



FEI™ HYBRID GENERAL ASSEMBLY

ANTWERP, BELGIUM 14-17 NOVEMBER 2021

FEI BOARD MEETING I

Antwerp (BEL), 14 November 2021

The main decisions taken by the FEI Board at its in-person meeting today in Antwerp (BEL) are summarised below:

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Extraordinary General Assembly

As per Article 13 of the FEI Statutes, the Board agreed to reorder points 1 and 2 of the Agenda of the Extraordinary General Assembly, so that proceedings begin with the quorum followed by the opening by the President.

Allocation of FEI Series, Championships & Finals

FEI Championships & Finals 2021

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

FEI Championships & Finals 2023

- FEI European Championship for Ponies, Jumping, Dressage and Eventing – Le Mans (FRA), 27-30 July
- FEI Dressage European Championship for Children and Juniors – Kronberg (GER), 20-23 July.
- FEI Driving World Championship for Ponies Four In Hand/Pairs/Singles - Oirschot (NED), 23-27 August OR 30 August to 3 September (Dates to be confirmed)

The Board also confirmed that the replacement USA Qualifier for the Longines FEI Jumping Nations Cup™ 2022 will take place in San Juan Capistrano, California on 10-15 May 2022.

The Board was informed of FEI Championships and Finals that are still open for bidding. The bid application process for FEI Championships taking place in 2024 ends on 30 November 2021. The list of Championships is available on the [FEI Online Bidding Platform](#).

Covid-19

FEI Medical Committee Chair Dr Mark Hart provided an update on the Covid-19 pandemic, including an overview of recently increased caseloads, particularly in parts of Europe. He stated that although case numbers are increasing dramatically, hospitalisation numbers are not going up. He advised the Board that the Covid-19 virus will eventually become endemic and will be more manageable.

In recent months the FEI Covid-19 policy has moved more into regional restrictions based on local infection rates, and Dr Hart reiterated the need for Event Organisers to work closely with their local health authorities.

Attendees at the FEI Hybrid General Assembly in Antwerp (BEL) must either be vaccinated or tested every day.

Dr Hart also advised on the success of the Covid countermeasures in place during the Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic Games. A total of 1.4 million tests were done across the two Games, with only 364 positives, attributing the low number of positives to the high vaccination levels (93%), strict mask wearing and social distancing policies.

The Board also approved an Emergency Board Resolution (EBR) to temporarily relax the Endurance Rotation of Officials rule (Article 849.3) due to the travel restrictions that are still in place in some countries. The change means that Officials will be able officiate at a single venue for no more than six (previously three) Events per year and for no more than 12 (previously nine) Events in any five-year rolling period.



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National Federations have until 14 December 2021 to signify their disapproval of the Emergency Board Resolution by contacting FEI Director Governance francisco.lima@fei.org

EHV-1

The FEI Veterinary Director informed the Board that there have been no further reports of outbreaks of neurological EHV-1 related to the outbreaks in mainland Europe in March 2021.

A full report on the outbreak is currently being prepared and will be published in three parts. The first part will provide a detailed evaluation of the factors that led to the outbreak, the series of events, causes, responsibilities, follow-up actions and conclusions. This will be published before 21 December 2021.

The second section, which will describe and evaluate the measures that were put in place to ensure a safe return to competition, will be published before the FEI Sports Forum in 2022.

The third section will outline the conclusions from the EHV-1 vaccination review and the suggested way forward for further mitigation of EHV-1 in the future. This section of the report will be presented at the FEI Sports Forum next year.

The FEI Veterinary Department is in the process of commissioning the EHV-1 vaccination study to an independent, world-leading expert in the field.

The University of Barcelona is also conducting a retrospective study based on the clinical and environmental data that was collected on 158 horses in Valencia and two in Barcelona during the outbreak. The FEI veterinary team leader who collected the data and the University of Barcelona researcher will present an update to the FEI Veterinary Department on 1 December. A presentation will also be made to the FEI Veterinary Epidemiology Working Group.

