



**BUREAU MEETING I MINUTES**  
**MONTEVIDEO (URU)**  
**18 November 2017**

**Approved by the Bureau on 18 June 2018**

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## **ATTENDANCE LIST**

### **FEI BUREAU**

Ingmar De Vos	FEI President
John Madden	FEI 1 <sup>st</sup> VP/Chair Jumping Committee
Shaikh Khaled Al Khalifa	FEI 2 <sup>nd</sup> VP/Chair Group VII
Maria Gretzer	Chair Athletes
Brian Mangan	Chair Audit & Compliance
Frank Kemperman	Chair Dressage
Karoly Fugli	Chair Driving
Brian Sheahan	Chair Endurance
Giuseppe Della Chiesa	Chair Eventing
John McEwen	Chair Veterinary
Armagan Özgörkey	Chair Group I
Hanfried Haring	Chair Group II
Sadyr Mamytov	Chair Group III
Mark Samuel	Chair Group IV
Mary Binks	Chair Group IX
Carmen Barrera	Chair Group V
Luiz Roberto Giugni	Chair Group VI
Jack Huang	Chair Group VIII

### **CHAIR OF NON-BUREAU STANDING COMMITTEES**

Andrew Finding	Chair FEI Nominations
Erik Dagfinn Elstad	Chair FEI Tribunal
Peter Whitehead	Chair Medical
Robert Thompson	Chair Reining
John Alexander Eccles	Chair Vaulting

### **FEI MANAGEMENT AND STAFF**

Sabrina Ibanez	Secretary General
Malina Gueorguiev	Secretary General's Office

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Ralph Straus	Commercial
Grania Willis	Communications
Leanne Williams	Communications
Bettina de Rham	Dressage, Para-Equestrian Dressage, Reining & Vaulting
Harald Muller	Education & Standards
Manuel Bandeira de Mello	Endurance & Driving
Catrin Norinder	Eventing & Olympic
Jacqueline Braissant	FEI Solidarity
Claude Praz	Finance
Tim Hadaway	Games Operations
Gaspard Dufour	Information Technology
John Roche	Jumping
Francisco Porrás Lima	Legal
Mikael Rentsch	Legal
Lucinda Arsenio	President's office
Göran Akerström	Veterinary

**Key:**

**I** = Information/Discussion/Details

**R** = Resolution/Decision

**T** = Task

## **1. OPENING**

The President welcomed all those present and thanked the NF URU represented by its President, Mr Rudolfo Rodríguez, and Secretary General, Mr Guillermo Lockhart, for hosting the General Assembly and for their warm hospitality. **(I)**

Last year had been a busy one, filled with challenges and many positive outcomes. **(I)**

The FEI financial situation closed with positive results and was healthy. The Solidarity report (agenda point 19.1) showed successful operations held under the umbrella of the Solidarity fund. The first Course for NF Administrators had been held with great success and future work would include the continuity and transmission of legacy within NFs. **(I)**

One of last year's greatest achievements had been the IOC's approval of the new Olympic formats and the confirmation of equestrian sports as part of the Paris 2024 programme. However, events were still to be confirmed and much work was still to be accomplished in order to consolidate the position of the three Olympic disciplines. **(I)**

Regarding organising costs, equestrian sports had been appointed as an expensive Olympic sport. The FEI was working closely with the IOC to help reduce costs whereas making clear to the IOC and OCs that good footing was affordable. **(I)**

The President was proud and grateful to have been invited to become IOC member, which he considered an achievement, not individual but for the FEI, and a token of credibility for the organisation. He pointed out that the FEI had embraced the agenda 2020 and become leader of good governance. **(I)**

Commercially, the past year could be considered as most successful with the conclusion of a new deal with Longines as Nations Cup title sponsor in addition to being official timekeeper sponsor. The President was confident on the future commercial strategy which would focus on each discipline and gave Longines as an example of commitment and trust for their involvement in jumping. He congratulated the FEI Commercial department for having brought new sponsors

to the FEI in 2017: SAP for dressage, Boehringer Ingelheim and Otto Sport for FEI Campus and CNSI in China for the development of the FEI website and social media in the Chinese language and e-games. **(I)**

The FEI Solidarity project had gained maturity and a lot of progress has been achieved in areas of coaching and education. A pilote course for NF administrators held in October had been most welcomed by National Federations. The course, sponsored by the IOC development programme, had been a great experience for both the participating NFs and the FEI and aimed at ensuring a legacy for coming national leaders. **(I)**

The FEI Olympic Discipline Chairs and Group Chairs would advise the Bureau on areas for further discussion at the General Assembly on Olympic qualification and quota distribution, which would be discussed in detail in an open session on Monday 20 November, and voted on at the General Assembly. Details of the proposed rules on Olympic qualification procedures and quota distribution for Tokyo 2020 were available on the FEI website. **(I)**

To bring further clarity on the Olympic formats, it was agreed that Olympic Discipline Chairs would visit all Regional Groups. **(D)**

## **2. PRESIDENT'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The President asked the members to focus, be concise and efficient given the long agenda and the important items at stake. **(I)**

He warmly thanked the outgoing chairs for their contribution and devotion to the sport and the organisation:

- John Madden, 1st Vice President and Chair of the Jumping Committee
- Giuseppe Della Chiesa, Chair Eventing Committee
- Andrew Finding, Chair Nominations Committee
- Erik Elstad, Chair FEI Tribunal

## **3. APPROVAL OF AGENDAS OF BUREAU & GENERAL ASSEMBLY NOV. 2017 & TELECONFERENCE MINUTES 2017**

### **3.1. Agenda FEI Bureau Meeting, 18 November 2017**

The Bureau approved the agenda of the in-person Bureau meeting held on 18 November. **(R)**



