



Facebook



Twitter



Instagram



YouTube



Spotify



Number 03 - 11 March 2024

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Gender Equality Month

FEI Sports Forum 2024 - Registration now open

FEI appoints new Human Resources Director - Maria Byrne

Non-Rights Holders' Guidelines for Posting Videos from FEI-Named Events

FEI Driving Youth Cup Rule modifications

Longines League of Nations - second leg in Ocala (USA)

FEI Solidarity Grant helps fuel equine careers for women in Cambodia

Paris 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games

FEI Directory

- **Updates to the FEI Database**

Gender Equality Month

With March being Gender Equality month, and the theme of *Invest in Women: Accelerate Progress* marking International Women's Day on 8 March 2024, the spotlight is on providing women with opportunities, resources, and mentorship so they can reach their full potential.

Kicking off the *Inspiring Women* series, are former international Vaulters and sisters, **Joanne Littlejohn and Hannah Eccles**.

See also:

- **International Women's Day: Equestrian's Golden Girls**
- **Ioli's Date with Destiny as she Follows Mum to the Olympics**
- **US Chef d'Equipe Christine Traurig Builds up to Paris**
- **Patricia inspiring Latin America's Talents of the Future**
- **Meet Young Jumping Ace Natalie Dean**

FEI Sports Forum 2024 - Registration now open

We are pleased to inform you that the FEI Sports Forum 2024 will take place in Lausanne (SUI) on 29 and 30 April.

The event will take place at the prestigious **IMD Business School** in Lausanne located within walking distances from the FEI Headquarters and the Mövenpick hotel, the Sports Forum's official hotel. The FEI Sports Forum is open to the worldwide equestrian community.

Registration is now open and is compulsory to attend the Sports Forum.



Further information about the Sports Forum, such as timetable, session documents, and logistics, is available in the dedicated hub [here](#).

FEI appoints new Human Resources Director - Maria Byrne

Maria Byrne has been promoted to the position of FEI Director of Human Resources starting 1 March 2024. Maria, who is highly experienced in this area, has been with the FEI since 2006 and has held various functions in the Human Resources and Administration Department. For the last six years, she has served as the FEI's Senior Manager Human Resources. This has been a period of intense growth for the organisation with the number of staff members more than doubling. Maria contributed significantly to important developments such as the introduction of a time management software, optimising salary processing, and the move to the new FEI Headquarters.

Before joining the FEI, Maria worked in the service and hospitality industry with professional experience in Brazil, Portugal, Switzerland, the USA and China.

Maria Byrne has a Bachelor of Science in International Hospitality Management degree from the renowned Ecole hôtelière de Lausanne along with a Swiss federal diploma of specialist in human resources management.

"We were delighted to promote Maria to the position of Director of Human Resources," FEI Secretary General Sabrina Ibáñez said. "She has a profound knowledge of the organisation, having been with the FEI for 18 years, has excellent qualifications and has been instrumental in contributing to the smooth and efficient management of Human Resources over many years. Further to the planned early retirement of current CFO Claude Praz and the split of the Finance and Human Resources Department into separate entities, Maria has reached a key FEI role, which is a matter of great satisfaction given her talent and track record."

"It is a privilege to be appointed as the Director of Human Resources of the FEI, whose growth I have witnessed over many years," Maria Byrne commented. "I would like to thank the organisation and, more specifically the Secretary General, for entrusting me with this responsibility. I am fortunate to work with a very competent team, and with their help, I look forward to continuing my professional journey, fostering a supportive and inclusive workplace culture with human-centric leadership and work-life balance at its core."

Maria is of Brazilian, Italian and Swiss nationality and is fluent in Portuguese, English, and French.

Non-Rights Holders' Guidelines for Posting Videos

from FEI-Named Events

Following the recent publication of the [updated](#) version of the Non-Rights Holders' Guidelines for Publishing on Social Media at FEI-Named Events, which generated considerable conversation in the media, and questions from Stakeholders, we have produced explanatory notes and a detailed FAQ which are both available alongside the Guidelines on a newly created page:

NRH Guidelines for Posting Videos from FEI-Named Events

Three key misconceptions in the comments we have received so far, which we would like to clarify:

1. **The Guidelines in no way prevent filming and do not stop anyone from capturing images at an event.** They are solely concerned with the [publication](#) of video content on social media, websites & blogs from the field of play at FEI-Named Events by Non-Rights Holders.
2. **The Guidelines are not new, they have been in place for several years and are industry standard in sport** in line with the approach taken by other sporting organisations (e.g. other International Federations, the IOC, IPC).
3. **These Guidelines do not apply to all FEI Events in the Calendar**, but only to FEI-Named Events (see breakdown of FEI-Named Events in Guidelines and FAQ).

We encourage all Stakeholders and members of the public to read these documents and welcome any further questions you may still have: communications@fei.org.

FEI Driving Youth Cup Rule modifications

On 27 February, the FEI Board approved two modifications to the FEI Driving Youth Cup Rules:

1. **Qualification for the Events:** The first edition of the rules stated that athletes must qualify at 2* events to participate in the FEI Driving Youth Cup. However, National Federations have highlighted challenges with this requirement. To address this, the rules have been modified to allow National Federations to select qualified athletes for participation in a youth cup event. This change will provide greater flexibility and potentially increase participation.
2. **Format:** The format of the final of the FEI Driving Youth Cup will now include the possibility to have either one dressage day followed by one combined marathon day, or two days of combined marathon.

