for consistency, with ponies that have already been measured under the current system, to ensure a level playing field for competitors, as well as maintaining the number of ponies available for competition. Reducing the height restriction would have a massive impact on owners, breeders and riders, particularly those that have already made significant investment in the sport.

Imposing these restrictions would result in significant additional cost for NFs to plan and organise measuring sessions across each individual country before starting the long list process for the FEI European Championships each year. This will make it very difficult to administer effectively to ensure full compliance with the FEI registration and measurement regulations.

Article 1083.2 and 1083.6 (Pony measuring at FEI Events): The new system could be agreeable but is quite complicated, Pony competitions run all year round finishing at the end of the year with the Ponies Jumping Trophy, then starting again early in April with the Nations Cups so there is not a huge window to travel around Europe measuring whilst adhering to all the regulations such as in 1083.6 and especially if it is unknown who the measuring vet will be in attendance in reference to 1083.5.

Article 1084. 6 (Ponies Presentation): The FEI proposes for a 10 minute window to allow the pony to stand quiet and be measured, following research completed in the past by the JMB (Joint Measuring Board) the measuring organisation in Great Britain, it was concluded ponies need 20 minutes to relax and stand.

ANNEX Pt 27.3

19 November 2019, Moscow (RUS)

Article 1085 (Pony Measuring Procedure): The GBR NF would also recommend that ponies are only measured until the age of seven, when they are likely to be fully grown. Ponies that are older than this level should only have to be measured once on registration. Likewise, in cases where the height of the pony is recorded below 142.0cm at the age of six it should not be necessary to conduct further FEI measurements. It is vitally important that this process is kept simple and remains streamlined to avoid unnecessary additional expense

Article 1087 (Transition Period): We also feel strongly that the ponies that are already in the FEI system that have already been measured at shows should be given life heights until they retire and not be re-measured in 2023. Parents/ owners who have already bought a pony and have multiple siblings should be given a guarantee that their purchase is valid and will last their children.

The GBR NF would also request clarification on who is responsible for the costs of these sessions and the fee any FEI officials are allowed to charge.

- **GER NF:**

The GER NF is in support of the idea to separate pony measurement sessions from FEI Events because of the partly difficult surrounding conditions on events.

With respect to Article 1082, the agree to removing the height tolerance, but ask to raise the permitted height for ponies: In order to be considered as a pony, they must measure no more than 150.0 cm (instead of now 148 cm) without shoes. Such a modification of the current rules would accommodate the fact that nowadays children are taller than they used to be in the past. It might help to attract children to the pony sport instead of competing in Children's competitions right away. Pony breeders who fear a decrease in the interest for ponies would be relieved. Tall ponies that are in the competition circuit now as measured-in ponies would not be lost for the sport and they would not have an unfair advantage over the newly registered ones who would have to be smaller if the 148 cm rule was enforced. In Jumping, 150 cm ponies are usually better off coping with the requirements at European Championships which have considerably increased in the last years.

With respect to Article 1083.2, the measuring calendar for Pony Measuring Sessions should not only offer dates from 1 January to 15 March, but at least until the dates of the respective Championships. Thus expensive Extraordinary Measuring Sessions (see Art. 1088) can be avoided for new talents that during the current season have proven to be eligible for participation in FEI Events.

With respect to Article 1085.6 and 1085.7, measurements up to an age of seven years should be sufficient because it is unlikely that ponies will continue to grow after they have reached that age. By assessing the height when ponies are 7 years old, the extensive effort of the measurement sessions could be reduced.

In cases where the height of the pony is recorded below 142.0 cm at the age of six years in the national horse passport, it should not be necessary to conduct an FEI measurement.

It should be explicitly stated that these measurement conditions apply to Riding AND Driving ponies.

ANNEX Pt 27.3

19 November 2019, Moscow (RUS)

The GER NF requests clarification what happens to ponies that are older than 7 years during the transition period and when the transition period is over, whether and when they will have to be measured again.

- **IRL NF:**

The IRL NF provided feedback on the following articles:

Article 1082 (Regulatory Height): The IRL NF agrees with the regulatory height – that the withers must not exceed 148.0cm without shoes. The IRL NF suggests that the data (i.e. actual height collected at measuring) should be imputed into the FEI Database, not a standard height of 148cm

Article 1083 (Pony Measuring at FEI Events): The IRL NF suggest that a second measuring in the Autumn of the calendar year within the NF should be made available where there is demand.