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### **3.2. Agenda FEI Ordinary General Assembly, 21 November 2017**

The Bureau approved the agenda of the FEI Ordinary General Assembly 2017. **(R)**

### **3.3. FEI Bureau Teleconference Minutes – Oct. 2017**

The Bureau approved the minutes of the teleconference held on 5 October. **(R)**

## **4. OLYMPICS GAMES: QUALIFICATION & QUOTA**

The President introduced the discussion by asking the Chairs of the Olympic Disciplines to present the issues raised by the NFs and proposals made by the respective technical committees for the final draft to be approved by the General Assembly. He thanked the Chairs for the work involved in finalising these procedures and felt that the change to allow fill-up of unused Individual places to be reallocated to the relevant group in order of priority and then to the WEG would be appreciated by the NFs. **(I)**

The Chair of the **Jumping** Committee explained that many excellent comments were received back on the original proposal. **(I)**

- The only pending issue was the request of Groups IV & V to review the number of teams to be allocated from the region.

The Chair of the **Dressage** Committee commented on the procedure that had involved valuable discussions between the 3 disciplines to facilitate the lining up of the qualification procedures. **(I)**

- The Dressage Committee are proposing to line up with Jumping and Eventing for the allocation of teams from the Pan Am Games, specifying that the team are allocated from Group D and/or E.
- The Committee also agreed to withdraw the Nations Cup from the team procedure for Dressage as the Series was not yet developed and currently mostly concentrated in Western Europe.
- Further to the request made by Group C to transfer a team place from group A & B to group C, it was agreed to ask the NFs from the three Groups A, B & C to review the situation in the next days and find a compromise to propose to the Bureau before the General Assembly.

The Chair of the **Eventing** Committee stated that Eventing to propose a common approach when possible. No request for change had been received. **(I)**

The Chairmen of the Regional Groups presented their specific concern **(I)**:

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The Chair of **Group I** referred to the Olympic Group C situation for Dressage as NFs from several FEI regional groups were involved, and stated that his group supported the proposal to remain as presented.

The Chair of **Group II**, agreed that the only issue was the request of Group C for Dressage and expressed that should a change be considered it would need to be justified by the confirmation of results at Olympic level of the NFs involved.

The Eventing Chair clarified a question raised in regard to the special qualifying competitions for Eventing, further to the issues for Rio2012, MERs can only be achieved on 3star competitions included in the calendar according to deadlines and no last minute competition will be allowed to ensure the quality and level of the competition.

The Chair of **Group III**: agreed that the Dressage Olympic Quota Qualification procedure needed to be discussed with group A & B.

The Chair of **Group IV** thanked the Technical Chairs to have changed the re-allocation to stay within the group as per request of this Group.

- The Chair also referred to the GA annex and assumed that the proposal would be revised for clarity to include the fill-up of individuals in Jumping from the next from the PanAM ranking, as the Pan Am Games will be used as the qualification event for Olympic Groups D & E. The Chair of Jumping confirmed that the correction would be made.
- Group NFs had requested that the qualifying period for Eventing be extended to accommodate the weather conditions specifically in the North of Group IV. For the past Olympic Games the deadline for MERs had been set 3 or 4 weeks before the definite entries, and the date proposed is a change of that a much longer period

The Chair of the Eventing Committee clarified that there were two deadlines, the first was the Qualification period for nations to earn a place for the Olympic Games and further to a large discussion it had been agreed to set the period to a full year. The second was the period to achieve the Minimum Eligibility Requirements (MER) however for Eventing, prolonging the period allowed for more opportunities to achieve the MER but also pushed it for those ones who cannot achieve it. Therefore a balance must be found to allow to ensure that other athletes can be selected. The proposed date can be moved forward a few days to incorporate a specific event.

The President added that it was agreed that the Olympic Qualification period would consist of 1 full year meaning the same period in all hemispheres (one summer, one winter) to allow for fair conditions for all. The period to obtain MERs from the 1<sup>st</sup> Jan 2019 till the 18<sup>th</sup> May 2020 is relatively close to the date of the entries for the Olympic Games. In addition the new format allowing many

more nations having the opportunity to qualify for Eventing, will require enough time for the substitution mechanisms work to ensure to fill the quota.

The Chair of **Group V** commented that the requests forwarded to the technical committees together with group IV had been covered, i.e. the re-allocation of the quota to remain within the group.

The Chair of **Group VI** stated that all the concerns had been addressed during a meeting with the President & Secretary General some weeks earlier in Peru.

The Chair of **Group VII** raised no specific comment.

The Chair of **Group VIII** commented that as the proposed procedure now involved the individual quota through the ranking system and not through specific qualifiers, the NFs will be studying the results closely. The President added that in his opinion the balance of the system is not disturbed however the Group was welcome to make a proposal or comments by the next day after the group meeting to be reviewed by the Bureau.

The Chair of **Group IX** thanked the Technical committee for the enormous effort and the NFs in the Group were satisfied for the time being.

## **5. PREPARATION OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY AGENDA ITEMS**

The Secretary General reviewed the agenda of the General Assembly taking place on 21 November. **(I)**

The Chief Financial Officer (CFO) listed the NFs, which risked suspension for non-payment of the membership fees, as follows: ARM, IRQ, MYA, PLE, YEM. Mongolia risked exclusion. **(I)**

The Chair of the Driving Committee mentioned an open letter, which had been sent by an athlete's brother to the President of HUN NF. The letter concerned issues encountered in competition and was not a matter for the Bureau's attention. **(I)**

Multiple changes had been made to the Endurance rules. The Chair of the Endurance Committee listed the main ones and mentioned that he and the Endurance Director would visit the various Regional Group meetings to provide the NFs with additional explanations, if necessary. **(I)**

The Secretary General reviewed the elections and the proposed appointments of Committees members. **(I)**

The Veterinary Regulations, which had gone through a full re-write, would be presented at a dedicated session prior to the General Assembly. Other presentations would be made on preparations for FEI World Equestrian Games™ 2018, a successful OIE research project, and activities of World Horse Welfare (WHW). **(I)**

Updates would be provided on the allocation of FEI Championships and named events, and the FEI Sports Forum 2018. **(I)**

Following questions from the Chair of Group I, it was explained that a detailed update on governance KPIs would be provided under pt. 26.

