

ANNEX Pt 5

FEI™ GENERAL ASSEMBLY

13 November 2022, Cape Town (RSA)



**GENERAL ASSEMBLY
AND
EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

MINUTES

Antwerp (BEL)

17 November 2021

**Approved
by the Chair**

ATTENDANCE LIST**FEI BOARD**

Ingmar De Vos	FEI President
Mark Samuel	VP/Chair Group IV
Jack Huang	VP/Chair Group VIII
Maria Gretzer	Chair Athletes
Janis Shardlow	Chair Audit & Compliance
Stephan Ellenbruch	Chair Jumping
Frank Kemperman	Chair Dressage
Karoly Fugli	Chair Driving - Excused
David O'Connor	Chair Eventing
Amanda Bond	Chair Para Equestrian - Online
Pavla Krauspe	Chair Vaulting
Jennifer Hall	Chair Veterinary
Theo Ploegmakers	Chair EEF Group
Soenke Lauterbach	Deputy Chair EEF Group
Marina Sechina	Chair Group III
Carmen Barrera	Chair Group V
Luiz Roberto Giugni	Chair Group VI
Sami Al Duhami	Chair Group VII
Brigitte Mathias	Chair Group IX

FEI MANAGEMENT AND STAFF

Sabrina Ibáñez	Secretary General
Frédérique Reffet Plantier	Manager, Secretary General's office
Francisco P. Lima	Director Governance, President's office
Barbara Rodel	Executive Assistant, President's office
Ralph Straus	Director, Commercial
Olivia Robinson	Director, Communications
Grania Willis	Executive Advisor, Communications
Vanessa Martin	Senior Manager, Communications
Bettina de Rham	Director, Dressage, PE, Reining & Vaulting
Frank Spadinger	Director, Education & Officials
Manuel Bandeira de Mello	Director, Driving
Catrin Norinder	Director, Eventing & Olympic
Christina Abu Dayyeh	Director, Endurance
Jean-Philippe Camboulives	Development Officer, Solidarity
Claude Praz	Director, Finance
Tim Hadaway	Director, Games Operations
Gaspard Dufour	Director, Information & Sports Technology
Marco Fuste	Director, Jumping
Mikael Rentsch	Director, Legal
Aine Power	Deputy Director, Legal
Göran Akerström	Director, Veterinary

STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS (NON-BOARD MEMBERS)

Nayla Stoessel
Sven Friesecke

Chair Nominations Committee
Chair Reining

FEI TRIBUNAL

José Alfonso Rodriguez

Chair FEI Tribunal

NATIONAL FEDERATIONS

SEBIANE Fahima	ALG
MEYER-HIESTAND Alexander	ANT
MAX-THEURER Elisabeth	AUT
SIFKOVITS Dietrich	AUT
DETRY Stephan	BEL
LAEREMANS Wendy	BEL
MARLIER Cathy	BEL
MASTERS MCDOWELL Jaime	BER
NEFIC Alma	BIH
SCHAURTE Jany	BIH
MACHULSKAYA Alesia	BLR
SHEYTANOV Teodor	BUL
HOOD James	CAN
SORENSEN Chris	CAN
SMITH Izzy	CAY
FOFANA Souleymane Nambaladja	CIV
ZAKI Ismael	CIV
LIZARRALDE Santiago	COL
ECHEVERRI Rocio	CRC
HELGSTRAND UIF	DEN
RODRIGUEZ Gabriela	DOM
RODRIGUEZ HERMIDA Maria Teresa	DOM
GARCIA OVIES Venancio	ESP
REVUELTA DEL PERAL Francisco Javier	ESP
KOIVISTO Jukka	FIN
MANNINEN Marjukka	FIN
SIMONET Quentin	FRA
EYRE James	GBR
ERBEL Hans-Joachim	GER
RICHENHAGEN Martin	GER
DIMARAS George	GRE
MARCIANO Triwatty	INA
YUANITA Adinda	INA
EVERETT Avalon	IRL

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REYNOLDS Joe	IRL
FITZNER Regine	ISV
PERILLO Simone	ITA
WHITE Andrea	ITA
AL-REFAI Nour	JOR
YAGI Yuri	JPN
MALIK ANUAR	KAZ
ZIMAREV Leonid	KAZ
BINKS Mary	KEN/Deputy Chair Group IX
BUIKEVICH Sergey	KGZ
ABUMILHA Abdulaziz	KSA
AL SAUD HH Prince Abdullah Bin Fahad Bin Abdullah	KSA
HASSAN Anas	KSA
ALALI Nabila	KUW
ALJASEM Waleed	KUW
ALSBEI Fared Abdulgader Omar	LBA
KHALIFA Refaat Ali Elfetori	LBA
ROSSY Pierre	LUX
THIRY François	LUX
CHAHBI Nadia	MAR
FAKIR Badre	MAR
ALONSO DE QUINZAÑOS Maribel	MEX
GARCIA NIGAGLIONI Daniela	MEX
BOELHOUWER Iris	NED
FRANKENA Hidde	NED
SANNUM Tore	NOR
AL ABRI Ahamed Saif Zaher	OMA
AL BUSAIDI Sayyed Munther Saif Hamed	OMA
MOSCHOS Anastasios	PAN
AL SHAER Diana	PLE
KOCZUROWSKA-WAWRZKIEWICZ Kaja	POL
BEDOUI Ahmed	QAT
SANNE Ian	RSA
VENTER Sharlene	RSA
KRETOV Maxim	RUS
TEREKHOVA Elena	RUS
RIFELJ Polona	SLO
VADNJAL Rok	SLO
WIEDMER Sandra	SUI
LUNDH Wiveka	SWE
TJERNSTRÖM Annika	SWE
SMAOUI Mohamed Lassâad	TUN
MILOVANOV ANDRII	UKR
PARKHOMCHUK Mykhaylo	UKR
CONNELL Will	USA
O'MARA Thomas	USA
GAZIEV Bakhromjon	UZB
GULYAMOVA Kseniya Sergeevna	UZB

