



MINUTES
FEI ONLINE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
23 November 2020

Approved
by the FEI General Assembly 2021

ATTENDANCE LIST**FEI BOARD**

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Mark Samuel	VP/Chair Group IV
Jack Huang	VP/Chair Group VIII
Maria Gretzer	Chair Athletes
Brian Mangan	Chair Audit & Compliance
Stephan Ellenbruch	Chair Jumping
Frank Kemperman	Chair Dressage
Karoly Fugli	Chair Driving
David O'Connor	Chair Eventing
Jennifer Hall	Chair Veterinary
Armagan Ozgorkey	Chair EEF Group
Theo Ploegmakers	Chair EEF Group
Marina Sechina	Chair Group III
Carmen Barrera	Chair Group V
Luiz Roberto Giugni	Chair Group VI
Sami Al Duhami	Chair Group VII
Mary Binks	Chair Group IX

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Sabrina Ibáñez	Secretary General
Francisco P. Lima	Director Governance & Institutional Affairs
Barbara Rodel	Executive Assistant, President's office
Grania Willis	Director, Communications
Vanessa Martin	Senior Manager, Communications
Bettina de Rham	Director, Dressage, PE, Reining & Vaulting
Frank Spadinger	Director, Education & Officials
Manuel Bandeira de Mello	Director, Endurance & Driving
Catrin Norinder	Director, Eventing & Olympic
Jacqueline Braissant	Director, Solidarity
Claude Praz	Director, Finance
Tim Hadaway	Director, Games Operations
Gaspard Dufour	Director, Information & Sports Technology
Deborah Riplinger	Deputy Director, Jumping
Mikael Rentsch	Director, Legal
Aine Power	Deputy Director, Legal
Göran Akerström	Director, Veterinary

STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS (NON-BOARD MEMBERS)

Amanda Bond	Chair Para Equestrian
John Eccles	Chair Vaulting
Nyla Stössel	Chair Nominations Committee
Sven Friesecke	Chair Reining
Mark Hart	Chair Medical

FEI TRIBUNAL

José Alfonso Rodríguez	Chair FEI Tribunal
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NATIONAL FEDERATIONS PRESENT

Othmane Benslimane	ALG
Fahima Sebiane	ALG
Janie Easton	ANT
Gregorio Werthein	ARG
Cesar Lopardo Grana	ARG
Leonardo Madcur	ARG
Andrew Hamilton	AUS
Chris Webb	AUS
Lyn Chow	AUS
Dietrich Sifkovits	AUT
Elisabeth Max-Theurer	AUT
Catherine Ramsingh-Pierre	BAH
Bonnie Davis	BAH
Monique Archer	BAR
Laura Smith	BAR
Wendy Laeremans	BEL
Stephan Detry	BEL
Jaime Masters McDowell	BER
Alesia Machulskaya	BLR
Natallia Rubashko	BLR
Rodrigo Bedoya	BOL
Benjamin Maekopo	BOT
Dalene Maree	BOT
Ronaldo Bittencourt Filho	BRA
Carla Rosana De Paula	BRA
Sandra Smith De Oliveira	BRA
Ghaleb Alalawi	BRN
Khalid Hasan	BRN
Teodor Sheytanov	BUL
Kroum Rachkov	BUL
Mona Tep	CAM
Nanda-Devi Norodom	CAM
Yves Hamelin	CAN
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Megan Krueger	CAN
Eve Van Den Bol	CAY
Victor Rios	CHI
Felix Halcartegaray	CHI
Guowei Zhong	CHN
David Hou	CHN
Cheick Bamba	CIV
Stéphane Ouegnin	CIV
Jean-Michel Turlot	COD
Santiago Lizarralde	COL
Rosario Garcia De Martinez	COL
Hannia Wolf	CRC
Rocio Echeverri	CRC
Polyvios Polyviou	CYP
Bohumil Rejnek	CZE
Jiri Strejcek	CZE
Ulf Helgstrand	DEN
Gloria Vinueza De Cuesta	ECU
Hesham Hatab	EGY
Hanan El Derini	EGY
Alejandro Gonzalez	ESA
Ricardo Salazar	ESA
Venancio Garcia Ovies	ESP
Marti Hääl	EST
Riina Pill	EST
Quentin Simonet	FRA
Iain Graham	GBR
Bakar Gachechiladze	GEO
Soenke Lauterbach	GER
Breido Graf Zu Rantzau	GER
Constanze Winter	GER
George Dimaras	GRE
Juan Manuel Melgar	GUA
Edgar Roberto Melgar	GUA
Ka Fung Angela Kong	HKG
Raja Rajan	HON
Karen Atala	HON
Dorottya Stróbl	HUN
Zita Klinger	HUN
Dr. Adinda Yuanita	INA
Triwatty Marciano	INA
Jaiveer Singh	IND
Mohammad Kazemian	IRI
Delaram Esmaeili	IRI