## **6. NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT & APPOINTMENT TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

### **6.1. Nominations Committee Report**

The Chair of the Nominations Committee informed the Bureau that the work of the Nominations Committee had been steady throughout 2017. There had been no undue challenge or difficulty. The Nominations Committee was pleased to see the FEI's Governance standards commended since the Nominations Committee played its part within the overall governance structure of the FEI. **(I)**

After the in-person meeting on 26 and 27 June 2017 in the FEI HQ the Nominations Committee wrote a report for the Bureau and the General Assembly comprising of the following three main recommendations: **(I)**

- Gender and Representation: the FEI and Group Chairs, with their Nomination Committee representatives, to continue seeking more candidacies for appointment or election with special emphasis being taken to encourage more women to come forward; being a proportion of 50% of gender representation the ideal scenario.
- Bureau Members work load:
  - Bureau members to engage in "exit interviews" as they complete their terms of office, perhaps with the President and/or Secretary General to establish their views about what works well and what might be improved;
  - Bureau members to share their individual roles with another suitably qualified person, perhaps a deputy.

The Chair of the Nominations Committee briefly explained these recommendations to the Bureau and referred to the report. The Chair also raised a question to the Bureau for future consideration regarding unsuccessful

candidates (i.e. those not elected to occupy a given position) that showed a high and useful profile for the FEI. In particular the question was: how can the FEI better make use of the individual who were not successful in the election process and benefit from his knowledge and experience? **(I)**

The Chair also commended the FEI and its leadership team for the progress made to ensure the FEI electoral process which had been progressively enhanced and made more democratic. Equally, the Chair was grateful for the careful attention to detail and the firm stance taken by the President, Secretary General and staff of the FEI, especially Julie Schlaefli and the legal department, to ensure that the elections were sound and correct. **(I)**

## **6.2. Appointments by the Bureau**

The Bureau made the following appointments: **(R)**

### **FEI Veterinary Committee Member**

Martha Misheff (USA) and Kirsten Neil (AUS) were appointed to replace outgoing members Siraya Chunekamrai (THA) and William Dwight Hooten (USA) for a term of four years (2017-2021).

### **FEI Medical Committee Member**

Mark Hart (USA) was appointed to replace outgoing member Allen Sills (USA) for a term of four years (2017-2021).

### **FEI Jumping Committee Member**

Santiago Varela (ESP) was appointed to replace outgoing member Kamal Bahamdan (KSA) for a term of four years (2017-2021).

### **FEI Dressage Committee Member**

Andrew Gardner (GBR) was appointed to replace outgoing member Maribel Alonso (MEX) for a term of four years (2017-2021).

### **FEI Eventing Committee Member**

Philine Ganders-Meyer (GER) was appointed to replace outgoing member Marcin Konarski (POL) for a period of four years (2017-2021).

### **FEI Driving Committee Member**

Richard Papens (BEL) was appointed to replace outgoing member Klaus Christ (GER) for a period of four years (2017-2021).

### **FEI Reining Committee member**

Adam Heaton (GBR), Troy Heikes (USA) and Magdalena Szarszewska (POL) were appointed to replace outgoing members Pete Kyle (USA) and Pierre Ouellet (ITA) and resigned member Sue Baeck (BEL). After a draw conducted by the

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Chair of the Nominations Committee and the FEI Legal department the terms were: four years term (2017-2021) for Adam Heaton (GBR) and Troy Heikes (USA) and 1 year term (2017-2018) for Magdalena Szarszewska (POL).

**FEI para-Equestrian Committee Member**

Katherine Lucheschi (ITA) was appointed to replace outgoing member Sue Cunningham (AUS) for a period of four years (2017-2021).

## **7. MULTIDISCIPLINARY TOPICS**

### **7.1. Cancellation/interruption of competitions: prize money distribution**

This item was withdrawn from the agenda. **(I)**

### **7.2. Approval of FEI Series**

The Bureau approved the "FEI Policy for Approval of Series" as described in the Annex with the following two clarifications:

- The level of prize money as one of the two criteria for defining the "Lower Level Series" refers to the overall prize money given for the Series in a Final competition and not for individual competitions of such Series;
- The maximum prize money threshold for Jumping is €50'000.

This Policy shall be published in the FEI Website. **(R)**

### **7.3. Hosting Fee FEI Named-Events**

The Bureau agreed to provide the Headquarters with extra time (until next in-person Bureau meeting in June 2018), as requested in the relevant Annex, to carry out a study about the Hosting Fee for FEI Named-Events. The Headquarters shall then report back to the Bureau. **(R)**

### **7.4. FEI Officials Working Group report**

This point was removed from the Agenda as a session would be held during the week on this subject. **(I)**

## **8. JUMPING**

### **8.1. Introduction**

In his introduction the Chair of the Jumping Committee thanked the FEI President, FEI Secretary General, Bureau Members and FEI Staff for their support over the years in allowing the Committee to carry out its work efficiently. He

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thanked the Jumping Committee Members also for all the effort and hard work they had invested in the Committee. **(I)**

## **8.2. Decisions to be taken by the Bureau**

With the exception of the rules for the JumpingClash Team Challenge, the Bureau approved unless indicated to the contrary below the alterations and additions to the rules under points 8.2.1 to 8.2.5 as explained in detail to the Bureau by the FEI Jumping Director.