MOU SIGNATORIES REPRESENTATIVES

BIN ABDURRAHMAN AL ATTIYAH Hamad	AEF
TARIN Abid Salim Khan	AEF
MAYER Carina	EEF
VANDEWALLE Bram	EO
WITHAGES Mariette	IDOC
ROESER Klaus	IDRC
WERTH Isabell	IDRC
KEENAN Linda	IDTC
BORROMEO Laura	IJRC
OTTAVIANI Eleonora	IJRC
NEWMAN Jessica	JWI
HIRSCH Cesar	PAEC
OWERS Roly	WHW

MEDIA

VAN STEEN Kris	Equitime
LAMMENS Stefaan	LamsKroon Media
WUYTS Luc	Press Agency BELGA
HANSENS Evelyne	

PRESENT (ONLINE):**NATIONAL FEDERATIONS (not represented in person)**

ARG	CYP	LTU	SGP
ARM	CZE	MAD	SMR
AUS	ECU	MAS	SUD
AZE	EGY	MDA	SVK
BAH	ETH	MON	SWZ
BAR	GEO	MRI	THA
BOL	HKG	NAM	TKM
BOT	HUN	NZL	TPE
BRN	IND	PAK	TTO
CAM	IRI	PAR	TUR
CHI	IRQ	PER	UAE
CHN	ISR	PHI	URU
COD	JAM	POR	ZAM
CUB	KOR	ROU	ZIM

**MOU SIGNATORIES REPRESENTATIVES (not represented
in person)**

JOC
WBFSH
IJOC
IEOC
ACES

OBSERVERS

RAJKARNIKAR Rabi

Nepal Equestrian Association

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T = Task

EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Annexes published here: <https://inside.fei.org/fei/general-assembly/2021>

1. OPENING

"Dear Delegates, Dear Guests, Ladies and gentlemen, Dear friends,

It's an absolute pleasure to stand here, before a live audience but also speaking directly to many delegates online for the first FEI hybrid General Assembly! So also big thanks to the BEL NF for hosting this GA.

As you know, we have been livestreaming the GA for several years now, but this edition is the FIRST hybrid General Assembly which effectively allows delegates unable to attend in person to take part virtually and cast their votes live.

So a BIG welcome to all National Federation delegates and representatives of our main stakeholders both here today in Antwerp and online – as well as all the interested parties around the world, following our discussions and decisions in real time on the livestream!

Communication, transparency and good governance have been really big topics in the sporting world for several years now, and I am sure you will all agree over these past 18 months, we have completely tested all the systems available.

From the onset - with the Covid-19 lockdown in 2020 which affected every single industry, coupled with the outbreak of the neurological form of Equine Herpes Virus – I call it the pandemic in the pandemic – it has been a really tough ride!

We have had to adapt very quickly to an ever evolving status quo, and we have had to anticipate and pre-empt every possible situation, devising and implementing protocols to guarantee safe events and workplaces.

This has been draining and overwhelming at times – but as I stand here – I am proud and humbled by the strength of our community and our resilience in the face of adversity. We showed true resourcefulness, but especially WE showed a positive and proactive community that can move forward and embrace change.

And when I say WE – that’s the operative word because WE did this TOGETHER. We all had different issues and challenges depending on our situation and our role in the industry - but WE came TOGETHER to find the solutions which would provide OUR community with the best possible outcome.

So, what have we learnt from these two pandemics?

We have learnt that working together is vital.

We have embraced flexibility and used our collective expertise to devise and implement mitigation measures.

We have increased the rate of digitisation in all our processes.

And we have focussed our attention on our Biosecurity systems – and the checks in place - so that we can ensure safe events and safeguard the welfare of our equine athletes.

From a sporting perspective, 2021 was extraordinary.

We had the first ever postponed Olympic and Paralympic Games

We had World and continental Championships for all ages and across all the disciplines - including the first FEI Endurance World Championships since 2018; the first Vaulting and Driving Championships since 2019 and three European Championships in the Olympic disciplines organised in record time!

We were welcomed back to Barcelona following a two year break for the Longines FEI Jumping Nations Cup Final.

And the list goes on!

We also had to contend with some high profile cancellations such as the FEI Jumping and Dressage World Cup Finals due to the EHV-1 outbreak but also cancellations linked to the uncertainty around Covid-19 measures, which continue to affect Organisers and National Federations.

For Tokyo, there were feelings of great enthusiasm in the build-up, but also real trepidation as we prepared for a Games like no other. We had to overcome a combination of sport specific and Games wide challenges - with biosecurity, qualifications and new formats coming on top of the sanitary restrictions, and let’s not forget, the heat & humidity.

All of this created an overwhelming sense of unknown and complexity for the FEI and all the athletes and their entourage and yet we were successful in our endeavours and delivered really successful Games:

- *We had a record number of nations take part in equestrian.*
- *We worked together for months in the build-up to educate and mitigate against the climatic conditions.*
- *We set up a comprehensive protocol for quarantine and horse transport.*
- *We achieved Clean Games for the third edition in succession, validating all the work that has gone into the FEI Clean Sport educational campaign over the years, the buy-in of our National Federations and the uptake of equine pre-arrival testing and elective testing to ensure our horses would compete clean at the Games.*
- *We enlisted the support of wonderful individuals to help with the Covid-19 measures so that our officials and delegations could actually get to Tokyo.*
- *And we increased our visibility and attracted new fans to the sport.*

But we also recognized that further improvements need to be made to make them more successful and less stressful for our Athletes. And I am happy that we could decide yesterday how we are going to tackle the qualification vote later today but also already identified and heard many valuable suggestions regarding the review of the rules and MERs. And last but not least the agreement to initiate the discussions regarding LA2028 already in Spring 2023.

