

## FEI SECRETARY GENERALS SINCE 1921

1921 – 1951	Major Georges Hector	(FRA)
1951 – 1956	Major Roger Moermans d’Emaus	(BEL)
1956 – 1976	Chevalier Henry de Menten de Horne	(BEL)
1976 – 1988	Mr Fritz O. Widmer	(SUI)
1989 – 1995	Mr Etienne Allard	(BEL)
1996 – 2005	Dr Bo Helander	(SWE)
2005 – 2006	Mr Jean-Claude Falciola	(SUI)
2006 – 2007	Mr Michael Stone	(IRL)
2008 – 2011	Mr Alex McLin	(USA-SUI)
2011 – 2014	Mr Ingmar De Vos	(BEL)
2014 -	Mrs Sabrina Ibáñez	(SUI)

## BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

### Major Georges Hector (FRA)

### *FEI Secretary General 1921 to 1951*

Major Hector was born in 1869. He was successful in civilian hunting competitions and was promoted to Cmdt. in World War One. He was instrumental in the creation of the International Equestrian Federation in 1921 and was elected as its first Secretary General. After his retirement in November 1951, he was named Honorary President, Founder of the FEI. Major Hector was President of the Technical Commission for the Equestrian Events at the 1924 Olympic Games and was Technical Delegate of the FEI at the 1928 and 1936 Olympic Games. Major Hector died on the 8 February 1952 in Paris.

### Major Roger Moeremans d’Emaus (BEL)

### *FEI Secretary General 1951 to 1956 Treasurer 1948 to 1956*

Major d’Emaus was born on 12 June 1890 in Dilbeck. He entered the Cavalry in 1914 and retired in 1931 as Commandant. He was recalled in 1939 as Major and was a competitor in both Eventing and Jumping at the 1920 Olympic Games. He placed fourth individually and was a member of the Belgian Bronze Medal Team in Eventing and placed seventh individually in Jumping. Major d’Emaus was Technical Delegate of the FEI at the 1948 Olympic Games. He retired as Secretary General in 1956 for health reasons. Major d’Emaus died on 19 March 1975 in Namur.

**Chevalier Henry de Menten de Horne (BEL)**      ***FEI Secretary General 1956 to 1976***  
***Treasurer 1965 to 1976***

Chevalier Henry de Menten de Horne was born on 7 December 1886. He served with the Guides in both World Wars and was a prisoner of war in Germany for five years. He retired in 1945 as Major. From 1921 until World War Two he was a member of the Belgian Army Jumping Team. In 1936 he competed in Jumping in the Olympic Games where he placed eleventh. In 1954 he was elected President of the Fédération Royale Belge des Sports Equestres and went on to serve for nearly 30 years. He was Technical Delegate of the FEI at the 1964 and 1968 Olympic Games.

**Fritz O. Widmer (SUI)**      ***FEI Secretary General 1976 to 1988***  
***Treasurer 1976 to 1982***

Mr Widmer was born on 28 May 1922. He was an industrialist until 1978. He was Commander of Cavalry Squadron, subsequently Lieutenant Colonel and member of the Swiss Army Staff. He rode until 1960 nationally in all three Olympic equestrian disciplines and internationally in Dressage & Jumping. He was an FEI Judge in Jumping and judged Dressage nationally up to Grand Prix level. Before he was elected Secretary General of the FEI, he served as Central Secretary of the Swiss Equestrian Federation, as its Vice-President.

**Mr Etienne Allard (BEL)**      ***FEI Secretary General 1989 to 1995***

Mr Allard was born on 10 June 1935. Multilingual, he is fluent in French, English, Spanish, Italian and has good languages skills in Portuguese and Dutch. After having spent a year in Switzerland as a Teaching Assistant in Experimental Nuclear Physics at the Nuclear Research Laboratories of the University in Lausanne, his interests turned towards economics, finance and management. He acquired wide experience through his work with different international companies in the United States, Europe and the Middle East from 1962 to 1982, and from 1982 until he joined the FEI with the "Société Générale de Belgique" at the Tanks Group of Companies in London, as their Group Vice Chairman.