Article 1087 (Transition Period): The Transition Period has been comprehensively debated across the Pony community and the wider equestrian industry. The IRL NF undertook a significant consultative process with all our stakeholders. While the majority supported a change in principle to the measuring system, the overwhelmingly consensus was that the three year transition period was not sufficient. As such, the IRL NF strongly suggest that the Transition Period should be extended to five years, to 2025, to allow existing FEI Ponies complete their sport career.

Furthermore, we note that within Article 1082 Regulatory Height there is no explicit reference to FEI Existing Ponies being afforded the in-competition allowance of 150/151cm. Annex IX does not reference the in-competition allowance to be afforded during the transition period.

The IRL NF discussed the feasibility of allowing existing FEI Ponies attend the FEI Measuring Station in advance of the season and complete measuring at this time rather than at the Championships. This would avoid issues at Championship such as stress on competitors, level ground being a contention, the opportunity to distinguish between ponies who meet the requirements and those that may not meet the regulatory height after the Transition Period. Again, it would be important that such existing Ponies would be afforded the in-competition allowance 150/151cm during the Transition Period and at the Measuring Session.

Article 1086 (Refusal to Measure): The IRL NF are concerned that with a short transition period of three years that opportunities may arise where modified/ surgically enhanced withers may become more prevalent. Furthermore, the IRL NF suggests that a stronger definition/ guideline of surgically enhanced withers should be included in the Annex IX.

In addition, the IRL NF suggest that courses/ tracks should be consciously designed for 148cm Ponies. The IRL NF support in principle the idea that the age of the Pony athlete should be reduced from 15 from 16, give modern day heights and weights of young people.

- **NED NF:**

The NED NF believes a transition period of 3 years for ponies that have been registered at the FEI before the 1 January 2020 is too short.

Owners who register a seven-year-old pony today under the rules set forth in Annex IX may receive in 2023 (when the pony is 11y) a refusal to participate when the

ANNEX Pt 27.3

19 November 2019, Moscow (RUS)

transition period is over. A transition period of 5 or 6 years would be a better solution.

- **NOR NF:**

With respect to Article 1082 (Regulatory Height) the NOR NF is aware that some countries read this as a measurement below 149 being within "148,0". Norway believes it important that this rule is implemented in the same way by all NFs. They ask if it would it be possible to underline that 148.1 or more is above the limit.

With respect to Annex IX (Pony Measuring Regulations – transition period) according to previous information they believe that the last year for the transition period is incorrect and should be December 2022.

- **USA NF :**

The USA NF reports that whilst Pony competition is not as large in the U.S. as it is in Europe, the proposed Articles as written will prove prohibitively expensive in the U.S. (and, it is suggested, anywhere outside Europe). If adopted it will stifle FEI Pony competition in the U.S. 2 Measuring Veterinarians from outside the U.S, three Stewards and all of the requirements of a Measuring Station plus the costs of athletes transporting Ponies to these Measuring Stations make the proposals cost prohibitive.

The proposed changes to Article 1083 Pony Measuring at FEI Events that would require NFs to establish and host Measuring Stations for the purpose of measuring ponies will not work in the United States for the following reasons:

- FEI measurement in the United States only affects Dressage and Driving ponies.

There are currently only 47 ponies in the US that compete in Dressage and Combined Driving at the FEI level.

The United States measures 3.80 million square miles with FEI Dressage and Driving competitions spread across the country.

Due to the geographical distribution, it would be extremely difficult to schedule the number of measurement stations per year that would be needed to cover the geographical area where these ponies are located in order to meet the needs of our athletes.

- Driving and Dressage ponies in the US must have USEF measurement cards to compete (see description below).

What happens if the USEF measurement differs from the FEI measurement? Perhaps this is resolved with permitting either a USEF *measurement card* or, *for ponies that were measured outside the United States*, a FEI measurement card to compete.

Measuring Stations will present organizational difficulties for the US because of the size of our country, the small number of ponies that will need to be measured, and the difficulties incurred if the FEI measurement differs from USEF measurement.