### **8.2.1. FEI World Cup™ Jumping Series Rules 2017/2018: clarifications**

**The Bureau approved the rules as presented. (R)**

### **8.2.2. FEI Nations Cup™ Rules season 2018**

**The Bureau approved the rules for the 2018 season. (R)**

The FEI Jumping Director informed the Bureau that the rules governing the qualification system for the Division 2 FEI Nations Cup qualifier would be discussed with NFs and presented to the Bureau for approval on the occasion of the second Bureau meeting in Montevideo (URU). **(I)**

### **8.2.3. World Jumping Challenge Rules 2018**

**The Bureau approved the rules as presented. (R)**

### **8.2.4. FEI Ponies Jumping Trophy Rules**

The Bureau requested the Committee to ensure that the cost of competitors participating in the FEI Ponies Jumping Trophy does not become prohibitive. In addition, the Bureau agreed that the travel and accommodation expenses of the FEI Ponies Jumping Trophy Director to FEI Ponies Jumping Trophy qualifying events be at the expense of the FEI and not at the expense of OCs. **(R)**

### **8.2.5. Rules Global Champions Tour Final 2018**

Approved by the Bureau as presented and added to the rules for the Global Champions Tour. **(R)**.

### **8.2.6. New Series**

#### **8.2.6.1. JumpingClash Team Challenge**

The rules for the JumpingClash Team Challenge were withdrawn as they were not ready to be presented for approval. **(I)**

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### **8.3. Jumping Rules and Rules for Jumping Championships and Games: Full revision**

The Jumping Director informed the Bureau that a change would be made to the rules to be presented to the General Assembly for approval. This change would affect Articles 241 and 242, in that blood in a horse's mouth would incur elimination and no longer disqualification. The attention of NFs would be drawn to this alteration on the occasion of the session with NFs on rule changes. **(I)**

### **8.4. FEI Online Invitation rules roll-out**

This point was Postponed and presented during the Regional Groups with the Bureau meeting. **(I)**

## **9. DRESSAGE**

### **9.1. Introduction**

The Chair of the Dressage Committee presented his report. He mentioned the work accomplished by the Dressage Judging Working Group (DJWG), as per the mandate that they were given by the Bureau in 2016. The DJWG's first proposal is to introduce a HiLo Drop per movement system, proposal which is contested by several NFs and Stakeholders groups, and supported by others. The Chair mentioned that there will be a presentation given during the Rules session on the HiLo proposal and that the DJWG also has an alternative plan, should the HiLo proposal not be supported. The Alternative plan would be to test the system in 2018 on Small Tour and Youth classes. **(I)**

### **9.2. Decisions to be taken by the Bureau**

The Chair asked the Bureau to approve the Nations Cup Rules for 2018. The main modifications are dates and one small addition to the participations of NFs. **The Nations Cup Rules 2018 were approved. (R)**

### **9.3. Dressage Rules: Modifications**

No further questions were raised on the proposed modifications to the FEI Dressage Rules to be effective 1<sup>st</sup> January 2018. **(I)**

## **10. PARA-DRESSAGE**

### **10.1. Introduction**

In the absence of the Chair of the Para-Equestrian Committee, the Para-Equestrian Director summarised her report. The Director highlighted the fact that as of 2018 Classification would no longer be published in the form of a Manual



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but would now be Rules to be in line with the IPC Code of Compliance. The Director thanked the FEI Senior Legal Counsel for his support with this project. The Classification Rules are presented for approval by the GA. **(I)**

## **10.2. Decisions to be taken by the Bureau**

N/A

## **10.3. Para-Dressage Rules: Modifications**

The Chair of the Veterinary Committee raised the two following points **(I)**:

- question about the stable opening 48 hours before competition. He would prefer this to change to 72 hours, for welfare reasons (recovery after traveling). He recommended that there ought to be a standard and this would be reviewed in the future.
- Chapter IV on Horse Inspection and Horse Passports should be amended to only refer to the Veterinary Regulations. This was to be clarified at the Rules session.

No further questions were raised on the proposed modifications to the FEI Para-Equestrian Dressage Rules to be effective 1<sup>st</sup> January 2018. **(I)**

## **10.4. Para-Equestrian Classification Rules: Modifications**

No further questions were raised on the proposed new Classification Rules to be effective 1<sup>st</sup> January 2018. **(I)**

# **11. EVENTING**

## **11.1. Introduction**

### **11.1.1. Equirating update**

The Chair of the Eventing Committee referred to the annex on the EquiRatings project which had been initiated in the beginning of the year to identify an index based on statistic and analysis of performance the risk of each horse at each level of competition. This index should benefit in the overall strategy of Risk Management for Eventing. **(I)**

In 2018, the project would be developed in two phases, starting with an internal monitoring of higher level competition to enable to identify any issues. When the results are considered reliable, the project will be moved to second phase to assess a wider number of competition and levels. In 2019, it is planned as a service to NFs and athletes, to provide the information on level of risk according to the level of competition. It was clearly agreed that at this stage it would be difficult to include the system in rules before having enough information on the

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consistency of the index over at least a year. The responsibility must remain with the Athlete / NF whether they should compete. **(I)**

The Chair and the Director of Technology explained the focus on the high level events did not allow to produce significant findings as the amount of data was limited. The project was larger project than expected and needed time to reach conclusions. The quality of data, and the inclusion of national data was essential to identify the current form of the horse and Athlete. **(I)**

