FEI RIO 2016 OLYMPIC & PARALYMPIC GAMES - Update VIII

10 June 2016

The aim of this Update is to keep you regularly informed of matters relating to the Rio 2016 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

This Newsletter is sent to all National Federations affiliated to the FEI, participating NOCs & NPCs, Rio 2016 OC’s Equestrian Sport Team, FEI RIO 2016 appointed TDs, other stakeholders involved in the Rio Olympic Games and FEI Headquarters.

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ZIKA VIRUS AND THE OLYMPIC AND PARALYMPIC GAMES RIO 2016

WHO (World Health Organisation) recognises that athletes and visitors are seeking more information on the risks of Zika and ways to prevent infection while attending the Olympic and Paralympic Games Rio 2016. Please read their recommendations. The IOC is following the WHO’s advice on this matter.

Please also refer to the FEI dedicated page on Zika virus.

IOC ANTI-DOPING RULES APPLICABLE TO THE OLYMPIC GAMES

During the period of the Rio 2016 Olympic Games (24 July - 21 August 2016), the IOC will have In-Competition and Out-of-Competition Testing authority over all athletes entered in the Games. The IOC’s Anti-Doping rules for the Olympic Games Rio 2016 will apply. Please read more.

ATHLETES ANTI-DOPING

A page dedicated to Rio is available on the Human anti-doping section of the FEI’s website.

In the run-up to Rio we ask NFs/NOCs to make sure that their athletes going to the Games are aware of their anti-doping rights and responsibilities and do not take prohibited substances unless they hold a valid TUE.

Unless they are already receiving education from their National Anti-Doping Organisation (NADO), all athletes are invited to complete WADA’s ALPHA online education programme and all coaches/Chefs d’Equipe to go through WADA’s Coach True programme, which are available here.

NFs/NOCs whose country does not have a testing/education programme for equestrian athletes are invited to contact Catherine Bollon at the FEI if they are sending athletes to Rio.

The fight against doping is a top priority for the IOC which has established a zero-tolerance policy. Please read the IOC Executive Board’s statement of 1 June 2016 for an update on the IOC’s anti-doping programme for Rio, including the pre-Olympic testing programme and the sample re-testing programme.

HAY FOR THE OLYMPIC AND PARALYMPIC GAMES

Further to the previous information regarding Kentucky Equine Research (KER) contracted by Rio 2016 as the official feed, forage and bedding supplier for the Rio 2016 Olympic and Paralympic games, some clarifications need to be given, after KER meeting with SEFAG.
All feed mixes will be allowed providing

1) They contain no animal protein (stated in Olympic Normative)
2) They contain no biologicals (stated in Olympic Normative)
3) They contain no unprocessed forage material (not stated in Olympic Normative)

According to these other Normatives, if forages are processed adequately (fermented like haylage, heat treated, pelleted) then they are allowed, but if they are in a loose form like chaff or hay that has not been heat treated then they are not allowed. Fortunately, most feeds don’t contain this type of unprocessed forage so they will be allowed.

Information about each feed will have to be submitted to SEFAG 30 days in advance of importation and must include a list of ingredients. KER must now supply this list of ingredients to SEFAG for all of the imported feeds. Those that don’t contain animal protein, biologicals or unprocessed forage will be allowed. If a feed containing unprocessed forage or a straight cereal grain is to be allowed, it will need to be submitted for special approval with information about how it was processed.

KER is working with Peden to gather the information needed for the importation of these feeds. KER will reach out to the major feed manufacturers in Europe and the U.S. to gather as much ingredient information as possible. NFs will be notified with the complete protocol.

Regarding the type of forage available, KER’s plan is to have a website published in the coming weeks with all information and each NF will be contacted directly.

**VETERINARY PHYSIOTHERAPY MACHINES**

Please kindly be aware that for the first time, veterinary physiotherapy machines must be approved for use before arriving at the Olympic and Paralympic Games. Information concerning the approval process for veterinary physiotherapy machines can be found on FEI.org. Teams must complete the Approval Application form and return it to the FEI Veterinary Department until 09am on Monday 11 July 2016.

**PRE-ARRIVAL TESTING (PAT)**

Horses competing in the 2016 Rio Olympic Games and Paralympics can be tested for FEI Equine Prohibited Substances through the Pre-Arrival Testing service (PAT). Testing will be carried out by LGC in the United Kingdom. The PAT service is offered on a voluntary basis through the National Federations and for a limited time only before the scheduled arrival dates of horses at the Games’ stables.