By explanation, ponies are a major part of the national (i.e. non FEI) equestrian sport in the US. Measurement is a critical component of our national competitions, particularly in the Hunter division in which over 4,800 horses / ponies compete each year with a measurement card, with approximately 1,800 measurements taking

ANNEX Pt 27.3

19 November 2019, Moscow (RUS)

place each year. USEF takes measurement seriously and has a robust program to ensure integrity and accuracy in the process including the training of officials.

- USEF measuring officials must complete the following training before they are allowed to measure a pony for competition:
 - One full day of training, i.e. classroom and practice measurement under supervision; and
 - Successful completion (85%) of a practical test (measuring a pony with an experienced measurement official evaluating their skills).
 In addition, measuring officials must be re-certified for measurement every three years, i.e. take the test again, etc.
- Ponies competing in pony classes must hold a USEF measurement card to be able to compete.
 - If they do not have a measurement card, the pony is measured at the competition, and if in compliance, is allowed to compete.
 - Measuring officials (Dressage and Driving Technical Delegates certified to measure) conduct the actual measurement; the pony's soundness and age is verified by a licensed veterinarian.

USEF believes that our measuring officials are very competent at measurement and possess the skills necessary to perform an accurate measurement. As an example, USEF measuring officials conduct an average of 3,000 measurements a year for all of our breeds and disciplines. Therefore, we strongly recommend that the FEI accept USEF measurement cards for ponies entered in FEI Driving and Dressage events.

The Jumping Committee feels that if the 2 cm tolerance is to be removed a much longer transition period is required for the implementation of the new rules on Pony measurement. Under the proposed new rules 70% of ponies currently competing at the highest level would be excluded in four years, which would not only have extremely negative consequences for the pony industry but could also open the door for horse abuse. The Jumping Committee supports the following way forward:

Either

- maintain the 2 cm tolerance (1.50 m without shoes, 1.51 m with shoes)

Or

- increase the transition period from 4 years to 10 years

FEI feedback

The FEI would like to thank all NFs for submitting feedback on the changes to the pony measuring regulations.

1. Transition Period

Following consultation with the EEF and further to the comments received from the GBR NF, any pony that has measured in at a FEI measurement by two FEI measuring veterinarians in either 2017 or 2018 or 2019 will receive a FEI Lifetime Measurement Certificate, meaning that they do not need to be remeasured under the new system and are automatically eligible to compete in FEI Pony Competitions. As of 31 March 2019, all other ponies (i.e. ponies that have not measured in from 2017 – 2019 and all newly registered ponies) must be measured in under the new system in order to be eligible to compete in FEI Pony Competitions. As of 1 January 2020, pony

ANNEX Pt 27.3

19 November 2019, Moscow (RUS)

measurement will no longer take place at FEI Pony Competitions/Events. The previously proposed 5 year transition period will no longer apply.

2. Ponies' Presentation

The time in which it takes to measure ponies has been calculated during measuring sessions at FEI events. Most measurements take between 2.5 and 5 minutes, therefore the FEI will maintain the current proposal of 10mins to measure each pony. Ponies will be measured on an appointment basis under the new system. Increasing the measuring time to 20min per pony will reduce the number of ponies measured per day and result in increased costs. If a pony fails to relax sufficiently for measuring within the 10min appointment, an appointment up to 20mins in duration can be requested at the next measurement.

3. National Measuring Systems

For NFs outside of Groups I and II, the FEI may approve national measuring systems which meet the FEI's criteria. This will allow ponies to compete in pony events in their home NF. Should these ponies compete in European Equestrian Federation member countries, an official FEI measurement will be required.

4. Regulatory Height

The regulatory height for a pony will be maintained at 148cm as already defined by the FEI Veterinary Regulations. Ponies measuring 148.1-148.9cm without shoes will have their measurement rounded down to 148.0cm and Ponies measuring 149.1-149.9 cm with shoes will be rounded down to 149.0cm. This is now reflected in the rules.

5. Age of lifetime measurement

The FEI is certain that all ponies have completed their growth by the age of 8 years. The issue of a life certificate at 8 years of age will remain in the proposal and will also align with many other national measuring bodies.

6. Timing of measuring sessions

The first few months of the year was identified to be of greatest importance in the preparation of ponies and easiest time of year in terms of organising measuring sessions. The system does however allow NFs to request additional measuring sessions at any other time of the year as required.