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Joe Reynolds	IRL
Avalon Everett	IRL
Haider Ali	IRQ
Mahmood Alameri	IRQ
Ken Lalo	ISR
Amichai Alperovich	ISR
Lee Frawley	ISV
Regine Fitzner	ISV
Simone Perillo	ITA
Marco Di Paola	ITA
Andrea White	ITA
Denise Avril	JAM
Betty Wates	JAM
Christina Abu-Dayyeh	JOR
Hrh Princess Alia Al Hussein	JOR
Kimihiro Okubo	JPN
Yuri Yagi	JPN
Leonid Zimarev	KAZ
Anuar Malik	KAZ
Louise Collette	KEN
Diana Smit	KEN
Sadyr Mamytov	KGZ
Sergey Buikevich	KGZ
Benjamin Duk Jae Kern	KOR
Ryan(Sewoong) Han	KOR
Hh Prince Abdullah Bin Fahad Bin Abdullah Al Saud	KSA
Hrh Princess Dilayl Bint Nahar Al Saud	KSA
Anas Hassan	KSA
Hussam Zummit	LBA
Gintarė Šakytė	LTU
Alvija Gražulytė	LTU
François Thiry	LUX
Paul Engel	LUX
Christian Ramarojaona	MAD
Josuah Andriamahefazafy	MAD
Badre Fakir	MAR
Nadia Chahbi	APR
Mou Soon Yap	MAS
Syed Omar Almohdzar	MAS
Alexandru Tuchak	MDA
Daniela Garcia Nigaglioni	MEX
Batbayar Shurenchuluun	MGL
Tselmuun Manlaijav	MGL
Robert Blazhevski	MKD
Marco Danese	MON

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Bertrand De Coriolis	MRI
Brigitte Mathias	NAM
Lien De Wit	NAM
Iris Boelhouwer	NED
Hidde Frankena	NED
Tore Sannum	NOR
Beate Heieren Hundhammer	NOR
Kjell Myhre	NOR
Vicki Glynn	NZL
Dana Kirkpatrick	NZL
Al Sayyid Munther Saif Al Busaidi	OMA
Ahmed Saif Al Abri	OMA
Amer Munawar	PAK
Farooq Ahmad	PAK
Anamae Orillac	PAN
Maria Eugenia Arosemena	PAN
Leticia Diaz Benza	PAR
Andrea Zuccolillo	PAR
Pedro Ruiz Hurtado	PER
Martin Butron Castillo	PER
Michelle Barrera-Juban	PHI
Israa' Juma'ah	PLE
Zbigniew Lukasz Jankowski	POL
António Frutuoso De Melo	POR
Mildred Colon	PUR
Roxana Royo	PUR
Ahmed Bedoui	QAT
Abid Salim Khan Tarin	QAT
Marilena Mladin	ROU
Claudiu Selistean	ROU
Willem Edeling	RSA
Wessel Strauss	RSA
Maxim Kretov	RUS
Olga Kogan	RUS
Elena Terekhova	RUS
Ibrahima Wade	SEN
Papa Seck	SEN
Monique Heah	SGP
Polona Rifelj	SLO
Rok Vadnjal	SLO
Sergio Michelotti	SMR
Nayla Stoessel	SUI
Sandra Wiedmer	SUI
Zuzana Baciak Masarykova	SVK

