
Dear National Federations,

Please find below a summary of all comments received from the National Federations (in green colour) on the proposed changes to the Internal Regulations of the FEI that were sent to you on 6 July 2017.

The proposed final text of the relevant Articles is also set out below (in red colour).

The proposed wording set out below has been discussed and approved by the FEI Bureau. FEI Bureau's recommendations can be seen in purple colour.

Yours sincerely,



Mikael Rentsch

FEI Legal Director

Internal Regulations of the FEI:

Proposal received from **the IJRC (International Jumping Riders Club)** on 6 June 2017:

- in order to have a more suitable representative of the Athletes, who is able to give an interesting and professional contribution,
- considering that the Athletes representative will be part of the Technical Committee, Athletes' Commission, FEI Bureau, FEI Executive Board, we think that the voting system and criteria of eligibility need an amendment.

Please take note that we took also in consideration the Statutes of other Ifs (note from FEI HQ: This document available upon request).

In order to change how athletes are elected to the FEI Athletes' Committee, we kindly request an amendment to the Internal Regulations of the FEI (the "IRs").

The article of the IRs which in our opinion would need to be changed is Article 6.9.4:

"6.9.4 Election

One Athlete shall be elected for each Discipline to serve as the Athlete representative on that Discipline's Technical Committee and to ultimately together form the Athletes Committee. These Athlete representatives shall be elected via an online vote by Athletes **who have either competed in the last senior World Championship or Olympic Games registered with the FEI** in the Discipline and included in the respective FEI Ranking List.

To be eligible as a candidate, Athletes must satisfy the following criteria: (i) be at least 18 years of age at the time of the vote; (ii) have either competed in **one of** the last **two** senior FEI World Championships or Olympic Games in the Discipline for which they are seeking election; and (iii) have a clean anti-doping record with respect to both the EADCMRs and the ADRHAs as of April 2010 when the new anti-doping system came into effect; **(iv) be from a country which has competed in Olympics or Weg at least 3 times each.***

Alternatively to the point (ii), the candidate can also be an Athlete proposed by the recognized Athletes associations in agreement with the FEI or that has been active as a rider professional at the highest international level (team CSIO 5*) with 20 years prior to the election date. The candidate can also be a non-active rider, as long as he/she retired within a maximum of five years before the election and can only be re-elected once.

* This condition is requested also from others IFs.

Comments from the FEI Bureau:

We recommend not to approve the proposed changes suggested by the IJRC. However, given the past experience regarding the online elections of the Athletes representatives and the fact that the participation was very low (and the online election procedure considered by some people to be complicated), it is proposed that only athletes who have either competed in one of the last two senior FEI World Championships or Olympic Games in the respective Discipline shall be entitled to vote for their representatives.

This would match what the International Olympic Committee and many other International Federations are already doing.

Athlete representatives shall be elected via online elections which will be open for eight weeks and will finish at the end of the FEI World Equestrian Games™ 2018 (allowing Athletes to vote during the FEI World Equestrian Games™ and obtain technical support in person if needed).

The criteria for athlete candidates will remain the same as currently included in the Internal Regulations of the FEI.

As to the other changes proposed by the IJRC, it is felt that it is not appropriate to only allow candidates from countries which competed in Olympic Games or FEI World Equestrian Games at least 3 times, as the athletes representative shall represent the Athletes, not a country so it is not relevant from which country he/she comes as long as he/she meets the eligibility requirements.

Finally, the FEI Headquarters does not agree with the alternative point that is that the recognized athletes associations (in agreement with the FEI) would propose the athletes representative candidate. Of course the recognized athletes associations such as the IJRC should be free to propose candidates, but any other athletes meeting the eligibility requirements should be entitled to put forward their candidacy.

The FEI Bureau understands that the National Federations and stakeholders may have further suggestions as to the above and will of course duly consider any such other suggestions.

Proposed wording:

6.9.4 Election

One Athlete shall be elected for each Discipline to serve as the Athlete representative on that Discipline's Technical Committee and to ultimately together form the Athletes Committee. These Athlete representatives shall be elected via an online vote which will be open for eight weeks and will finish at the end of the FEI World Equestrian Games™. The persons entitled to vote shall be the ~~by~~ Athletes registered with the FEI who have either competed in one of the last two senior FEI World Championships, Olympic Games or Paralympic Games -in the respective Discipline-and included in the respective FEI Ranking List. In order to be eligible to vote, the Athletes must be at least 18 years old at the time of the vote.

GER NF Comments:

The wording proposed by the FEI Bureau is a step forward.

BEL NF Comments:

To add the Paralympic Games where the Olympic Games is referenced.

USA NF Comments:

The U.S. does not support the IJRC's proposal and does support the FEI's wording but proposes that, in addition to the FEI's proposal, to be eligible to stand for election, "*athletes must have appeared on their respective FEI Ranking List within the last 4 years.*"

FEI Bureau Recommendations:

The FEI Bureau agreed to add the Paralympic Games where the Olympic Games was referenced, but did not agree to add the additional requirement for athletes to be eligible to stand for election.