## **11.2. Decisions to be taken by the Bureau**

### **11.2.1. FEI Nations Cup™ Eventing Series Calendar & Rules 2018/19 season**

The Chair referred to the update of rules and the number of events and commented that one major Eventing Nation's Cup organiser (Aachen) had opted not to be part of the Nations Cup Series. From a sports point of view, he appealed to the relevant departments at Headquarters to find solutions as this event was important for the standard of the series. **(I)**

**The rules and calendar were approved taking into account the above comment. (R)**

### **11.2.2. Event Rider Masters**

**The rules and calendar were approved. (R)**

### **11.2.3. Eventing Africa Cup**

The Chair explained that this series had been developed to promote the sport in Africa. **(I)**

The Chair of Group IX explained that the Series was successful and was gaining ground, however there would be additional meetings with her Group in the next days to address the objective for a better integration of youth as well as whether the series should be held over a 2 year or 1 year period. **(I)**

It was agreed that the conclusion of the Group discussions would be forwarded and the series rules be approved at a later date by Headquarters. **(I)**

### **11.2.4. Tri Star Grand Slam of Eventing**

**The rules and calendar were approved. (R)**

## **11.3. Eventing Rules: Modifications**

The Chair referred to the General Assembly Annex and explained that there were no major changes proposed in addition to the category restructuring and the new competition levels for implementation in 2019. The reason of the proposal was to

line up with the current level of the sport and to support the Olympic strategy. **(I)**

## **12. DRIVING**

### **12.1. Introduction**

The Chair of the Driving Committee thanked the FEI Driving department staff on behalf of all the Committee, for the help and continuous support during the year. **(I)**

### **12.2. Decisions to be taken by the Bureau**

No decisions to be taken by the Bureau. **(I)**

### **12.3. Driving Rules: Modifications**

The Chair informed that all the rule modifications proposal from the Driving Committee were in the annexes and explained that mainly the proposals were based on the feedback from the NFs and stakeholders. **(I)**

The modifications refer to harmonisation, safety, penalty points, welfare of the horse, starting order for CAIOs and Championships and the possibility to the OCs to have a controlled warm up zone for the marathon. **(I)**

No questions were raised. **(I)**

## **13. ENDURANCE**

### **13.1. Introduction**

No introduction was made. **(I)**

### **13.2. Decisions to be taken by the Bureau**

The Chair of the Endurance Committee informed that he had no decisions to be taken by the Bureau. **(I)**

### **13.3. Endurance Rules: Modifications**

The Chair informed the Bureau that the rules modifications proposal were mainly focused on the weights, new star system for events, increase of rest periods and age of horses. **(I)**

The Chair of the Veterinary Committee expressed his concern about the weights especially the 75 Kg. **(I)**

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The Chair explained that historically there is always confusion about the weights, depending on the Committee's the weights increase and decrease giving no guidance to trainers and athletes, it was time to solve the matter and he was happy to have some indication from the floor what were the thoughts about weights for the coming years. **(I)**

#### **13.4. ESPG report**

The Chair informed that the approval of the ESPG report twice a year was a recommendation of the ESPG itself. **(I)**

The report that was included in the annexes reflected the Key Performance Indicators (KPIs). The Chair referred that he was happy to see a decrease on the penalty points from Groups I and VII. **(I)**

No questions were asked about the report. **(I)**

### **14. VAULTING**

#### **14.1. Introduction**

The Chair of the Vaulting Committee presented his report. He referred to his report in which the objectives for the Vaulting Committee are listed, which included improving the FEI Vaulting Judge Education through FEI Campus, develop and improve positive media possibilities through new and existing technologies and discuss an action plan for possible inclusion of Vaulting in YOG in the future. **(I)**

#### **14.2. Decisions to be taken by the Bureau**

No decisions were to be taken by the Bureau. **(I)**

#### **14.3. Vaulting Rules: Modifications**

No questions were raised on the proposed modifications to the Vaulting Rules to be effective 1<sup>st</sup> January 2018. **(I)**

### **15. REINING**

#### **15.1. Introduction**

The Chair of the Reining Committee presented his report. He referred to his report, in which a concern was raised with the existing MOU signed with NRHA and the fact that there are areas of non-compliance. In his report, the Chair also referred to the growth of Para-Reining and that he recommended it should be carefully considered by the Reining Committee and FEI. **(I)**

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## **15.2. Decisions to be taken by the Bureau**

No decisions were to be taken by the Bureau. **(I)**

## **15.3. Reining Rules: Modifications**

No questions were raised on the proposed modifications to the Reining Rules to be effective 1<sup>st</sup> January 2018. **(I)**

## **16. VETERINARY MATTERS**

### **16.1. Introduction**

The Chair of the Veterinary Committee thanked the Veterinary Department for the excellent work that has been done during 2017. It has been a very busy year for the department as well as the Committee and the Chair especially mentioned the FEI Veterinary Advisor's outstanding work with the rewrite of the Veterinary Regulations. The Chair expressed that he was very pleased with the new format and the positive feedback received from various stakeholders. **(I)**

The Chair informed about the review of the Education for Official Veterinarians and that the new format seemed to be working very well. The training of Course Directors had led to a higher level of interactivity with the participants and thus increased the quality. **(I)**

The Chair also informed shortly on the IHSC-OIE Workshops. The first three had been very successful. **(I)**

The Global Endurance Injury Study had successfully delivered important results during the year. The results had enabled the FEI to propose evidence based changes for the FEI Endurance Rules **(I)**

The Chair informed about the upcoming review of the Equine Prohibited Substance List. **(I)**

### **16.2. Veterinary Regulations: Full Revision**

The Chair informed that he would present the Veterinary Regulations rewrite at the Rules session. **(I)**