The European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) has been asked by the European Commission (EU DG-Santé) to investigate if certain strains of EHV-1 should be made notifiable under EU legislation. The FEI Veterinary Director has already addressed the risks of introducing this legislation to the European Horse Industry directly with DG Santé.

Governance

The FEI Board granted provisional membership to the Nepal Equestrian Association on 17 February 2021 as it had fulfilled the criteria of the FEI Affiliation Process criteria. The Board agreed to submit the affiliation of NEP NF as an Associate FEI Member (if the Extraordinary General Assembly approves this new category) to the FEI Hybrid General Assembly on 17 November 2021.

Appointment of Technical Committee Members

The Board approved the following appointments to the FEI Technical Committees:

FEI Veterinary Committee

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



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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 FEI Medical Committee for 2021-2025.

FEI Jumping Committee

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

FEI Dressage Committee

The appointment of the FEI Dressage Committee member for the four-year term 2021-2025 to replace outgoing member Andrew Gardner (GBR), will be made after the election of the FEI Dressage Committee Chair at the General Assembly on 17 November.

FEI Eventing Committee

Alec Lochore (GBR) was appointed as a member of the FEI 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 FEI 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 FEI Para Equestrian Committee for the four-year term 2021-2025, replacing outgoing member Katherine Lucheschi (ITA).

Jumping

The Board was updated on proposed amendments to the FEI Jumping Rules, which have undergone a full revision in 2021. Some of the key changes that will be voted on by National Federations at the FEI General Assembly on 17 November 2021 include CSIO and CSI invitation rules, Calendar requirements, saddlery, fines and warnings, dress and protective headgear, the starting order for Grand Prix competitions, and Officials.

An important amendment to the FEI Jumping Rules that will be voted on by National Federations at the FEI General Assembly is the change on time penalties under which exceeding the time allowed in all elements of all competitions run under Table A rules will incur one penalty for each commenced second over the time allowed.

The Board approved the National Federation of Portugal hosting two CSIOs in 2022:

- CSIO3* Lisbon, 25-29 May (part of the Longines EEF Jumping Nations Cup™ Series); and
- CSIO3* Vilamoura, 17-20 November.

The FEI Board also approved clarifications and modifications to the Rules of the following series: Longines FEI Jumping Nations Cup™ Series, Longines FEI Jumping Nations Cup™



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EEF Series, Major League Show Jumping Series, FEI Jumping Ponies' Trophy 2022, FEI Children's Classics 2022 and the Cavaliada Tour Rules 2022.

The Board postponed approval of the Rules for the Global Champions Tour League and the Global Champions League Series following further clarification from the Organisers on prize money and Events that will be part of the Series.

All Series Rules will be published on the FEI website [here](#) in due course.

Dressage

The Board was updated on proposed minor modifications to the FEI Dressage Rules that will be voted on by National Federations at the FEI General Assembly on 17 November 2021. Due to the postponement of the Tokyo Olympic Games, a full Rules revision was delayed by 12 months and will now take place during 2022, with the amended Rules being presented for voting at the FEI General Assembly next year.

The Board approved amendments to the FEI Dressage World Cup™ Rules for the Western European, North American and Pacific Leagues, seasons 2022-2023, and the FEI Dressage Nations Cup™ Rules for 2022.

The Series Rules will be published in due course on the FEI website [here](#).

Para Dressage

The Board was updated on proposed minor modifications to the Para Dressage Rules, which will be voted on at the FEI General Assembly. These include revisions to the conditions of participation, as well as equipment and compensating aids. Due to the postponement of the Paralympic Games, a full Rules revision was delayed by 12 months and will now take place during 2022, with the amended Rules being presented for voting at the FEI General Assembly next year.

Eventing

The Board was updated on proposed minor modifications to the FEI Eventing Rules, which will be voted on by National Federations at the FEI General Assembly on 17 November 2021.

Endurance

The Board confirmed allocation of the FEI Endurance World Championship to Verona (ITA) following confirmation that all concerns raised subsequent to the test event and a further site visit on 20 October have all now been addressed by the Organising Committee.