Proposed Final Wording

Changes to the wording can be found in the marked up version of the Veterinary Regulations.

19. Change to the pony measuring system

Article No. 1082-1088 – Pony Measuring

The following proposals were received on 1 March and are retained for information purposes.

Explanation for Proposed Change

ANNEX Pt 27.3

19 November 2019, Moscow (RUS)

- **BEL NF:** suggests that if ponies past a certain age are “measured in” at different times by Measuring Veterinarians during FEI events they should receive the status of “pony that doesn’t need to be measured again”. This avoids stress to the ponies at competitions and is reassuring towards, for example, a championship for the entourage of the pony in question. The propose that: If, as of the age of 8 years (after the year in which the pony became 7 years), a pony has been measured in at least 3 times during FEI events and according to the procedure of this article 1085, in which he passed the horse inspection and competed in at least 2 classes, the pony can never be measured out again.
- **SUI NF:** reports that the procedure for pony measuring is inadequate. OCs are not well enough prepared for the measuring of pony at competition, source of many complaints and legal problems. Appeal measurements performed on ponies after they have qualified for a Championship is definitely too late in the pony’s life.

FEI FEEDBACK

A review of the pony measuring system has taken place and a new proposal will be presented in this chapter of the Veterinary Regulations.

Proposed Wording

The changes to the pony measuring regulations are extensive. Please kindly refer to the marked-up version of the Veterinary Regulations.

Comments received

None

FEI feedback

N/A

Proposed Final Wording

Proposal stays as above

20. Clarification on the use of stables provided by OCs

Article No. 1099 – Responsibilities

Explanation for Proposed Change

Proposal from Technical Committee for the following reason:

The FEI proposes to clarify that where stables must be provided by the OC, they must be used to stable horses participating in the event.

Proposed Wording

ANNEX Pt 27.3

19 November 2019, Moscow (RUS)

<p>1. PRs must ensure that they and their Horse(s) comply with all aspects of these VRs, and EADCMRs including but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the FEI Code of Conduct for the Welfare of the Horse; b) Horse Passports, including horse identification information, microchip details and FEI validation stickers, in accordance with the GRs, ensuring that their NFs are notified of all relevant changes or updates as required; c) biosecurity requirements; d) government animal health requirements for the international movement of Horses for competition; e) vaccination requirements; f) ensuring that during the Period of the Event the Horse is stabled within the FEI Stables <u>provided by the OC</u>, as described by Article 1008.7; g) Horse Inspections; h) FEI Medication Logbook; i) authorisation for veterinary treatment, medication or other supportive therapies received by the Horse during or shortly before an Event; j) all provisions related to the implementation of the EADCMRs and Elective Testing; k) limb sensitivity examination; l) pony measuring; and m) the reporting of equine fatalities resulting from FEI Event participation.
<p>Comments received</p>
<p>None</p>
<p>FEI feedback</p>
<p>N/A</p>
<p>Proposed Final Wording</p>
<p>Proposal stays as above.</p>

21. Clarification of PTV meetings at FEI events

<p>Article No. 1101 – Permitted Treating Veterinarians</p>
<p>Explanation for Proposed Change</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SUI NF: believes a meeting between the PTVs and Official Veterinarian should be mandatory at every show.
<p>FEI FEEDBACK</p>

ANNEX Pt 27.3

19 November 2019, Moscow (RUS)

There is already a requirement for a meeting with PTVs to take place, described by Article 1108.5. No change to the article is needed.

Proposed Wording

N/A

Comments received

None

FEI feedback

N/A

Proposed Final Wording

No change to current wording.

22. Clarification of OV roles

Article No. 1102 – Official Veterinarians

Explanation for Proposed Change

Proposal from Technical Committee for the following reason:

The FEI would like to make a change to the wording regarding the listing of Official Veterinarians for clarity and to prevent misinterpretation.