## **17. CLEAN SPORT**

### **17.1. Revised Laboratory approval system & maintenance process**

The Director of the Veterinary Committee presented the principal process for laboratory approval and maintenance. The FEI President asked whether a decision from the Bureau to revoke or not accept an application/approval was

appealable, and whether it would be interpreted as against the FEI rules of good Governance. The Legal Director replied that such a decision by the Bureau would have to be motivated in technical detail and that the applicant laboratory had a possibility to re-apply. This standpoint was supported by the Secretary General. The FEI President also asked if there was a fee for applicant laboratories. The Veterinary Director confirmed that there was such a fee. The Secretary General asked for approval of the principal process. **The Bureau unanimously approved the proposal. (R)**

## **18. INTERNATIONAL HORSE SPORTS CONFEDERATION (IHSC)**

### **18.1. IHSC – OIE Regional Workshops & Research project**

The FEI President informed the Bureau on the work of the International Horse Sport Confederation and the public-private partnership with OIE. The President informed that the Veterinary Director would give a presentation to the General Assembly to inform on the so far very important and successful IHSC-OIE Regional Workshops for the facilitation of temporary movement on competition horses and research projects that were funded by the IHSC. Furthermore the FEI President informed about the IHSC General Assembly that would take place in Hong Kong on 9 December. The President, the Chair of the Veterinary Committee and the Veterinary Director would attend this event. **(I)**

## **19. FEI SOLIDARITY**

### **19.1. Activity Report**

The FEI President referred to the Annex point 19.1, the FEI Solidarity Activity Report 2017 and informed the Bureau that the impact of the FEI Solidarity Programme on the development of the sport was very positive and a full report on FEI Solidarity's facts and figures would be presented during the GA. **(I)**

On the subject of FEI Coach Education, the Chair of the FEI Athletes Committee took the floor to share with the Bureau, her recent experience as an Assessor in the FEI Assessment process of Level 3 coaches which had just taken place in Montevideo prior to the FEI General Assembly's activities. **(I)**

She explained how surprised she was to realise that the FEI Coach Education Programme was not, as she thought: "an education system for Riding School Teachers from developing NFs", but on the contrary, a high level and modern system of education for professional Sports Coaches. **(I)**

She explained that together with David O'Connor (USA), they had spent 3 days assessing 11 Jumping and 2 Eventing Coaches from 5 countries (ARG, CHI, MEX, PAN, URU). Each coach had to **(I)**:

- produce a season logbook covering from 6 to 12 months of the coaching practice of the coach;
- present within 1 hour, the season logbook of 1 pupil;
- present a 20 minutes video showing a training session.

She mentioned the high quality of the material presented and the modern technology used to produce videos including simultaneous translation from Spanish to English. **(I)**

She pointed out that their Certificate of Achievement was not just a given. Nine coaches got their Certificate and 4 were asked to resubmit a video session in line with the requirements and which would be re-evaluated within 2 months. **(I)**

The Athletes' Chair emphasised that some of these coaches had started their education through the FEI Coach Education programme 10 years ago from Level 1 up to Level 3. She mentioned how impressed she was to see so many talented Latin American coaches coming up. **(I)**

She finally informed that the Level 3 coaches were coaching at "S" level, i.e.:

- Jumping: 2\*\* CSIs & CSIOs + Youth Regional & Continental Championships/Games
- Eventing: 2\*\* CICs/CCIs + Youth Regional & Continental Championships/Games

## **20. FEI SPORTS FORUM 2018**

### **20.1. General Programme**

The FEI Sports Forum would be held on 26 and 27 March 2018 at the IMD Business School in Lausanne. This was earlier during the year, compared to previous years due to the dates of the Longines FEI World Cup™ Final in Paris (FRA) and the Easter Holiday. **(I)**

The Sports Forum would be followed by a short in-person Bureau meeting on 28 March 2018. **(I)**

The Secretary General provided an overview of the programme. The first day would be dedicated to Youth. The panel would be composed of two athletes aged between 18 to 25- a female and a male - from each of the Olympic disciplines

and Vaulting. Geographical balance would be respected. Additional selection criteria would be developed. **(I)**

These young people would be invited to the FEI Headquarters before the Forum and would be briefed on the FEI structure and activities. A number of questions related to the challenges faced by the FEI for the future and ways to overcome them, would be put to them. The questions would focus on the pertinence of age categories, relevance of competition formats, ways to facilitate transition between categories, optimisation of communications, ideas on pony sport, etc.

The athletes would work with a mentor and the sessions would be managed by a moderator. **(I)**

The second day would feature sessions on the FEI World Equestrian Games™, Officials Working Group, and the Dressage Working Group and possibly other topics. **(I)**

**Note from Headquarters: Following comments from the Bureau after the Meeting, HQ decided that the youth panel should include all eight disciplines, 4 females athletes and 4 male athletes. In addition it was important to have regional representation as much as possible.**

## **21. CONTINENTAL GAMES**

The report was postponed to Bureau meeting II as AEF and PAEC meetings were taking place in the next days. **(I)**

## **22. REGIONAL GAMES**

The Olympic & Eventing Director referred to the annex and some of the issues at the Regional Games which had taken place during the year including the South East Asian Games in Kuala Lumpur (MAS), The Asian Indoor and Martial Arts Games in Ashgabat (TKM). During the dates of the GA the Bolivarian Games were being held in Bogota (COL) at which major issues in regard to the horse transport were being reported. **(I)**

The main concerns identified at all of these Games that were hugely important for the development of the Sport in the region due to the involvement of the National Olympic Committee was the acceptance of the Organising Committees of the FEI authority in regard to Sport technical rules including participation, athlete eligibility. **(I)**

The matter of the Regional Games to take place in 2018 would again be postponed to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Bureau meeting, with the Central American and Caribbean



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Games to take place again in Bogota (COL) it was important to solve the airport and transport issues for the horses. **(I)**

## **23. FEI WORLD EQUESTRIAN GAMES**

### **23.1. FEI World Equestrian Games 2018**

An update on the FEI World Equestrian Games™ 2018 was given to the FEI Bureau by Mark Bellissimo, creator of the Tryon International Equestrian Center in North Carolina (USA), which would host WEG 2018 from 11-23 September. In responding to questions from Bureau Members Mark Bellissimo provided the following further information **(I)**:

Endurance - The OC had a sponsor lined up for Endurance and was working through issues relating to the course and piroplasmiasis with the USDA.

