

FEI PRESIDENTS SINCE 1921

1921 – 1927	Baron du Teil	(FRA)
1927 – 1929	Colonel G.J. Maris	(NED)
1929 – 1931	Major J.K. Quarles van Ufford	(NED)
1931 – 1935	General Guy V. Henry	(USA)
1935 – 1936	General Baron Max Frh. Von Holzling-Bertstett	(GER)
1936 – 1939	Lt. Col. J.K. Quarles van Ufford	(NED)
1939 – 1946	M. Magnus Rydman	(FIN)
1946 – 1954	General Baron Gaston de Trannoy	(BEL)
1954 – 1964	HRH Bernard, Prince of the Netherlands	(NED)
1964 – 1986	HRH Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh	(GBR)
1986 – 1994	HRH The Princess Royal	(GBR)
1994 – 2006	HRH The Infanta Doña Pilar de Borbòn	(ESP)
2006 – 2014	HRH Princess Haya Al Hussein	(JOR)
2014 -	Ingmar De Vos	(BEL)

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

Baron du Teil (FRA)

FEI President from 1921 to 1927

Baron du Teil became a member of the Société Hippique Française (SHF) in 1879. He was elected to the SHF Bureau in 1886 and served as its President from 1902 to 1933. From 1921 to 1931 he was the first President of the Fédération Equestre Française (French Equestrian Federation). He attended the Military Academy St. Cyr and was promoted to Colonel in World War One. Baron du Teil died on 29 June 1933 in Paris.

General Gerrit Johannes Maris (NED)

FEI President 1927 to 1929

General Gerrit Johannes Maris, was born on 22 September 1868 in Klundert. In 1923 he was one of the founders of the Nederlandsche Hippische Sportbond (Dutch Equestrian Federation). He served as its President from 1923 to 1929. He was President of the Organising Committee for the Equestrian Events at the 1928 Olympic Games. In 1902 he ended in 10th place in the famous Endurance ride at Brussels Ostende. He was promoted to General-Major (Cavalry). General Maris died on 25 July 1938 in Breda.

Jhkr Karel F. Quarles van Ufford (NED)

*FEI President
1929 to 1931 & 1936 to 1939
FEI Vice President
1931 to 1936 & 1939 to 1942*

Jhkr Karel F. Quarles van Ufford was born on the 4 November 1880 in Loosduinen and was President of the Nederlandsche Hippische Sportbond (Dutch Equestrian Federation) from 1929 to 1940. He was a successful competitor in national events in Jumping and Eventing and was a member of the Ground Juries at the Olympic Games of 1924, 1928 and 1936. He was Secretary of the Organising Committee for the Equestrian Events of the 1928 Olympic Games. He was also promoted to Lieutenant-Colonel of the mounted Artillery. Jhkr Quarles van Ufford died on 19 March 1942 in The Hague.

General Guy V. Henry (USA)

*FEI President 1931 to 1935
FEI Vice President 1935 to 1939*

General Guy V. Henry was born on 28 of January 1880 in an army tent in the Red Cloud Indian Territory, Nebraska. He was a member of the US Army team at the 5th Olympic Games in 1912 in Stockholm, where he competed in all three equestrian disciplines and received a bronze medal for Eventing. He was a veteran of three wars and Chief of US Cavalry from 1930 to 1934. General Henry retired in 1947 as Major-General. He was also President of the Organising Committee for the Equestrian Events at the 1932 Olympic Games and was a Member of the Ground Jury for the 1936 Olympic Games. General Henry died on 29 November 1967 in Wenatchee, Washington.

General Baron Max von Holzing-Berstett (GER)

*FEI President 1935 to 1936
Bureau Member 1931 to 1935*

Baron Max von Holzing-Berstett was born on 1 January 1867 in Karlsruhe and had a prominent army career with the Dragoons, the Imperial Guard and the Uhlans. From 1909 to 1914 he served as Aide de Camp to the Emperor. He was promoted to Major-General in World War One. He rode nationally and was influential in shaping the riding style in the Imperial Army. He also served as a member of the Ground Jury at the 1928 Olympic Games. Baron von Holzing-Berstett died on 9 September 1936 in Freiburg.