Proposed Wording

1. Only OVs can act as FEI veterinary officials at FEI Events.
2. The following groups of veterinarians are considered as Official Veterinarians ~~may assume the following roles:~~
 - National Head Veterinarian (NHV);
 - Veterinary Delegate/Foreign Veterinary Delegate (VD/FVD);
 - Additional Veterinary Delegate (AVD);
 - Endurance Official Veterinarian (EOV);

ANNEX Pt 27.3

19 November 2019, Moscow (RUS)

- Endurance Veterinary Treating Official (EVT);
 - Testing Veterinarian;
 - Holding Box Veterinarian;
 - Measuring Veterinarian; and
 - Examining Veterinarian.
3. OVs may act in either the capacity of an OV or of a PTV, but never in both capacities during the same Event or Events taking place at the same venue at the same time.
 4. OVs are not allowed to compete in any Event where they are officiating as an OV. This includes any national class that may be running at the same Event. OVs must not treat any Horses at the Event, including in national classes, unless in an absolute emergency.
 5. The retirement age for all OVs to end their officiating function is 75 years old.

Comments received

- **IRL NF:**

The IRL NF does not believe it is correct that OV status should apply to certain veterinarians listed in the proposed modification, such as the Holding Box Veterinarian and Examining Veterinarian. Such veterinarians can be and often are Permitted Treating Veterinarians (PTVs). We note that Veterinarians wishing to be promoted as FEI Official Veterinarian status (except for Endurance *) must complete the 'Official Veterinarian application form', ensuring that specific criteria and experiences are met before submitting their application to their NF and thereafter to the FEI for approval. As such, if the proposed modification succeeds, such application and approval process for OV would be negated by automatic categorisation pursuant to Art.1102.

FEI feedback

The FEI is in agreement with the suggestion that Holding Box Veterinarians should not be listed as Official Veterinarians and a modification to the text will be made accordingly.

Proposed Final Wording

1. Only OVs can act as FEI veterinary officials at FEI Events.
2. The following groups of veterinarians must be Official Veterinarians ~~may assume the following roles:~~
 - National Head Veterinarian (NHV);
 - Veterinary Delegate/Foreign Veterinary Delegate (VD/FVD);
 - Additional Veterinary Delegate (AVD);
 - Endurance Official Veterinarian (EOV);
 - Endurance Veterinary Treating Official (EVT);
 - Testing Veterinarian;
 - ~~Holding Box Veterinarian;~~
 - Measuring Veterinarian; and
 - Examining Veterinarian.

ANNEX Pt 27.3

19 November 2019, Moscow (RUS)

3. OVs may act in either the capacity of an OV or of a PTV, but never in both capacities during the same Event or Events taking place at the same venue at the same time.
4. OVs are not allowed to compete in any Event where they are officiating as an OV. This includes any national class that may be running at the same Event. OVs must not treat any Horses at the Event, including in national classes, unless in an absolute emergency.
5. The retirement age for all OVs to end their officiating function is 75 years old.

23. Clarification of EVTO role

Article No. 1102 – Official Veterinarians

Explanation for Proposed Change

Proposal from Technical Committee for the following reason:

The FEI would like to provide clarity in that EVTOs can be assigned as VSM at Endurance events.

Proposed Wording

1. Only OVs can act as FEI veterinary officials at FEI Events.
2. Official Veterinarians may assume the following roles:
 - National Head Veterinarian (NHV);
 - Veterinary Delegate/Foreign Veterinary Delegate (VD/FVD);
 - Additional Veterinary Delegate (AVD);
 - Endurance Official Veterinarian (EOV);
 - Endurance Veterinary Treating Official (EVT);
 - Testing Veterinarian;
 - Holding Box Veterinarian;
 - Measuring Veterinarian; and
 - Examining Veterinarian.
3. OVs may act in either the capacity of an OV or of a PTV, but never in both capacities during the same Event or Events taking place at the same venue at the same time.
EVTOs may be assigned as the VSM at Endurance Events.
4. OVs are not allowed to compete in any Event where they are officiating as an OV. This includes any national class that may be running at the same Event. OVs must not treat any Horses at the Event, including in national classes, unless in an absolute emergency.
5. The retirement age for all OVs to end their officiating function is 75 years old.