Eventing – There was good feedback on the cross country footing following The Fork CIC\*\*\* 2017. Course designer Mark Phillips was happy with progress.

Ticketing – Early sales had exceeded previous WEGs with 'all session' passes proving very popular.

Logistics – There would be significant on-site parking as well as other nearby car parks with shuttles to the venue. NF accommodation booking would be launched in December. The aim was to accommodate all athletes, grooms and vets on-venue but in case this was not completed sufficient accommodation had been reserved in local hotel blocks. A safety and security working party consisting of local, state and federal stakeholders and agencies was meeting monthly.

Quarantine – Plans for horse quarantine were being agreed with USDA. Additional facilities were being constructed on venue and would include capacity for localised exercise/walking-out for horse during quarantine.

NF Subsidy for Driving Athletes – This had been well received by NFs resulting in increased interest currently anticipating approximately 23-24 athletes.

### **23.2. FEI World Equestrian Games 2022**

The President informed the Bureau that the only remaining applicant Samorin had proposed a 2 country/2 venue concept for WEG 2022 (Vienna/Samorin). The applicants were to be invited to present this concept during the Bureau meeting. However despite significant negotiations, the applicant had decided not to proceed. As a result it was propose to re-open the application process on 1 December 2017 with the aim of allocating during the Bureau meeting in November 2018. **(I)**

The Chief Financial Officer was asked to provide a study of FEI WEG costs for Bureau consideration in March 2018 as part of a general discussion regarding the future of WEG. **(T)**

The Bureau agreed to re-open the WEG 2022 applicant process. The Bureau would be consulted in the future regarding any major Host Agreement concessions being negotiated with potential hosts. **(T)**

## **24. FEI CHAMPIONSHIPS & FINALS**

### **24.1. Allocation**

The FEI Championships & Finals allocated by the FEI Bureau were: **(R)**

#### **Jumping:**

Longines FEI Nations Cup™ Jumping Final in Barcelona (ESP) from 4 to 7 October.

#### **Eventing:**

FEI European Eventing Championship for Young Riders & Juniors in Maarsbergen (NED) in July-August (exact date yet TBC).

#### **Vaulting:**

FEI World Vaulting Championship in Flynge (SWE) from 28 July to 2 August.

Additionally, the Bureau allocated the following Series subject to the signature of the Host Agreement:

### **FEI PONIES JUMPING TROPHY 2018**

- Final:

Mechelen (BEL): 26-30 December

- Qualifiers:

Herning (DEN): 18-22 October

Lyon (FRA) 31 October – 4 November

Stuttgart (GER): TBC

### **FEI YOUTH NATIONS CUP 2018**

- Final:

Paris Villepinte (FRA): 23-25 November

- Qualifiers:

Opglabeeek (BEL): 5-8 April

Gorla Minore (ITA): 18—22 April

Fontainebleau (FRA): 3-6 May

Wierden (NED): 30 May – 2 June

Samorin (SVK): 2-5 August

Ciekocinko (POL): 30 Aug – 2 Sep

Chevenez (SUI): 11-14 October

Lamprechtshausen (AUT): TBC

Hagen (GER): TBC

## **25. OLYMPIC / PARALYMPICS GAMES 2020**

### **25.1. Report**

The Olympic & Eventing Director provided an update on the preparation of the Tokyo2020 Olympic & Paralympic Games further to her visit to Tokyo in the beginning of November and followed-up with meetings on results last week with the IOC and the Tokyo Organisers. As referred to by the FEI President in his opening statement, the main focus of the Tokyo2020 OC & IOC further to Agenda 2020 was the reduction of the costs and complexity of the Olympic Games. **(I)**

Tokyo2020 were actively seeking ways to reduce costs and were under much pressure from the Tokyo Metropolitan Government, the entity responsible for providing the main financial support. The difficulty for the IOC and International Federations was to ensure to be involved in any decision of the OC to review any cost cuts and ensure that proposals do not go against the sport. The FEI had confirmed that they were ready to assist and to identify any possible reductions to support the principle to specific actions and this was also the reason for a strong involvement of the FEI already at this stage. With the IOC support several items had been reviewed in the venue to have a more cost-effective and coherent approach and the benchmark was regular FEI championship. **(I)**

The Tokyo2020 Equestrian Sports Director Mr Haruta was very helpful and had a great understanding of the issues and defended well the interest of Equestrian. **(I)**

Ongoing works in the main equestrian venue in Bajikoen were progressing well – the whole riding club was now completely flattened and was being built up again

with the support of JRA (Japanese Racing authority). The Cross Country track was now cleared on the Sea Forest Island. **(I)**

No major issues were reported at this time. **(I)**

## **26. GOVERNANCE**

### **26.1. Governance update**

The President briefly explained the importance of the Governance of International Sports Federation nowadays and refer to the introduction include in the Annex. **(I)**

The Senior Legal Counsel explained the main points of the Annex. **(I)**

The Bureau agreed that more information and tools (such as a self-assessment tool for governance of NFs to create awareness for governance improving) about good governance should be given to NFs. A presentation on Governance was agreed to be given to the NFs during their official meeting with the Bureau. **(I)**