I believe everybody has had the opportunity to say what they had to say yesterday so I will not abuse this stage to make any further statements regarding this topic. The stage has been set, the parameters are known, the risks identified and now it's up to you to decide.

Horse welfare is always given absolute priority in our sport and in this organisation. The tragic accident in Eventing, the unacceptable situation in Modern Pentathlon for which we are wrongly blamed are only some examples to remind us that people see us as THE governing body responsible for equestrian sport and for the welfare of our friend and partner the horse.

We must continue to scrutinize our field of play to ensure we always have the very safest conditions for our human and equine athlete. It was also a reminder that we must continue to educate the non-equestrian community about equestrian sport and our values as there is a lot of misinformation which exists out there and could threaten the integrity of the sport we love. The social licence to operate is probably becoming the most important priority on our "to do" list. The FEI Board will need to think how to tackle this but I also invite you to provide us with your input and suggestions.

Now back to the agenda for today – as you know, there are a number of important decisions to make, including updates to our Rules and Regulations as well as key elections.

We have presented and discussed the key changes during our Rules session yesterday, and you have all had the opportunity to provide feedback through the very transparent FEI Rules revision process.

Debate and consultation are key to a healthy and forward facing sport. This is what makes our strength and this is why the FEI is highly regarded from a governance perspective. We have very high standards in terms of how we want our sport to be managed, and reliable processes that underpin our decision making process.

When it comes to Reining, we have pursued every possible avenue to find a solution and I will admit that we are also disappointed that we could not reach an agreement with the NRHA. But it's maybe better like that and I am happy to hear that there are ideas circulating to create an international Reining association and as promised we will of course support this if initiated by our NFs.

From a financial perspective, the two pandemics and the loss of events and revenues have definitely impacted our bottom line. However, we were also very careful to cut costs (even though we were in an Olympic and Paralympic year) which coupled with a financial safety net put in place several years ago, meant that the FEI remains financially healthy and poised to tackle the future!

And this is something we have really thought about a lot in our 100th year. What do we want for our collective future, for the next generations? From sporting integrity, good governance and sustainability, how are we creating a positive legacy for the future?

One big initiative which began several years ago but really was elevated to priority status in 2021 is the recognition of grooms. This vital stakeholder group is our sporting safety net and an essential element in the welfare of our horses but also the logistics of our events. And yet... for a century they have remained a silent partner, without a voice in the decision making process – and without the necessary standards to meet their needs.

At the online Sports Forum earlier this year we addressed this topic, and it was really encouraging to see the enthusiasm within the community. We have set up the Grooms Working Group, headed by Frank Kemperman, and we have liaised extensively regarding the governance systems that need to be put in place.

It is my real ambition that this time next year, the International Grooms Association will be here with us at the GA to voice their opinions and set the wheels in motion for a new future outlook for grooms.

FEI Solidarity is an important tool when it comes to planning ahead and looking forward - and we have made a real difference around the world since the introduction of FEI Solidarity in 2011.

In 2021 – there were far fewer courses as expected due to the travel restrictions – but we were able to distribute just over CHF 1 million through the newly created FEI Covid-19 Relief Fund for National Federations that have been severely impacted by the ongoing pandemic.

And one of the other highlights for 2021, was the recent FEI Solidarity Course for FEI Secretary Generals and Administrators at FEI HQ, where we welcomed 17 participants from 10 NFs and shared insights into all our processes whilst discussing the big challenges in our collective future.

So on that note, I would like to thank:

The FEI Board, the FEI Committees, each and every National Federation and Representative Association, the Organisers, the Officials, the Athletes, the Owners, the Grooms and their extended support teams, the FEI Headquarters, our sponsors and Top Partner Longines (represented here by Matthieu Baumgartner and Urs Schiendorfer).

I also want to thank everyone that contributed to the wellbeing of our sport during this difficult period. And I want to thank the very dedicated and hardworking staff of the FEI under the leadership of our Secretary General. The staff has been outstanding in these period of pandemics and worked tirelessly and for this they deserve our appreciation.

Although the circumstances were not ideal, working together and seeing the solidarity across all the different stakeholders has really helped strengthen our cross community collaboration and realise the depth and strength of our industry.

From the Calendar Task Forces representing all the stakeholder groups that contributed to a large number of emergency resolutions supported by the broader community, to the inspiring solidarity shown during the EHV-1 crisis, when help came from so many quarters and took so many different forms, it's been awe-inspiring.

So many thanks to all of you for your dedication and your generosity. I look forward to continue to work with you to strengthen our community. We can agree to disagree, we can have intense debates but once a vote has been taken and decision was made, we need to move on - Together – and this is exactly the word used to update the Olympic motto:

Faster, Higher, Stronger, Together!

And now before we move on to the order of the day, let's take a moment to reflect and remember the important individuals we lost since the online GA 2020. Individuals that have shaped our sport – at local, national, regional and international level - and will be dearly missed."

2. QUORUM

The quorum was reached with 60 National Federations present and 32 National Federations online for a total of 92 eligible votes.

This quorum increased during the meeting and the National Federations up to 49 National Federations online for a total of 109 eligible votes; National Federations were informed accordingly.