Magnus Rydman (FIN)

FEI President 1939 to 1946

Mr Magnus Rydman was born on 8 November 1891. He was the Managing Director of the Ford Corporation from 1936 to 1956 and President of National Federation of Finland from 1935 to 1946 and again from 1948 to 1952. He was a member of the Finnish National Olympic Committee from 1938 to 1953 and was elected as President of the FEI at the last FEI Congress before World War II, on 4 April 1939. Magnus Rydman died on 3 June 1970 in Helsinki.

Baron Gaston de Trannoy (BEL)

***FEI President 1946 to 1954
FEI Vice President 1936 to 1942
Bureau Member 1932 to 1936***

Baron Gaston de Trannoy was born on 18 October 1880. He had an army career in the Guides and was promoted to General. He competed in the 1912 Olympic Games in all three equestrian disciplines and in the 1920 Games placed 7th in Dressage. Baron Gaston de Trannoy was President of the Fédération Royale Beige des Sports Equestres from 1932 to 1954 and was a Member of the Organising Committee for the Equestrian Events in the 1920 Olympic Games. He was also a Member of the Ground Jury at four Olympic Games (1924, 1928, 1936, and 1956). Baron Gaston de Trannoy died on 22 December 1960 in Villers-la-Ville.

Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands (NED)

***FEI President 1954 to 1964
Bureau Member 1964 to 1967***

Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands was born on 29 June 1911 in Woynowo, Mark Brandenburg. In 1937 he married Princess (later Queen) Juliana of the Netherlands. He spent two years at the Netherlands Cavalry School training in Dressage and Jumping. He was an active competitor nationally and internationally in Jumping, Dressage and Eventing and was a member of the Dutch National Jumping Team in Le Zoute. At several Olympic Games he served as a Member of the Appeals Jury. He was for many years, President of the World Wildlife Fund.

Prince Philip The Duke of Edinburgh (GBR)

FEI President 1964 to 1986

Prince Philip The Duke of Edinburgh was born on 10 June 1921 in Corfu, Greece. In 1947 he married Princess (later Queen) Elizabeth. He was educated in Great Britain and was active in cricket, hockey, rowing and sailing and had a naval career from 1939 to 1951, where he served as Lieutenant-Commander. The Prince was an excellent polo-player and took up Four-in-hand Driving when it became an FEI discipline in the early seventies. He competed at six World and three European Championships and placed sixth individually in the 1982 World Championships. He was a Member of the British gold medal team at 1980 World Championships and a member of the British bronze medal teams at the 1978, 1982 and 1984 World Championships. Prince Philip was President of the World Wildlife Fund.

The Princess Royal GCVO (GBR)

FEI President 1986 to 1994

The Princess Royal GCVO, was born in 1950 and is the daughter of Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, President of the FEI from 1964 to 1986. Riding since the age of 3 the Princess rode in her first Eventing competition in 1970. She was the European Eventing Champion in 1971 at Burghley on Doublet and was a Member of the silver medal team and 2nd individually in the European Championships in 1975 at Luhmühlen on her mount Goodwill.

She also competed in the 1973 European and the 1974 World Championships and in the 1976 Olympic Games. She was President of the British Olympic Association (NOC). The Princess is the Patron of Riding for the Disabled, President of Save the Children Fund since 1970, and Patron of the World Breeding Federation Sport Horses.