### **26.2. Vision, Mission, Values & Strategic Objectives**

Following on ASOIF Governance Project, ASOIF was asking the International Sport Federations to specify the Vision, Mission, Values & Strategic Objectives and this needed to be published on the website. Based on the FEI Statutes the proposed concepts and definitions were included in the relevant Annex. **(I)**

Comments were given by the Chairs of Jumping, Eventing Committee, of Regional Group II, of Veterinary Committee and of Nominations Committee who agreed that the objectives should also emphasize the exceptional horse and human partnership and the mutual dependence based on respect and trust. **(I)**

The Secretary General thanked the Chairs for their valuable contributions. Headquarters would review the objectives accordingly; these would then be re-submitted to Bureau for approval. **(T)**

## **27. REGIONAL GROUPS & CONTINENTAL STRUCTURE**

### **27.1. EEF Restructure**

The President welcomed the European Equestrian Federation (EEF) representatives Theo Ploegmakers, Sönke Lauterbach and Carina Mayer and highlighted that further to the MOU between the FEI and the EEF that was signed a few years ago, it had been agreed that the FEI would be open to look into the EEF proposal that the EEF President and First Vice-President should automatically become FEI Bureau members and the related restructuring changes. **(I)**

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If proposed changes to the FEI Statutes were to be agreed, then it could be submitted to the 2018 FEI General Assembly, but any proposed changes would first need to be approved by the FEI Bureau. **(I)**

The EEF Representatives made a presentation. **(I)**

The presentation was followed by a number of comments, questions and potential issues to be solved, namely **(I)**:

- Any continental representation as suggested by the EEF and if accepted by the FEI, would not be imposed on the other Continents but would be limited to Europe;
- Will there be a choice for the National Federations that are currently in Group III to remain in such Group or will they be forced to join the EEF if they are in the European Olympic Committees grouping (EOC)? EEF initially suggested in their presentation that the countries should not have the choice and should join the EEF. However, the EEF is willing to find a solution and will come up with a proposal for the in-person Bureau meeting of 28 March 2018.
- What are the consequences for a National Federation being suspended by the EEF (but in good standing with the FEI)? Can such NF vote for the election of the FEI Bureau member (being either for the EEF President or First Vice-President position(s))? Similarly, can such NF submit candidacies for election? From FEI side it was felt that a NF in good standing with the FEI should have the possibility to apply and to vote for their representatives in the FEI Bureau.
- Should the EEF instead agree that the EEF President and EEF 1st Vice President are the only candidates to be put forward to the FEI General Assembly? The EEF representatives responded that they did not want the 2 different Groups anymore and that the 2 representatives should represent Europe, not a specific Group. It was suggested that this could be solved by merging Group I and II and this new Group keeping the two Bureau members.
- Would two systems/structure within the FEI be accepted and how would this be perceived as it would be a mix of Continental representations and Regional Groups representations, so it might be confusing. **(I)**

After the discussion the FEI President concluded that apparently it is acceptable to merge Groups I and II into a European Group and keeping the two Bureau members which would preferably be the President and Vice-President of the EEF. But some important questions raised by the FEI Bureau need to be answered in a way that is satisfactory for the FEI Bureau. For this reason it was agreed by the Bureau that the EEF would be invited to the in-person Bureau meeting of 28

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March 2018 and be given another opportunity to present its proposal and suggest any adjustments as necessary. **(R)**

## **28. MANAGEMENT**

### **28.1. Commercial & Marketing report preview**

A brief update was provided on the implementation of the Commercial and Marketing Strategy, with more details to be presented during the General Assembly. **(I)**

### **28.2. Legal Department**

The FEI Legal Director informed the Bureau that the FEI had been notified of a new complaint with the Belgian Competition Authority (BCA), lodged by Mr Nooren and his daughter. **(I)**

The complaint had been lodged against the FEI, Global Champions Tour and Global Champions League, and the complainants were seeking interim measures and requested that the GCL apply the same invitation rules as the other 5\* Events. **(I)**

It was mentioned to the Bureau that the Headquarters would not respond to the BCA as we believe the BCA has no jurisdiction in this specific case as there is no GCT/GCL Event in Belgium and the complainants are not Belgium citizens. Consequently our position is that the BCA would need to use the legal channels to serve the notification outside of Belgium. The Bureau supports this position. **(I)**

## **29. FEI GENERAL ASSEMBLIES**

The FEI General Assembly 2018 would take place in Bahrain from 16 to 20 November. This was the same time window as in 2017 but a modification by a day was possible as negotiations with hotels were ongoing. **(I)**

## **30. NATIONAL FEDERATIONS**

### **30.1. Membership criteria**

The proposed Guidelines on requirements for applicant NFs to FEI membership have been approved for future applications and would be published on the FEI website. **(R)**

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## **31. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

### **31.1. MOUs**

The Bureau was invited to refer to the Annex, no questions were raised. **(I)**

### **31.2. Provision for financial, litigation and operational risks**

Further to instruction from the Secretary General and the President, the CFO looked into various possibilities for the FEI to self-insure Prize Money for the FEI named competitions in case of payment default from the Organiser. **(I)**

The CFO's proposal was discussed and the Bureau unanimously approved the creation of a Provision for financial, litigation and operational risks in the amount of maximum CHF 2'500'000.- by merging various existing provisions in the balance sheet. **(I)**

The potential release of this provision would be decided by the Executive Board according to the 2015 mandate on proposal from the Secretary General/CFO. **(I)**

## **32. CLOSING**

Regional Group Chairs were invited to provide points for discussion with the Bureau at their earliest convenience. **(I)**

The President thanked all Bureau Members for their participation in the constructive debates and closed the meeting. **(I)**