Comments received

No comments received

FEI feedback

ANNEX Pt 27.3

19 November 2019, Moscow (RUS)

N/A
Proposed Final Wording
Proposal stays as above

24. Removal of the Officials’ age limit

Article No. 1102 – Official Veterinarians
Explanation for Proposed Change
<p>Proposal from Technical Committee for the following reason: The FEI proposes to remove the age limit of Official Veterinarians. The age limit will no longer be applied and replaced by a competency based evaluation system as of 2020.</p>
Proposed Wording
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Only OVs can act as FEI veterinary officials at FEI Events. 2. Official Veterinarians may assume the following roles: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Head Veterinarian (NHV); • Veterinary Delegate/Foreign Veterinary Delegate (VD/FVD); • Additional Veterinary Delegate (AVD); • Endurance Official Veterinarian (EOV); • Endurance Veterinary Treating Official (EVT); • Testing Veterinarian; • Holding Box Veterinarian; • Measuring Veterinarian; and • Examining Veterinarian. 3. OVs may act in either the capacity of an OV or of a PTV, but never in both capacities during the same Event or Events taking place at the same venue at the same time. 4. OVs are not allowed to compete in any Event where they are officiating as an OV. This includes any national class that may be running at the same Event. OVs must not treat any Horses at the Event, including in national classes, unless in an absolute emergency. 5. The retirement age for all OVs to end their officiating function is 75 years old.
Comments received
No comments received
FEI feedback
N/A

ANNEX Pt 27.3

19 November 2019, Moscow (RUS)

Proposed Final Wording

Proposal stays as above

25. Veterinary Delegate’s presence at FEI Events

Article No. 1108.3 – Veterinary Delegates

Explanation for Proposed Change

Proposal from Technical Committee for the following reason:

The FEI would like to determine how long it is necessary for the Veterinary Delegate to remain on the Event site at the end of competition to ensure all duties have been fulfilled.

Proposed Wording

- 3. VDs must be:
 - a) in attendance at the Event the day before the first Horse Inspection until the end of the Period of the Event; and
 - b) available for consultation at any time before and during the Period of the Event.

Comments received

- **GBR NF:**
 The GBR NF suggests this is not viable for events where the vettings are all in one day, it is not clear why the vet has to be there potentially the day before the horses arrive and would prefer them to stay longer afterwards instead. They request the meaning of ‘at the end of the event’ e.g. is this when the stables have closed, or when they cross the finish?
 They believe this change will increase organising costs and ask what the consequences are of the vet being delayed getting there, or is sick, and if these situations render the event unviable. Finally, they note that riders may be more willing to talk to vets when it is quieter and fewer people around.

FEI feedback

The change to the rule relates to the Veterinary Delegate staying until the end of the ‘Period of the Event’. The Period of the Event is defined as one hour before the beginning of the first Horse Inspection and ends half an hour after the announcement of the final results in the relevant Discipline.

Proposed Final Wording

No change to the proposed wording.

26. Rule change regarding Vaulting Commission requirement

ANNEX Pt 27.3

19 November 2019, Moscow (RUS)

Article No. 1120.1 – Appointments at Major Events
Explanation for Proposed Change
<p>Proposal from Technical Committee for the following reason: The FEI would like to grant an exception to the requirement of a full Veterinary Commission at Vaulting World Cup Finals since only small numbers of horses compete in these events.</p>
Proposed Wording
<p>1. At Official International Events (CIOs), World Cup Finals <u>with the exception of Vaulting where only 1 FVD is appointed</u>, Championships and Games, including the Olympic and Paralympic Games, a Veterinary Commission (VC) must be formed of at least 3 OVs in accordance with the relevant requirements.</p>
Comments received
No comments received
FEI feedback
N/A
Proposed Final Wording
Proposal stays as above

27. Clarification regarding the rotation of FEI Veterinarians

Article No. 1121 – Rotation of FEI Veterinarians
Explanation for Proposed Change
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ITA NF: request clarification of the 'same event' and propose the following definition: 'an Event organised by the same OC in same place, in same week of the year (\pm 10 days) in the same discipline (e.g. SJ, Pony, Dressage, etc.) and category (e.g. 1*; 2*; 3* CSIOP, etc.)'
FEI FEEDBACK
After discussion the FEI is in favour of this clarification with a small amendment to the suggestion.
Proposed Wording

ANNEX Pt 27.3

19 November 2019, Moscow (RUS)

1. Primary VDs must not have been the VD at the same Event, including all levels of competition for more than 3 consecutive years without taking at least a 3 year break from the Event. The same event is defined as an Event organised by the same OC in the same place, in the same week of the year (+/-10days) regardless of the discipline and category.