**Dr Bo Helander (SWE)**      ***FEI Secretary General 1996-2005***  
***Head of FEI Legal Dept 1995-1996***

Dr Helander was born on 26 March 1943 and speaks Swedish, English, Danish, Norwegian, French, Russian and German fluently. Before becoming FEI Secretary General, he undertook legal studies, subsequently becoming professor of private law at the University of Stockholm, and consultant to several Swedish law-firms. He also worked for the legal department of EFTA in Geneva (SUI) and was Prosecutor and assistant judge in Stockholm. With regards to equestrian activities, Dr Helander was successful in Jumping, and is still active in racing, training and breeding. He was involved in the organisation of the Stockholm Show, part of the Organising Committee of Djursholm, FEI World Equestrian Games™ 1990, as well as the Breeding and Young Horses Championships. He is also a Course Designer as well as International Official Judge and Course Director.

**Jean-Claude Falciola (SUI)**

***Interim FEI Secretary General 2005 - 2006***

Mr Jean Claude Falciola, acted as interim Secretary General from September 2005 to May 2006.

**Michael Stone (IRL)**

***FEI Secretary General 2006 – 2007***  
***FEI Sports Director 2003-2006***  
***Assistant Secretary General &***  
***Sports Development Manager 1998-2003***  
***Sports Development Manager 1997***

Born and raised in Ireland, Michael Stone is a former International Jumping rider. He also rode Eventing and Dressage at a national level. He was the Secretary General of the Equestrian Federation of Ireland from 1987 to 1997. And the Team Manager of the Irish Team during the 1996 Olympic Games in Atlanta and the 1994 FEI World Equestrian Games™ in The Hague. He acted in the same position for the Irish Junior and Young Riders Teams from 1993 through 1996. Before he joined the FEI, he was the Managing Director of his family's horse feed business for five years. In 1998, he became FEI Assistant Secretary General and in 2003 he was appointed to the position of FEI Sports Director.

On 28 August 2006, Michael Stone was approved and appointed the 8<sup>th</sup> Secretary General of the FEI, having occupied the position of Acting FEI Secretary General since 12 May of the same year.

**Alex McLin (USA and SUI)**

***FEI Secretary General 2008 – 2011***  
***Acting FEI Secretary General 2007-2008***  
***FEI General Counsel &***  
***Deputy Secretary General 2006-2007***  
***FEI General Counsel 2005 - 2006***

Alex McLin, who joined the FEI in March 2005, was educated at Duke University, and is a member of the New York Bar. Having previously worked for the World Economic Forum, Mr McLin came to the FEI highly experienced in sports law, governance and management.

**Ingmar De Vos (BEL)**

***FEI Secretary General 2011 - 2014***

Ingmar de Vos has served as Secretary General of the FEI since May 2011. He brought with him a wealth of experience from his positions as Secretary General of the Belgian Equestrian Federation and the European Equestrian Federation. In addition to his duties for the two Federations, Ingmar De Vos organised international Jumping competitions and served as Chef de Mission for the Belgian Equestrian team at World Championships and Olympic Games.

De Vos joined the Belgian federation as managing Director in 1990 and held the additional role as Secretary General from 1978. He is credited with modernising the Federation's management and IT systems. He became Secretary General of the European Equestrian Federation when it was formed in 2012.

De Vos holds degrees in political science, business administration and international law and is fluent in Dutch, English and French.

De Vos was subsequently elected FEI President at the General Assembly 2014 held in Baku (AZE).

**Sabrina Ibáñez (SUI)**

***FEI Secretary General since 2015  
FEI Director of Governance &  
Executive Affairs 2011 - 2014***

Sabrina Zeender was appointed FEI Secretary General in January 2015 following a proposal to the FEI Bureau from FEI President Ingmar De Vos which received unanimous support. Zeender, who first joined the FEI in 1991, was interim Secretary General since De Vos' election to the FEI Presidency on 14 December 2014.

Sabrina Zeender holds a bachelor's degree in Science in Communications and History from Boston University and a diploma in Sociology, Politics and Management of Sport Science from the Universities of Lausanne, Leicester, and Montpellier.

Zeender, who has been with the FEI since 1991, has served as FEI Director, Governance and Executive Affairs since 2011. She has previously held the positions of Human Resources, Finance & Administration coordinator; Sports administrator; and Manager of the Secretary General's office. She left the organisation briefly in 1995 to work in her family's business in the USA, returning to the FEI in 1998.