

ANNEX Pt 26.1

17 November 2021, Antwerp (BEL)

Committee name	ATHLETES
Chair	Maria Gretzer (SWE)

Committee Report	
Pt.	Subject
1.	INTRODUCTION
	<p>In 2021 the Athlete Committee has not had an in-person meeting. However the members of the Committee have been very active as members of the Technical Committees and have been directly involved in the decision making process.</p> <p>In order to improve the communication of the Committee a new dedicated hub has been created in the FEI website for the members to be able to access valuable information at any time.</p>
2.	COVID-19 and EHV-1 PROTOCOLS
	<p>Because sport is progressively resuming to a normal activity the observance of the FEI Policy for Enhanced Competition Safety during the Covid-19 Pandemic and of the EHV-1 measures are of utmost importance.</p> <p>Likewise the development of the FEI HorseApp this year, thanks to the great job of the IT and Veterinary Departments mainly but not only, has been improved with the invaluable feedback of Athletes.</p>
3.	COMPETITIONS
	<p>After 18 months with many events cancelled due to the COVID 19 pandemic, the summer of 2021 marked the return of live events The Committee is particularly pleased with the resume of competitions, particularly with the success of the Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games, the FEI European Championships in Jumping, Dressage and Eventing, the start of the Longines FEI Jumping World Cup™ 2021/2022 in North America and the Longines FEI Jumping Nations Cup™ Final in Barcelona.</p> <p>Similarly, competitions in all Disciplines and all levels are returning to normality.</p>
4.	ELECTIONS
	<p>In 2022 there will be new elections for the members of the Athletes Committee.</p> <p>This year, in consultation with a number of stakeholders and with the input of the members of the Committee, the FEI is putting forward few modifications to streamline the election process following the guidelines provided by the International Olympic Committee.</p> <p>The voice of our Athletes is crucial for our sport and we shall encourage them to profit of the opportunity of having an Athletes Committee whose member have a voice and a vote in the Technical Committees.</p>

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	All National Federations and MOU Stakeholders are therefore encouraged to promote these elections in order to have the strongest candidates.
5.	CLOSING REMARKS
	<p>Despite all the challenges faced in 2021, the Athletes community have been very supportive and courageous all over the year for which I am particularly grateful.</p> <p>I will aim in 2022 to keep on working on the important role of the Athletes Committee as a key consultative body and as a link between the Athletes and the FEI. Special work shall be done to improve the communication between the Committee and the Athletes community.</p>