

Committee name	Veterinary Committee
Date	18.10.2018
Chair	John McEwen

Committee Report

Report of the Veterinary Committee

Meetings

The Veterinary Committee has had two in-person meetings and two phone meetings.

Implementation of the fully revised Veterinary Regulations

The fully revised Veterinary Regulations have been well received and successfully implemented during 2018. Especially worth mentioning is the cooperation with National Federations, Stewards and Official Veterinarians on the introduction of the Supportive Therapies and Permitted Equine Therapists (PETs) that has introduced a since long requested registration and control of the specialized professionals and therapies at FEI events. The rule on non-injection on the day of competition has been very well received by Permitted Treating Veterinarians.

Education

Following 2017s implementation of a new administrative process for veterinary officials courses the Veterinary Department is now also evaluating the Course Directors on site with the objective to further develop the courses. Central course content has been developed and is continuously evaluated and improved for General Courses as well as Endurance Treating Veterinary Courses.

Biosecurity

Several outbreaks of Equine Herpes Virus has occurred during the year and have even led to cancellation of events. The Veterinary Department has monitored the situation in liaison with National Head Veterinarians and other Horse Industry stakeholders and also communicated guidelines. Further to the outbreaks the Veterinary Department has evaluated 6 events from a biosecurity perspective and come to the conclusion that there are multiple needs for improvements to ensure a high level of biosecurity.

A Glanders outbreak in Turkey in 2017 rendered the European Commission to revoke the agreement that allowed horses from Turkey to enter the European Union without having to undergo 6 months of quarantine. The Veterinary Department together with IFHA have supported the Turkish Horse Industry in their successful work to reinstall the agreement.

Equine Infectious Anemia has continued to be a problem in Romania and the lack of updated EU-legislation has complicated the return of competition horses from other EU member states to their home countries. The Veterinary Department has actively been pushing for an update of the EU legislation that will ensure safe movement of horses and a new proposal from the EU Commission is being processed before voting.

Games and Championships

The Veterinary Department has during 2018:

- Been a part of the FEI Headquarters team that was on site before and during the WEG coordinating the Equine Anti-Doping and Controlled Medication Testing, supervising the various FEI veterinary functions and liaising with Federal and State Veterinary Authorities.
- In liaison with the European Commission and Peden Bloodstock advised the Japanese Veterinary Authority on special health requirements for Tokyo 2020.
- In cooperation with the Director of Games and Championship and well supported by the Veterinary Committee carried out pre-studies of climate impact at the Tokyo 2020 venues and onsite at the World Equestrian Games. Furthermore this group has presented advisory material at the FEI Sport Forum and as communication to National Federations on how to optimize performance in challenging climates.

	<p>International Movement of Horses</p> <p>Within the context of the Public-Private Partnership between the International Horse Sport Confederation and the World Animal Health Organisation, OIE the following has been accomplished:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Follow up on previous Workshops for Temporary Regional Movement of Sport Horses with OIE. The results are much varied. - Preparations for 3 more Workshops for Temporary Regional Movement of Sport Horses that are to take place during 2019. - Evaluation of IHSC funded research on traceable vaccine against African Horse Sickness, Glanders diagnostics and Influenza vaccines and vaccination regimes. - Taskforce to determine the industrial capacities and further needs of research and development for a traceable vaccine against African Horse Sickness
	<p>Limb Sensitivity</p> <p>JUMPING - Limb sensitivity Examinations for controlling Hypersensitivity has increased in numbers and is now being carried out also in South America. Three new Examining Veterinarians have been trained and are now active. In close cooperation with the Jumping Director and Jumping Committee Chair new routines have been implemented to further increase the deterrent effect of the examinations.</p> <p>ENDURANCE – The research project on a system for in field control of Hyposensitivity in Endurance Horses has been finalized and is now basis for a proposed rule change that will enable the use of this system from 1 January 2019. A project is being launched for the implementation.</p>
	<p>Global Endurance/Eventing Injury Study (GEIS)</p> <p>The successful cooperation with Glasgow University has been extended two more years. The research team has delivered world class statistics that has been instrumental for rule changes in Endurance as well as advice during the World Equestrian Games.</p>