3. ELECTION OF SCRUTINEERS

The General Assembly unanimously elected the Scrutineers for the Extraordinary and Ordinary General Assemblies as follows: **(R)**

- Wendy Laeremans (BEL), Chair
- Badre Fakir (MAR), Member
- Adinda Yuanita (INA), Member

4. MODIFICATIONS TO THE FEI STATUTES

The General Assembly approved the proposed changes to the FEI Statutes, effective after the Extraordinary General Assembly. **(R)**

Key: (All points in these minutes are "I" unless indicated otherwise)

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ORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The Secretary General informed the National Federations that due to the hybrid nature of the meeting and the Lumi voting procedure all voting would take place not before lunch in one single block.

Annexes published here: <https://inside.fei.org/fei/general-assembly/2021>

1. OPENING

See Minutes of the Extraordinary General Assembly.

2. QUORUM

See Minutes of the Extraordinary General Assembly.

3. SCRUTINEERS

See Minutes of the Extraordinary General Assembly.

4. MEMBERSHIP

4.1. Affiliation

The General Assembly approved the affiliation of Nepal Equestrian Federation as Associate Member (as per Article 5 of the FEI Statutes). **(R)**

4.2. Suspension

No National Federation qualified for suspension.

4.3. Exclusion

No National Federation qualified for exclusion.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF ONLINE GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2020

The General Assembly approved the minutes of the Online General Assembly 2020. **(R)**

6. APPROVAL OF ANNUAL REPORT 2020

The General Assembly approved the Annual Report 2020 published on the FEI website. **(R)**

7. ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT. APPROVAL OF 2020 ACCOUNTS AND AUDITORS' REPORT

The Chief Financial Officer presented the 2020 annual accounts to the General Assembly with detailed explanations on revenues and expenses. Refer to relevant Annexes published on the [FEI website](#).

The General Assembly approved the 2020 accounts. **(R)**

8. AUDIT & COMPLIANCE

8.1. Audit & Compliance Committee Report

The Chair of Audit & Compliance summarised her report to the General Assembly evidencing the good collaboration with FEI Headquarters in Lausanne to perform the tasks of the Audit and Compliance Committee. Refer to relevant Annexes published on the [FEI website](#).

9. RELEASE OF THE BOARD & SECRETARY GENERAL FOR 2020

The General Assembly approved the release of the Board and the Secretary General for 2020. **(R)**

10. APPOINTMENT OF FEI AUDITORS

The General Assembly elected PricewaterhouseCoopers in Lausanne as FEI Auditors for 2021. **(R)**

11. REVISED BUDGET 2021

The General Assembly approved the revised budget for 2021 further to the explanations of the Chief Financial Officer. **(R)**

Refer to relevant Annexes published on the [FEI website](#).

12. APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL CHARGES 2022

The General Assembly approved the 2022 financial charges, including the increase of the registration for Horses/Ponies to 25 CHF effective as of 1 January 2023. **(R)**

13. FEI ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS 2022

No modifications were made to the Annual Subscriptions 2022.

14. BUDGET 2022

The Chief Financial Officer presented the main aspects of the 2022 Budget, which was approved by the General Assembly. **(R)**

Refer to relevant Annexes published on the [FEI website](#).

15. APPROVAL OF FEI RULES & REGULATIONS

15.1. Internal Regulations of the FEI: Modifications

The proposed modifications to the Internal Regulations of the FEI were approved by the General Assembly effective as of 1 January 2022. **(R)**

15.2. FEI General Regulations: Modifications

The General Assembly approved the proposed changes to the FEI General Regulations, effective as of 1 January 2022. **(R)**

15.3. Paris 2024. Approval of Olympic Qualification System

As proposed to the National Federations during the Rules Session on the Paris 2024 Olympic Games Qualification Systems held on 16 November 2021, a separate vote regarding 3 or 4 Athletes per team was conducted.

National Federations voted in favour of teams of three at the 2024 Olympic Games by 70 votes in favour, 30 against, and 1 abstention. **(R)**

This vote was followed by the Paris 2024 Olympic Games Qualification Systems for the disciplines of Jumping, Dressage and Eventing. For Eventing, an update was presented with the addition of 1 team from the 2022 World Championships bringing the number of nations from this qualification option to 7. **(R)**

The Paris 2024 Olympic Games Qualification Systems for the Olympic disciplines were approved by 81 in favour, 15 against, and zero abstentions. **(R)**

15.4. Paris 2024. Approval of Paralympic Qualification System

The team composition with three Athletes for the Paris 2024 Paralympic Games was approved with 79 votes in favour, 19 votes against and 4 abstentions. **(R)**

The proposed Paris 2024 Paralympic Games Qualification System was approved with 90 votes in favour, 7 votes against and zero abstentions. **(R)**

16. JUMPING

16.1. Jumping Committee Report

The Chair of the Jumping Committee referred to the Annex provided to the General Assembly. The full Rules revision for Jumping had been a focal point of the Jumping Committee's activity in 2021. The EHV-1 outbreak led to the cancellation of the 2020/2021 Longines FEI Jumping World Cup™ in Gothenburg (SWE) and various legs of the 2021 Longines FEI Nations Cup™. The Jumping Committee's proposal to adapt the qualification system for the FEI Jumping Nations Cup™, which was approved by the FEI Board, enabled the successful organisation of the Longines FEI Jumping Nations Cup™ Final 2021 in Barcelona (ESP).

The Jumping Committee report also highlighted the Committee's evaluation of the feedback from various National Federations and Stakeholders on the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games and the Qualification System for Paris 2024, the introduction of the new top level (L4) course that was introduced for Jumping Stewards in 2021, as well as various decisions taken by the FEI Board regarding the discipline's Leagues and Series.

The report was acknowledged without any comments or questions.