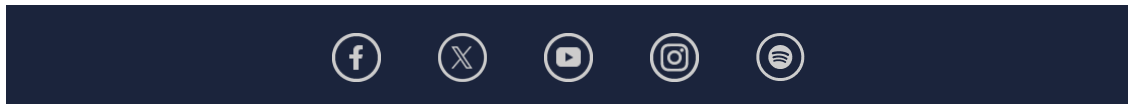
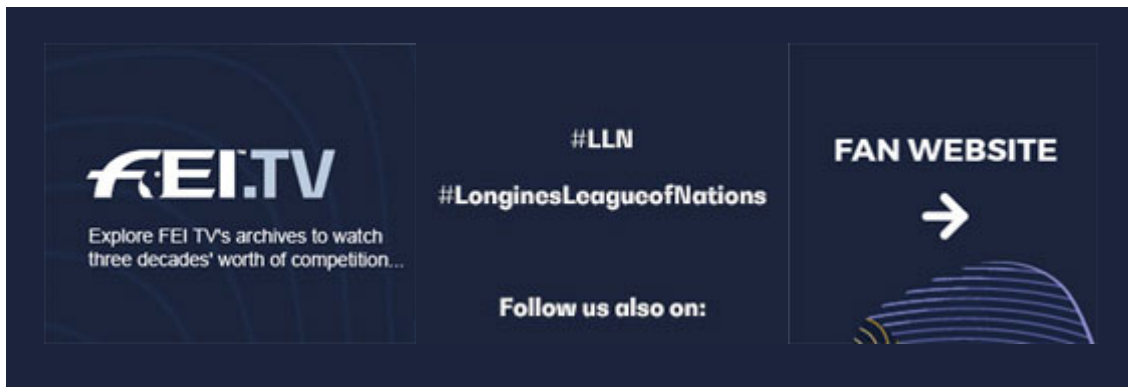
The updated Rules are available [here](#).

Longines League of Nations™ - second leg in Ocala (USA)

An impressive cast of athletes, including eight of the top ten and fifteen of the top twenty riders in the latest world rankings, will be in the starting blocks in Ocala.

Together with their team, they will be aiming not only for victory, but also for precious points in order to qualify for the Longines League of Nations™ 2024 Final in Barcelona (ESP) in early October.

Don't miss a hoofbeat and follow all the action of the Longines League of Nations™ right here:



FEI Solidarity Grant helps fuel equine careers for women in Cambodia

The Cambodian Equestrian Federation (CEF) is set to launch a pioneering vocational training programme in March, aimed at boosting the participation of young women in Cambodia's growing equestrian sector.

Created with the support of a Gender Equality Grant from FEI Solidarity, the primary objective of the programme is to provide comprehensive support and mentorship to women aged 15 to 20, guiding them towards establishing sustainable careers as grooms in stables or riding centres.

Read more [here](#).



Stay up to date on all equestrian events of the Paris 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games by visiting the dedicated **Paris 2024 Hub** where you will find all the relevant information, guidelines and rules, as well as latest news, updates and deadlines.

Each tab opens a dedicated section, and you will find at the end of the table of contents links to the latest Media Updates as well as Department Updates with technical information and reminders regarding upcoming deadlines. This hub is continually being updated, and we include the date of publication for all documents when documents are published and subsequently updated.

Happy scrolling!

FEI DIRECTORY

Updates to the FEI Database

Monthly summary on the key changes/updates in the FEI Database with regards to the FEI's member National Federations. All details can be found on the FEI Database by clicking on each NF's name listed below:

ALG - FEDERATION EQUESTRE ALGERIENNE

Mr Yacine RÉDA BOUKSANI has been elected Secretary General of the Federation.

CRO - CROATIAN EQUESTRIAN FEDERATION

Ms Zdravka POLJAKOVIC has been elected President of the Federation.

Ms Barbara KNEŽEVIC has been elected Secretary General of the Federation.

HON - FEDERACIÓN ECUESTRE DE HONDURAS

Ms Ana Cecilia PASCUA has been elected President of the Federation.

UZB - HORSE BREEDING AND EQUESTRIAN FEDERATION OF UZBEKISTAN

Mr Honsaid KARIMOV has been elected Secretary General of the Federation.

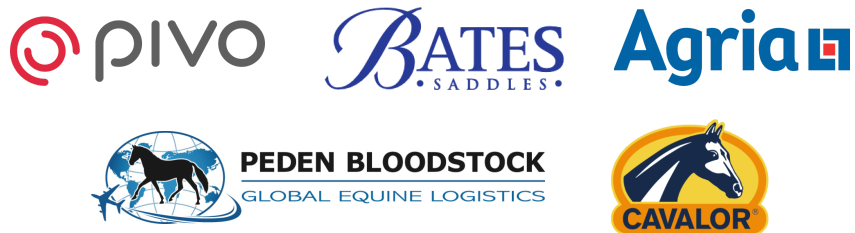
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TOP PARTNER

LONGINES

PARTNERS



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