The Board was informed on the proposed minor rule changes for Endurance, which will be voted on by National Federations at the FEI General Assembly on 7 November 2021.

Driving & Para Driving

The Board was briefed on the key areas that the FEI Driving & Para Driving Committee focused on during the full Rules revision process for the two disciplines. The main proposals include new formats to make Driving & Para Driving easier to understand and revisions to athlete qualification requirements for Athletes for Championships. As with all proposed modifications to the discipline Rules, these will be voted on by National Federations at the FEI General Assembly on 17 November 2021.



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Vaulting

The Board was updated on the full revision of the FEI Vaulting Rules, aimed at harmonising the sports Rules with other disciplines. Proposed changes include the creation of more attractive Championship formats and the inclusion of a new individual Championship category for Young Vaulters. The Rules amendments will be voted on by National Federations at the FEI General Assembly on 17 November 2021. Subject to General Assembly approval, the revised scoring system for the Artistic Score will be tested in 2022 prior to implementation in 2023.

The Board approved the FEI Vaulting World Cup™ Final Rules 2023, including a modification that will now see all CVI3*, CVIO4*, Championships and Masterclasses automatically count for World Cup Standing points and will not require Organisers or National Federations to request inclusion on the list separately. This is to ensure that Vaulters worldwide get opportunities to earn Standing points.

Reining

The Board maintained its decision to request the FEI General Assembly to remove Reining as an FEI Discipline. This will be put to the vote on 17 November 2021.

Veterinary Matters

The Board was updated on proposed changes to the FEI Veterinary Rules that will be voted on by National Federations at the FEI General Assembly on 17 November 2021. These include allowing stabling outside FEI stables under certain conditions for lower level FEI Events in Driving and Eventing. Proposals also include new and risk-based rules to improve the control of biosecurity measures at FEI Events. Other changes are aimed at ensuring harmonisation with all the sports discipline rules.

International Horse Sports Confederation

The Veterinary Director updated the Board on developments on EU Animal Health Law, Brexit, the African Horse Sickness (AHS) outbreak in Thailand, AHS vaccines and several regional projects in cooperation with the OIE in FEI Groups V, VI, VII and VIII.

FEI President Ingmar De Vos, who is currently President of the International Horse Sports Confederation (IHSC), will be passing the baton next year to Winfried Engelbrecht-Bresges, President of the International Federation of Horseracing Authorities (IFHA).

FEI Sports Forum 2022

The FEI Sports Forum 2022 will be held in Lausanne (SUI) on 25 and 26 April 2022 and there will be a special celebration event for the FEI Centenary on 26 April.

The Board were advised of the sessions for the FEI Sports Forum 2022: Olympic and Paralympic Games Regulations and Olympic Minimum Eligibility Requirements; FEI Event Standards; Grooms Working Group; full Rules revision of Dressage, Para Dressage and Eventing; Biosecurity and disease risk mitigation; FEI Social Media strategy and how to create synergies among the various stakeholders.



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Olympic & Paralympic Games

The Discipline Chairs advised the Board about feedback received on the qualification systems for each of the Olympic disciplines. Further discussions on the qualification systems for the Paris 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games will take place during Session on FEI Rules and Regulations on 16 November.

The Veterinary Director informed the Board of positive changes to transport and quarantine requirements for FEI Group III and EEF, which should allow for greater freedom of movement for countries looking to attend Qualifying Events over the next couple of years.

The Board was also informed about the letter from the IOC Sport Director on the Equestrian formats at the Olympic Games Paris 2024. In the letter the IOC Sports Director reflected on the positive results of the changes made by the FEI to the Tokyo 2020 Olympic qualification system and competition formats.

FEI Commercial Director Ralph Straus reported that, as with all sports, broadcast viewership was reduced, but equestrian sport rated high in terms of digital engagement, reach and video views during the Olympic and Paralympic Games. The FEI was ranked consistently within the top 10 International Sports Federations on digital platforms, according to IRIS and RedTorch reports. The IOC will publish its official broadcast and social media figures for all sports in the Olympic programme before the end of the year.