16.2. Jumping Rules: Modifications

The General Assembly approved the modifications to the Jumping Rules. **(R)**

In a separate vote, the General Assembly approved a modification to Article 236 of the FEI Jumping Rules whereby the penalty for exceeding the time allowed in all Competitions run under Table A would be one for each commenced second. **(R)**

17. DRESSAGE

17.1. Dressage Committee Report

The Chair referred to his report in the Annexes. He mentioned the positive outcome of the Olympic Games in Tokyo 2020 with an outstanding level of sport in Dressage, a well-received format and high level of judging. During the year, the judging projects were continuously discussed in the Dressage Committee, and the "Code of Points" project was going to be reviewed with the 5* Judges at their seminar in February 2022. The Dressage Committee had hoped to present a new concept of Nations Cup, but more work was needed as well as further consultation with stakeholders.

17.2. Dressage Rules: Modifications

The Chair reminded the General Assembly that a full revision of the Rules would take place in 2022 for 2023. No question had been raised on the proposed amendments for 2022.

This General Assembly was the Chair's last year of his terms as Chair of the Dressage Technical Committee and he thanked all members who had been on the Committee in the last 13 years, and for all their achievements in the discipline. The Chair was looking forward to working on the Grooms' future as Chair of the newly created Grooms Consultative Group. The FEI Secretary General thanked the out-going FEI Dressage Technical Chair for his leadership.

The modifications to the FEI Dressage Rules for 2022 were approved. **(R)**

18. PARA DRESSAGE

18.1. Para Equestrian Committee Report

The FEI Secretary General presented the Chair's report, who unfortunately could not attend due to travel restrictions. No question were raised.

18.2. Para Dressage Rules: Modifications

No comments or questions were raised on the proposed rules.

The modifications to the FEI Para Dressage rules for 2022 were approved. **(R)**

19. EVENTING

19.1. Eventing Committee Report

The Chair referred to the report and thanked the FEI Headquarters and especially the Members of the Eventing Committee for their important involvement and availability in the past year during challenging times.

The following points were highlighted from the report:

Reference was made to the FEI Eventing Risk Management Programme including the published 2020 Statistics as well as the developments with new technology to collect in competition data of horses to be used for progressing knowledge on Cross Country.

The success of the Eventing competitions at the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games with the positive feedback on the simplicity of the overall classifications and exciting sport as well as congratulations to all Olympic medallists was referred to. Both the Olympic Games and European Championships that were organised during this year were great achievements and thanks were extended to all who made this possible.

The report was acknowledged without any comments or questions.

19.2. Eventing Rules: Modifications

The Chair reminded National Federations that the full FEI Eventing Rules revision would take place in 2022 and invited stakeholders to submit proposals by 1 March 2022 for the Committee to review.

No comments were raised in regard to the proposed Rules modifications for 2022. The General Assembly approved the proposed Eventing Rules modifications for 2022. **(R)**

20. ENDURANCE

20.1. Endurance Committee report

The Chair of Endurance presented the Committee report as per the Annex submitted, highlighting the successful Championships in 2021 and thanked in particular the Officials. He also reported in the introduction of the hyposensitivity testing, and highlighted its success. The rule changes were simple clarifications, and opened the floor for questions. There were no questions.

20.2. Endurance Rules: Modifications

The General Assembly approved the proposed Endurance Rules modifications. **(R)**

21. DRIVING & PARA DRIVING

21.1. Driving Committee Report

The Chair of the Driving Technical Committee made a short resume of his report that was available in the annexes, highlighting the effect of Covid-19 in the sport and also the full rule revision for 2022.

The Chair asked for questions from the floor, no questions were raised.

The Secretary General mentioned that the Rules would be approved with the modifications discussed during the Rules Session on 16 November 2021.

21.2. Driving & Para Driving Rules: Modifications

The General Assembly voted on the FEI Driving Rules modification proposals for 2022 with the amendments discussed on the previous day during the Rules Session as follows:

- **Art. 913 Minimum Eligibility Requirements**

The Youth CAIs and Championships were added to the qualifying events for 3* Athletes.

- **Article 935 Examinations and Inspections of Horses**

The In-Harness Horse Inspection that was unintentionally omitted from Final Draft was reinstated in the Rules.

- **Art 940 – Harness, carriage and Horses**

The new Art. 940.8.4 was withdrawn.

- **Art 948 Starting Order – Dressage & Marathon**

The proposal was withdrawn.

- **Art 958 Classification**

The article was reworded, last paragraph was removed.

- Art 960.4 – Speeds in Marathon Sections

The empty blocks regarding the U25 speeds for Section A were filled in with the existing speeds.

The proposed Rules for 2022 were approved with 85 votes for, 12 abstentions and 1 vote against. **(R)**

22. VAULTING**22.1. Vaulting Committee Report**

The Chair presented her report. The Vaulting had gone through a full revision, and the Chair thanked the Vaulting Committee for their passionate and intense work on the revision. The Chair referred to her report which included all activities and achievements of the year.

22.2. Vaulting Rules: Modification

The FEI Vaulting Rules for 2022 were approved. **(R)**

23. REINING

The President confirmed that further to the vote on the FEI Statutes, the point on Reining was no longer relevant, as Reining no longer was an FEI discipline. The President thanked the out-going Chair for his commitment and work in the past years for the discipline and reiterated that the FEI would remain available to help and support any new Reining projects outside the FEI if needed.

24. VETERINARY**24.1. Veterinary Committee Report**

The Veterinary Chair presented the report of the Veterinary Committee and particularly pointed out and thanked the Equestrian Community for their successful work in adapting and preparing for the hot and humid climate conditions at the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games.

24.2. Veterinary Regulations: Modifications

The proposed modifications for the Veterinary Regulations for 2022 were approved. **(R)**

25. MEDICAL

25.1. Medical Committee Report

The Chair of the Medical Committee gave the Medical Committee Report as a PPT presentation, available on the on the [FEI website](#).

No questions were raised.