HRH The Infanta Doña Pilar de Borbòn (ESP)

FEI President 1994 to 2006

H.R.H. the Infanta Doña Pilar de Borbòn, Duchess of Badajoz, daughter of Their Royal Highnesses the Count and Countess of Barcelona, was born in 1936 and subsequently resided in Italy, Switzerland and Portugal. In Portugal, she obtained her nursing diploma and practised her profession for three years in various hospitals. She speaks six languages fluently. She is actively involved in several charities: Red Cross, Friends of the Monasteries, Foundation for the Defense of Life, Nuevo Futuro, Action Aid, Foundation for Investigation and Training in Oncology, as well as other institutions of cultural interest; she is Honorary President of the Spanish Equestrian Federation and Member of the Spanish Olympic Committee.

From an early age, she has been involved with equestrian activities together with her mother and brothers. During her youth in Portugal, she took part in various local horse shows. In Spain, she presided and promoted Eventing for beginners as well as numerous other equestrian events.

Her Royal Highness was elected member of the International Olympic Committee in 1996.

HRH Princess Haya Al Hussein (JOR)

FEI President 2006 – 2014

HRH Princess Haya became the 13th FEI President on 1 May 2006 on the basis of a Manifesto she presented to the General Assembly and was re-elected to serve a second term in November 2010. Many important developments and initiatives have come to fruition since Her election, from the commercial aspects of sponsorship and broadcasting, to the far reaching campaigns of Clean Sport and FEI Solidarity. The inauguration of the FEI Headquarters in Lausanne, the HM King Hussein I Building, donated by HRH Princess Haya in April 2011 is the most tangible phase of a construction process that has taken place since Her election which has seen the FEI expand its team of professionals and improve the services it owes to the global equestrian community.

HRH Princess Haya has been an IOC member since 2007 and has served on the IOC Athletes' Commission (2005-2010) and on the Commission for Culture and Olympic Education. In June 2010 She became a Global Patron for the World Academy of Sport.

At age 13, HRH Princess Haya was the first female to represent Jordan internationally in equestrian sport in Jumping. She won an Individual Bronze Medal in the Pan-Arab Equestrian Games in 1992, and is the only female ever to have won a Pan-Arab medal in equestrian sport. In 2000, HRH Princess Haya fulfilled a lifelong dream by competing at the Sydney Olympic Games in Jumping and two years later, competed for Jordan in the FEI World Equestrian Games™ in Jerez, Spain, making Her the first Arab woman to qualify for and compete in equestrian sport at Olympic, world and continental championship level.

Ingmar De Vos (BEL)***FEI President since 2014***

On 14 December 2014 at the FEI General Assembly held in Baku (AZE), Ingmar De Vos (BEL) was elected President of the Fédération Equestre Internationale (FEI) in a contested election by an overwhelming majority in the first round of voting, earning 98 votes out of a possible 131. Four years later, at the FEI General Assembly in Manama (BRN) on 20 November 2018, the Belgian native stood unopposed and was unanimously re-elected for another four year term, where he pledged to build on the success of his first term in office.

Ingmar De Vos, who was elected as an IOC Member in September 2017, is also a member of the Association of Summer Olympic International Federations (ASOIF) governance taskforce, a member of two IOC Commissions (Legal Affairs and Digital & Technology), and is on the board of the Belgian National Olympic Committee. Early November 2018 he was appointed to the Global Association of International Sports Federations (GAISF) Council and as the GAISF representative on the 12-member World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) Executive Committee, replacing the late Patrick Baumann in both roles. Mr De Vos took up the WADA post on 1 January 2019.

Ingmar De Vos is fluent in Dutch, English and French, holds degrees in political science, business administration and international and European law, and started his career as an advisor to the Belgian Senate. He joined the Belgian Equestrian Federation as managing director in 1990, and held the additional role of Secretary General from 1997 to 2011.

During his time at the Belgian National Federation, De Vos was chef de mission for the Belgian Equestrian Team at all FEI World Equestrian Games™ from 1990 to 2010 and at several Olympic Games. He was also Secretary General of the European Equestrian Federation from 2010, the year the organisation was formed, until 2011, when he joined the FEI as Secretary General.