The PAT service is available exclusively to the equine athletes listed by the National Federation and entered in the 2016 Rio Olympic Games and Paralympics as of 21 June 2016 - the day after the closing date for Nominated Entries. All information concerning PAT can be found on FEI.org, submission forms will be available on this webpage from 10 June 2016.
FEI REGULATIONS FOR EQUESTRIAN EVENTS AT THE OLYMPIC GAMES RIO 2016

The following article has been corrected for consistency (tying mistake) to avoid misunderstanding.

Article 627 – RULES FOR THE DRESSAGE COMPETITIONS
3.3. Grand Prix Freestyle test - Individual Final Competition
The FEI Grand Prix Freestyle test is the Final Individual Competition which is limited to and compulsory for the 18 best placed Athletes of the FEI Grand Prix Special Competition, including those who tie for eighteenth (18th) place.

As per the International Olympic Committee Charter a maximum of three (3) Athletes per country may participate in the Grand Prix Freestyle. In case four (4) Athletes from one country are within the top thirty two (32) eighteen (18) Athletes in the Grand Prix Special, the three (3) best placed in the Grand Prix Special will participate in the Grand Prix Freestyle test. (...)

The document has been updated and posted on FEI.org.

FINAL ENTRIES AND CERTIFICATES OF CAPABILITY

Olympic Games

The deadline for Athletes and Horses to achieve the FEI minimum eligibility requirements is 19 June 2016 midnight in the country where the qualification event takes place. NFs qualified to take part at the Olympic Games must send a Certificate of Capability* for all Athletes and Horses nominated, to FEI no later than 20 June 2016 midnight (Swiss time).

*Form provided by the FEI on FEI.org.

Rio 2016 official final entries: 18 July 2016 (Rio Sport Entry deadline)

The deadline for the Rio 2016 Organising Committee to receive these entry forms is: 18 July 2016.

By this date, NOCs must provide entries by name on a form entitled "Sports Entry Form" directly to OCOG with a copy to the FEI. These entries will include the Athletes and Horses having reached the minimum eligibility standards from countries having achieved qualification according to the procedure established by the FEI and approved by the IOC.

All qualifications must have been previously confirmed by the FEI as per above.

Paralympic Games

The deadline for Athletes and Horses to achieve the FEI minimum eligibility requirements is 19 June 2016 midnight in the country where the qualification event takes place. NFs qualified to take part at the Olympic Games must send a Certificate of Capability* for all Athletes and Horses nominated, to FEI no later than 20 June 2016 midnight (Swiss time).

*Form provided by the FEI on FEI.org.
Rio 2016 Official Final entries: 15 August 2016 (Rio Sport Entry deadline)

The deadline for the Rio 2016 Organising Committee to receive these entry forms is: **15 August 2016**.

By this date, NPCs must provide entries by name on a form entitled "Sports Entry Form" directly to OCOG with a copy to the FEI. These entries will include the Athletes and Horses having reached the minimum eligibility standards from countries having achieved qualification according to the procedure established by the FEI and approved by the IPC.

All qualifications must have been previously confirmed by the FEI as per above.

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**OLYMPIC DRESSAGE FREESTYLE MUSIC SUBMISSION FORM**

The IOC requires all Athletes competing in Dressage at Rio 2016 to complete a Olympic Dressage Freestyle Music Submission Form to confirm that they have the appropriate permission to use the music for their Dressage Freestyle routine. The forms (which are in Excel format) have recently been circulated by the IOC to your NOC. The form is also accessible here. The deadline for returning the forms is **1 July 2016**. The deadline for providing amendments and required clarifications is 10 July 2016. The IOC has requested to receive two versions of each form: 1 version completed in Excel format form; and 1 version completed, printed, signed by the Athlete and the NOC and scanned as a pdf.

The FEI requested an extension to the deadline, however, the IOC informed the FEI that it would not be possible.

The IOC confirmed to the FEI that taking into consideration the number of persons and functional areas implied in the process of collecting, compiling, checking and have audited the information to be received from NOCs (including requesting additional information / corrections, and have them audited), it would have been too tight and risky for the IOC to comply with its legal obligation to provide broadcasters with accurate Cuesheets containing all information about the music used for each athlete/team's Freestyle routine.

Therefore, the forms must be submitted no later than 17:00 (CEST / UTC+2) on 1 July 2016 by e-mail to Aine Power (aine.power@fei.org), copying Rio 2016 (tatiana.gutierrez@rio2016.com) and the IOC (cuesheets@olympic.org). The Dressage Freestyle music must be delivered on Friday, 5 August 2016, at the SID (Sport Information Desk) of the Equestrian Centre in digital format (.wav/.mp3) with CD backup.

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**GUIDELINES ON AUTHORISED IDENTIFICATION**

The FEI is working on producing a specific protocol for Equestrian that will be posted on the FEI Olympic dedicated page by the end of June.