

ANNEX Pt 22.1

17 November 2021, Antwerp (BEL)

Committee name	VAULTING
Chair	Pavla Krauspe (SVK)

Committee Report	
Pt.	Subject
1.	REPORT OF THE FEI VAULTING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE 2021
	<p>The year 2021 was still affected by Covid-19 and so was the FEI Vaulting Calendar. Most of the FEI events were cancelled. An outbreak of EHV-1, mainly in Mainland Europe, brought many challenges to the Organizers too.</p> <p>VTC wants to thank the FEI for their fast and efficient actions to restart the events as fast as possible.</p> <p>The first FEI vaulting event was held in late May and from that point, the vaulting community caught new breath and we had 14 CVIs (including Masterclass), which comprises all CVI categories from CVI1* - CVIO4*, in 2021.</p> <p>Huge thank you to the Organizers of the very successful two Vaulting Championships. FEI World Championships for Juniors in Le Mans (FRA) and FEI World Championships for Seniors in Budapest (HUN). Both events were crucial for our community and our sport. Another year of not having Championships could cause significant problems to the sport focusing mainly on young athletes. VTC appreciates the hard work of both OCs.</p>
2.	ACTIVITIES OF THE FEI VAULTING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE (VTC)
	<p>2021 was the first year of the new VTC Chair, it was important that a good working relationship was created not only between VTC members but also between all other relevant stakeholders.</p> <p>The focus of VTC was put to the full revision of the FEI Vaulting Rules, updating the Guidelines, prepare new Technical Test exercises and setting up working processes within VTC.</p> <p>VTC meets once a week on informal online meetings followed by many offline communications and once a month together with the FEI department.</p> <p>VTC started to work actively via virtual ZOOM meetings. We set up new processes to track the tasks, deadlines, efficient workflow, and communication within VTC.</p> <p>In Q1 VTC were finalizing the details of the New Concept for Free test followed by the meeting with the International Vaulting Official Club (IVOC) where we presented this concept. At this stage, the Concept was well received by the IVOC members.</p>

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	<p>Technical Test Working Group prepared a description for new Technical Test exercise – Cartwheel from neck to back.</p>
	<p>New World cup rules published in 2020 were implemented. Most of the CVIs became World Cup Qualifiers which is great for athletes and OCs as well.</p>
	<p>Organizers of World Cup Final in Omaha 2023 confirmed their interest to organise also FEI Vaulting World Cup™ Final. Omaha will be the first overseas FEI Vaulting World Cup™ Final ever.</p>
	<p>Due to the Covid-19, VTC asked FEI Board for approval to release all the Qualification criteria for Championships. Our athletes could not compete on FEI level for almost one and a half years, which is why they could not fulfill any qualification criteria. We are happy, because without this decision we would for instance not have a new World Champion Junior male. Despite no MRIs the level of Championships was high and, in the standard, as past Championships.</p>
	<p>At the end of the March VTC organized FEI <u>Online</u> Seminar for FEI Judges for a first time with following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - FEI General Update - FEI Education update - Concept for Free Test - Code of Points changes - Video Judging <p>80% of FEI vaulting judges participated. Despite this high number, we are missing greatly the in-person meeting where the judges are engaged much more, and some of the misunderstandings, mainly in the New Concept for Free Test, might have been solved easily.</p>
	<p>In Q2 - FEI Vaulting department, together with VTC, diligently worked on the full revision of the FEI Vaulting Rules for 2022. In the proposal, we mainly focused on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Horse Welfare - Harmonizing our rules with other disciplines - Free test concept adaptation - Championships format to become more attractive one - New Championships individual category - Young Vaulters
	<p>All main proposal for Rules changes were presented to community also at the Online Sports Forum 2021. (2nd June 2021)</p>
	<p>At the end of June, new Technical Test exercise – Cartwheel from neck to back, was published on FEI website. Thank you to the Working group and VTC for efficient and diligent work.</p>

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	<p>By the end of August FEI received several comments from 14 NFs and EEF on the proposal of the Rules 2022. FEI dpt together with VTC went through each comment and adapted it to the Rule proposal for GA if possible.</p> <p>The main concerns were about the implementation of the new Concept for the Free Test. NFs asked FEI and VTC to postpone this activity for one year and to organize testing. FEI dpt and VTC agreed on postponing the new Concept for Free Test and are starting to schedule testing events.</p>
	<p>Currently, the VTC is updating the description and pictures of ALL compulsory exercises. The intention is to publish these changes in Guidelines 2022. The aim of description and pictures are to simplify the judging methodology, to be more specific in the reference scores (basic scores) and the most important is to bring new, more detailed, pictures for each reference score from 4 to 10.</p>
3.	FORWARD PLANNING
2021	Minor changes in the Code of Points
2021	Medium to Major Revision of the Guidelines (Compulsory exercises)
2021-2022	Large testing of the Free test concept with all Stakeholders in the community
2022	Medium Revision of the Guidelines (New concept of the free test – TBD)
2022	Starts to work on update of the Code of Points – double and triple exercises
2022	Starts to work on the Catalog of all Technical Test exercises
2022	Continue to monitor Welfare of the horse at CVIs (number of run-ins, horse equipment etc.)
2022	Continue to promote and develop Equestrian Vaulting around the World
2022	Continue to work on the inclusion of Vaulting into Youth Olympic Games
4.	CLOSING REMARKS

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The year 2021 was challenging for equestrian vaulting; the first half of the year was still influenced by Covid-19. Our athletes, trainers, and horses, needed to adapt to many different requirements in their countries. Not each country had the same possibilities to train. And therefore, I admire our athletes, trainers, horses even more that they came to the CVIs and Championships in top shape and performed high-class vaulting. I want to thank to our Officials who were virtually in touch with vaulting and educated themselves to keep updated and be prepared for the restart of the events.

I always try to look to situations from the bright side.

I believe that even though the Covid-19 took from us so much as society and community, we got the opportunity to become innovative, bring new ideas into communication, trainings, and continue to be useful, productive, and helpful to our sport. The difficult times are showing us how strong we are as a community. And Vaulting also proved to be strong! Thank you to all involved.

Last but not least, thank you belongs to the Director of the FEI Vaulting department, Bettina de Rham and department assistant Laetitia Gilliéron for their advices and for always answering my countless questions with grace.

Pavla Krauspe