26. ATHLETES

26.1. Athletes Committee Report

The Chair of the Athletes Committee referred to the Annex provided to the General Assembly, available on the on the [FEI website](#).

No questions were raised.

27. SOLIDARITY

27.1. Solidarity Committee Report

FEI President and Chair of the FEI Solidarity Committee, informed all National Federations of an amendment brought to the application process for 2022. Due to the backlog of projects, which could not take place in 2020, the decision was taken to only allow National Federations with no existing projects in the pipeline to be able to apply for 2022, and that only one application per eligible NF would be considered.

The Course for National Federations Secretary Generals and Administrators, 2021 edition was realised in-person at the FEI Headquarters and 11 NFs participated with 17 participants.

The FEI President reminded the National Federations that this course is not only addressed to developing National Federations, but to all FEI National Federations. This course is an opportunity for the FEI to share with its members the role and function of the FEI and good practices on how to run and develop of sport. The course is very popular but due to the fact that it takes place in-person at the FEI Headquarters, there is a limited number of participant NFs that can be accepted. The President further explained the format of the course which runs over five full days and involves more than twenty five staff members of the FEI Headquarters. The Secretary General and Administrator of each participating National Federation is invited to attend and all costs are covered thanks to the financial assistance provided to the FEI by the IOC.

The FEI President thanked all the Solidarity Committee Members and particularly the outgoing Members:

- Marina Sechina (RUS);
- Eve Vandebolt (CAY);
- Mona Tep (CAM);
- Pablo Mayorga (ARG).

27.2. Appointment of FEI Solidarity Committee Members

The FEI President reminded that Members of the FEI Solidarity Committee were appointed for a 1 year term and may serve a maximum of 4 terms.

The General Assembly approved the composition of the FEI Solidarity Committee for 1 year, as follows **(R)**:

EEF Group	Ingmar De Vos, BEL, FEI President and Chair
EEF Group	Ulf Helgstrand, President DEN NF
Group III	Sadyr Mamitov, President KGZ NF
Group IV	Catherine Ramsingh-Pierre, President BAH NF
Group V	Hannia Chinchilla De Wolf, President CRC NF
Group VI	Luis Miguel Soria Céspedes, President CHI NF
Group VII	HH Prince Moulay Abdellah El Alaoui, President MAR NF
Group VIII	Mikaela Conjuangco Jaworski, President PHI NF
Group IX	Glenda Warburton, President SWZ NF

28. NOMINATIONS

28.1. Nominations Committee Report

The Chair of the Nominations Committee addressed the General Assembly as follows:

"Dear Mr. President, Mrs Secretary General, esteemed Members of the Board, Technical Committees, dear Delegates,

Firstly, I have to admit that I found it quite a tricky task to hold a report about the FEI Nominations Committee, when its proceedings per se are actually of confidential nature. Nevertheless, I find it worthy to remind you about its structure and assignment, since I am regularly asked about it and even media inquired about this standing committee, which shall be contributing to the FEI's good governance.

The Nominations Committee is an independent body and is composed by 9 members representing each FEI Regional Group elected by their Regional Groups and ultimately ratified by the FEI General Assembly.

As per the Internal Regulations of the FEI (Article 6.1), the Nominations Committee has the task to vet all incoming candidacies and can make recommendations to the

FEI Board and/or the FEI General Assembly. We can make recommendations, or we can renounce to do so, but for sure in order to express a recommendation, there must be unanimity amongst the Nominations Committee members.

Practically, the assignment of the Nominations Committee is firstly and utmost to check the documents (which are CVs, motivational letters, support letters from the respective National Federations) on formal correctness and whether the Candidate fulfils the objective eligibility criteria and whether he or she is qualified for the job specifications as published on the Elections section of the FEI Website.

Likewise during the evaluation process, each FEI Standing Committee communicates their comments and considerations for each individual Candidate to the Nominations Committee and may, if they so wish, specify which Candidate has the unanimous support of that Committee and the reasons why. It is the discretion of the Nominations Committee though to follow these recommendations or not.

To report about the actual meeting back in May 2021: the Nominations Committee met over two days online and I would like to remind you of two general guiding principles:

- *First, during the evaluations, the Nominations Committee generally favours expertise over gender, nationality diversity or newcomers.*
- *Second, however, when Candidates demonstrate a similar expertise, preference is given to the Candidate based on gender, geographical and newcomer's considerations.*

I can say, that this year's meeting was held very efficiently and that still we had sound confrontations amongst the committee members and that in most cases the committee reached unanimity and therefore was able to express a recommendation. In a few cases this recommendation was not coinciding with the Technical Committees' recommendation. And, as a matter of course, no recommendations were needed when the position was not being contested.

And this, dear Delegates, leads me to my closing remark, that the National Federations work "to pool talents and promote their candidates" is of paramount importance to get the right people into the right spots of our international governing body of our sport, which is the FEI.

At this point, I close my report and thank you for your attention."

No questions were raised.

29. ELECTIONS

The General Assembly elected the following persons:

29.1. Regional Group Chair EEF

George Dimaras (GRE) was elected Regional Group Chair EEF for the four-year term 2021-2025. **(R)**

29.2. Deputy Group Chair EEF

Soenke Lauterbach (GER) was elected Deputy Group Chair EEF of George Dimaras (GRE) for the four-year term 2021-2025. **(R)**

29.3. Regional Group Chair V

Carmen Barrera (ESA) was elected Regional Group Chair V for the four-year term 2021-2025. **(R)**

29.4. Deputy Group Chair V

Rocio Echeverri (CRC) was elected Deputy Group Chair V for the four-year term 2021-2025. **(R)**

29.5. Chair of Jumping Committee

Stephan Ellenbruch (GER) was elected Chair of Jumping Committee for the four-year term 2021-2025. **(R)**