Comments received

- **GBR NF:**

The GBR NF believes this change to be a good idea but question whether there are enough vets for this to be viable and it could be easy to evade the criteria by moving the date of the event. They believe that a break of 3 years too excessive and are in favour of one and if there are no issues with the vet, they should be allowed to continue. Flexibility for small events with <30 entrants should be considered and they would like clarification as to whether this rule is applicable to treatment vets too.

- **IRL NF:**

The IRL NF believe the (+/- 10 days) timeframe is too restrictive, particularly where events such as the Dublin Horse Show (CSIO 5* Dublin) are rescheduled in light of the Olympic year to an earlier date.

FEI feedback

The FEI appreciates that events may change dates beyond the 10 day window as proposed and will therefore made an amendment to the proposal. It is considered that there are sufficient veterinarians available to satisfy the requirements of rotation.

Proposed Final Wording

1. Primary VDs must not have been the VD at the same Event, including all levels of competition for more than 3 consecutive years without taking at least a 3 year break from the Event. The same event is defined as an Event organised by the same OC in the same place, in the same week of the year (+/-10days) regardless of the discipline and category, or where it is clearly the same named Event.

28. Rule change regarding the rotation of FEI Veterinarians

Article No. 1121.1 – Rotation of FEI Veterinarians

Explanation for Proposed Change

- **ITA NF:** believes a three year break from officiating in an Event, seems too severe for both the OV and OC. A good relationship between OV and OC it is required for the efficacy and the success of the competition. The propose that 'Primary VDs must not have been the VD at the same Event, including all levels of competition for more than 3 consecutive years without taking at least a 1 year break from the Event.'

FEI FEEDBACK

ANNEX Pt 27.3

19 November 2019, Moscow (RUS)

The FEI plans to develop a common rotation system that would be applicable to all FEI Officials. In view of this, the FEI will keep the current wording until the new system is proposed. No change in the article is needed.

Proposed Wording

N/A

Comments received

None

FEI feedback

N/A

Proposed Final Wording

No change to current wording.

29. Registration of Permitted Equine Therapists

Article No. 1127 – Permitted Equine Therapists’ Role

Explanation for Proposed Change

- **SUI NF:** suggest that PTVs must know where they can find the list and when they have to present themselves.

FEI FEEDBACK

A PTV/PET Registration Form is available on the FEI website which can be filled in, in advance of the event and must be given to the Veterinary Delegate on arrival. No change to the article is needed.

Proposed Wording

N/A

Comments received

None

FEI feedback

N/A

ANNEX Pt 27.3

19 November 2019, Moscow (RUS)

Proposed Final Wording

No change to current wording.

30. New sanction concerning the failure to submit a deceased horse to a post mortem examination

Article No. Annex VI – Sanctions in case of FEI Veterinary Regulation violations

Explanation for Proposed Change

Proposal from Technical Committee for the following reason:

The FEI proposes a specific sanction for PRs who refuse to submit horses that have died or been euthanased at FEI events for post mortem examination. It is considered that avoidance of this examination has the potential to conceal abuse.

Proposed Wording

The following sanction is proposed: Suspension of up to 3 months and/or a fine of CHF2000.

Comments received

- **GBR NF:**
The GBR NF believes the fine should be higher, the ban should be longer and a fine and suspension should be imposed. They ask whether the FEI is going to pay for the post mortem and where the cause of death is obvious, if the post mortem still needed.
- **NED NF:**
The NED NF believes avoidance of this examination means people have something to hide. Therefore a fine of CHF2000 is insufficient. It should be a minimum of 3 months suspension and a large fine.

FEI feedback

The proposal is the maximum sanction that can be issued by the FEI without submitting a case to the FEI Tribunal. Implementation of this rule will allow efficient handling of such circumstances. A minor change will be made to the proposal however the FEI still reserves the right to submit a case with the FEI Tribunal in which an imposed sanction may be higher.

Proposed Final Wording

ANNEX Pt 27.3

19 November 2019, Moscow (RUS)

The following sanction is proposed: Suspension of 3 months and/or a fine of CHF2000.
Under certain circumstances the case may be referred to the FEI Tribunal for a heavier sanction.