29.6. Chair of Dressage Committee

Maribel Alonso (MEX) was elected Chair of Dressage Committee for the four-year term 2021-2025. **(R)**

29.7. Chair of Eventing Committee

David O'Connor (USA) was elected Chair of Eventing Committee for the four-year term 2021-2025. **(R)**

29.8. Members FEI Tribunal

Cesar Torrente (COL), Armand Leone (USA) and Philip Cornegé (NZL) were elected as FEI Tribunal Members for the four-year term 2021-2025. **(R)**

30. DECISIONS BY THE BOARD & APPOINTMENTS BY THE BOARD OF TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

National Federations were informed about the FEI Championships & Finals allocated by the FEI Board at its meeting on 14 November 2021:

FEI Championships and Finals 2021

- FEI **Jumping** Children's Classic 2021 – Guadalajara (MEX), 17 – 20 February 2022

FEI Championships and Finals 2023

- FEI European Championships for Ponies – **Jumping, Dressage, Eventing** – Le Mans (FRA), 27 – 30 July
- FEI **Dressage** European Championships for Children and Juniors – Kronberg (GER), 20 – 23 July
- FEI **Driving** World Championships for Ponies – Four in Hand, Pairs, Singles – Oirschot (NED), 23 – 27 August or 30 – 3 September (Dates TBC)

APPOINTMENTS

The General Assembly were informed of the following appointments made by the Board at its in-person meeting on 14 November 2021:

FEI Veterinary Committee

Anne Couroucé (FRA) and Carlos Ponferrada (ESP) were appointed as members of the Veterinary Committee for the four-year term 2021-2025, replacing outgoing members Martha Misheff (USA) and Kirsten Neil (AUS).

Sheelagh Higgerty (RSA) was appointed for the remaining two-year term (2021-2023) of Ian Baines (NAM), who has taken early retirement from the Committee,

FEI Medical Committee

Franz Kasin (NOR) was appointed as a member of the Medical Committee for 2021-2025.

FEI Jumping Committee

Louis Konickx (NED) was appointed as a member of the Jumping Committee for the four-year term 2021-2025, replacing outgoing member Santiago Varela (ESP).

FEI Dressage Committee

Peter Storr (GBR) as member of the Dressage Committee for the four year term 2021-2025, replacing outgoing member Andrew Gardner (GBR).

FEI Eventing Committee

Alec Lochore (GBR) was appointed as a member of the Eventing Committee for the four-year term 2021-2025, replacing outgoing member Philine Ganders-Meyer (GER).

FEI Driving Committee

Heather Briggs (USA) was appointed as a member of the Driving Committee for the four-year term 2021-2025, replacing outgoing member Richard Papens (BEL).

FEI Para Equestrian Committee

Sue Cunningham (AUS) was appointed as a member of the Para Equestrian Committee for the four-year term 2021-2025, replacing outgoing member Katherine Lucheschi (ITA).

31. CLEAN SPORT**31.1. Global Equine Anti-Doping Control Medications Programme (EADCMP)**

The Veterinary Director presented the report from the FEI Global Equine Anti-Doping Controlled Medication Programme (EADCMP) for 2020. The report also included 2021 data on the FEI Limb Sensitivity Programme. The introduction of the FEI Hyposensitivity Control System in Endurance was reported to have been well received and successful.

32. INTERNATIONAL HORSE SPORTS CONFEDERATION (IHSC)

The Veterinary Director informed on the International Horse Sports Confederation (IHSC) taskforce for the European Animal Health Law and Brexit and its activities that included lobbying at the highest level within the European Union and the European Union Animal Health Law and to get the horse industry's items onto the agenda of the Brexit negotiations.

The Veterinary Director noted that the Brexit mission had not been successful and that the work had to continue but that some results had been achieved by the Taskforce on the European Union Animal Health Law. The most substantial achievement was the introduction in this legislation for digital passports for intra-union horse movement.

The IHSC had in close collaboration with the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE), also supported the activities set out by the Roadmaps from the six OIE-IHSC Regional

Workshops. There had been substantial progress in FEI Group VII. An OIE-FEI project to implement harmonised Health Certificates in South America was planned to start 2022.

33. OLYMPIC GAMES/PARALYMPIC GAMES

33.1. Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games and Paralympic Games Debrief

Key moments from the Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games were relived through video highlights of the two Events, followed by a look-back at the success of the Games by the FEI President. The teamwork achieved to deliver these Olympic Games in extreme circumstances was commended and thanks were extended to Japan, Tokyo Organisers, and all who contributed.

No efforts were spared to allow the Olympic Games to take place to enable Athletes to compete and make it a success. The Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games will leave a great legacy for the future for Equestrian sport at the Baji-Kohn venue.

Special thanks were extended especially to Mr Haruta who coordinated the Games despite postponement and restrictions, as well as the Japan National Federation and the Japan Racing Authorities. Officials, ITO/NTO, veterinary services, and Peden Bloodstock Shipping services were also thanked.

Several debriefing sessions focusing on the transition to Paris 2024 had taken place internally and with the Association of Summer Olympic International Sport Federations (ASOIF) and the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and would be continued after the Beijing 2022 Winter Olympic Games with the broadcasters and technology providers.

33.2. Paris 2024 Olympic Games and Paralympic Games Update

The FEI Director of Games Operations provided an update on preparations for Paris 2024. The Opening Ceremony for the Olympic Games Paris 2024 would take place on Friday 26 July, with the Games running through to 11 August. Equestrian, staged against the stunning backdrop of the Palace of Versailles, would revert to its traditional order of Eventing followed by Dressage and Jumping. The Paralympic Games Paris 2024 would kick off on 28 August and conclude 10 days later on 8 September 2024.

Current priorities included working with the Paris 2024 team on venue design, identification of the Equestrian Sport organising team and appointment of Eventing and Jumping Course Designers as well as the FEI Footing Expert.

A consultation process would be launched in December 2021 inviting relevant stakeholders to provide their feedback on the 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Regulations to be approved by the FEI General Assembly 2022.

34. FEI MANAGEMENT REPORT

The Commercial Director provided an update ([see presentation](#)) on the FEI commercial and marketing activities over the last year and an outlook on 2022. The presentation started with an outline of the key challenges the FEI is facing and how these effect the FEI commercially. In addition to providing replacement content to the media rights holders, the FEI adapted its commercial strategy by offering advertisement opportunities to brands, enabled by the significant growth of the FEI digital channels.

A number of marketing campaigns were presented to promote the equestrian sport and the key series and championships, including #ForTheLoveOfEquestrian and TimeToBeat. The Olympic and Paralympic #WeDontPlay campaign generated almost 10 million engagements across the FEI's channels and 260,000 new followers.

The FEI also established a partnership for an FEI Game and eSports, with the FEI eDressage World Tour and the FEI eJumping World Tour launched earlier 2021. A mascot was launched with the name 'Champony', who is true ambassador for the FEI values while providing additional opportunities for engaging with a younger audience.

35. FEI TRIBUNAL

The FEI Tribunal Chair gave the FEI Tribunal Activity report as a PPT presentation, available on the on the [FEI website](#).

No questions were raised.

36. EQUESTRIAN COMMUNITY INTEGRITY UNIT REPORT

The Secretary General referred to the written report, available on the [FEI website](#).

No questions were raised.

37. WORLD HORSE WELFARE

World Horse Welfare Chief Executive made his annual presentation to the General Assembly emphasising the social license to compete with horses and the importance of working closely with science to ensure that rules and standards are up to date. His presentation is available on the [FEI website](#).

38. SPORTS FORUM AND GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2020

The Secretary General gave the dates – 25 and 26 April 2022 – and mentioned the following proposed topics:

- Paris 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Regulations
- Full rules revision: Dressage, Para Dressage, Eventing, Veterinary
- Events Minimum Standards
- Social Media Strategies and how synergies can be created amongst Stakeholders
- Outcome of the Grooms Consultative Group.

The programme would be further developed and the National Federations would be informed accordingly in due course.

39. ITEMS RAISED BY NATIONAL FEDERATIONS WITHIN STATUTORY DEADLINE (NO ITEMS RAISED)

No item had been raised for discussion within the statutory deadline.

40. RECOGNITIONS

As the General Assembly came to the end, the FEI President presented the outgoing Board Members with a commemorative plaque and Delegates warmly supported the proposal to make them FEI Honorary Board Member with FEI Honorary Board Member pin.

- Mary Binks (KEN) – Chair of Group IX 2008-2020
- Brian Mangan (IRL) – Chair of Audit & Compliance from 2009-2020
- Frank Kemperman (NED) - Chair of Dressage Committee from 2009-2021
- Armagan Özgörkey (TUR) – Board Member from 2012 – 2021

The President also thanked Sven Friesecke (SUI), Chair of Reining Committee, 2015-2021 for his contribution to the sport and the community with a commemorative plaque.

Following the election of the new FEI Board Members, the President welcomed Maribel Alonso (MEX) - Chair of Dressage Committee 2021-2025 as well as Georges Dimaras (GRE) – EEF Regional Group 1st Vice President 2021-2025 with the FEI Board members gold pin.

As the FEI General Assembly 2020 was virtual, the President took this opportunity to officially and in-person recognise FEI Board Members elected at the FEI General Assembly 2020:

- Brigitte Mathias (NAM) – Chair of Group IX 2020-2024
- Janice Shardlow (GBR) – Chair of Audit & Compliance Committee 2020-2024
- Mark Hart (USA) – Chair of Medical Committee 2020-2024
- Amanda Bond (HKG) – Chair of Para Equestrian Committee 2020-2024
- Pavla Krauspe (SVK) – Chair of Vaulting Committee 2020-2024

The following delegates were presented with a FEI badge for their fifteenth participation at the FEI General Assembly:

- Soenke Lauterbach (GER) for reaching 15 participations in 2020
- Regine Fitzner (ISV) – President of the NF for reaching 15 participations in 2021
- Fahima Sebiane (ALG) – President of the NF for reaching 15 participations in 2021
- Venancio Garcia Ovies (ESP) – SG of the NF for reaching 15 participations in 2021
- Badre Fakir (MAR) – SG of the NF for reaching 15 participations in 2021

The FEI President further welcomed the National Federation of Nepal for its provisional membership.

The President also took the opportunity to warmly thank three retiring Directors for their long years of commitment and contribution to the FEI and the Equestrian Community. He invited them on the podium to address the audience.

- Deborah Riplinger - Ad interim Director Jumping 1999 - 2021
- Jacqueline Braissant - Solidarity Director 1992 - 2021
- Grania Willis - Director Communication 2009 - 2021

The FEI President concluded by expressing his heartfelt gratitude to the Belgian Equestrian Federation and its President Stephan Detry as well as his Secretary General Philippe De Meersman for hosting the FEI Hybrid General Assembly 2021 with commemorative plaques.

Before closing the FEI Hybrid General Assembly 2021, the FEI President thanked all the delegates and the Belgian Federation for hosting the event, before also offering his thanks to the Board members, the FEI Secretary General and the wonderful FEI staff as well as all the volunteers. **(I)**

Delegates were reminded of the FEI Awards Gala presented by Longines, before the President invited everyone to Lausanne next April for the FEI Forum as well as the FEI 100 years commemoration celebration and declared the General Assembly closed. **(I)**

41. CLOSING

Refer to Point 40 Recognitions above.