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FEI GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Annika Tjernström	SWE
Ulf Brömster	SWE
Glenda Warburton	SWZ
Nara Ketusingha	THA
Harald Link	THA
Linda Yi-Ju Chen	TPE
Patrice Stollmeyer	TRI
Gabrielle Marhue	TRI
Maher Berrachid	TUN
Atif Bülent Bora	TUR
Sabri Murathan Batur	TUR
Iuliia Parkhomenko	UKR
Guillermo Lockhart	URU
Lucia Chieza	URU
William Moroney	USA
Will Connell	USA
Tom O'mara	USA
Gamil Bisher	YEM
Yasir Nassar	YEM
John Paton	ZAM
Sam Smit	ZAM
Fiona Teede	ZIM

MoU Signatories representatives

N/A

FEI GUESTS

N/A

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Key:**I** = Information/Discussion/Details**R** = Resolution/Decision**T** = Task

1. OPENING BY THE PRESIDENT

The FEI President opened the session with the following welcome message:

"Your Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen, dear friends and colleagues,

Welcome to the FEI Online General Assembly 2020!

As you can see, I am here in Switzerland at the FEI Headquarters with our Secretary General Sabrina Ibáñez at my side and with our dedicated GA team, with all the recommended Covid-19 measures in place and socially distanced of course.

In the building, we also have most of the Directors and Heads of Departments, so that they are also available to answer any questions that may arise.

We are a long way from South Africa, our original host for the FEI General Assembly 2020. But we are here together, and we have a viable solution. So, before I go any further, I want to thank the South African Equestrian Federation for their flexibility in these difficult times, and for their willingness to postpone their invitation to welcome us next year for the FEI General Assembly 2021. I believe I speak for everyone when I say we are really looking forward to it, especially as we will also be celebrating 100 years of the FEI in 2021!

Now back to 2020, and this extraordinary online edition. As always, and in a spirit of good governance, this GA is being livestreamed for all stakeholders and members of the public. For our regular participants such as member National Federations, FEI Board Members and Technical Chairs, we have arranged special access rights so that they may interact as they usually would.

This is not the ideal scenario and it certainly does not replace an in-person GA. But it does the job and importantly it allows our members to exercise their statutory right and have their say on the future of the sport.

This year has been incredibly difficult for everyone, both personally and professionally, disrupting every part of our day-to-day lives. We are still in the midst of a global pandemic and the sport we are all so dedicated to, continues to suffer, as do the many industries connected to the equestrian world. But this is also why we are here – to rebuild. And I firmly believe in our systems, our processes, and importantly in the global equestrian community.

Dialogue, communication and transparency are key, and this year there is no doubt we have had to compromise when it comes to our usual platforms such as the Sports Forum, our annual in-person Committee and Board Meetings and now the General Assembly.

However, we have found solutions to the restrictions we have faced when it comes to the decision-making process. And I am confident we have the very best conditions for today's important meeting. Remote may be the new norm, but we tried to recreate the General Assembly week as best we could virtually. This is why we also offered the possibility to have virtual Regional Group Meetings and why we maintained Rules Sessions. It was really good to have seen so many of you during the Group meetings and to have a real interaction. It was also reassuring to see our family in such an upbeat and constructive mood.

I am grateful and would like to thank all our National Federations for their time and their dedication throughout this GA process. Your commitment ensures we can take the important decisions we need to make as a community.

We have kept the agenda for this virtual GA as simple and efficient as possible – although there are still 39 points to get through! And, we also made a conscious choice to focus on the decisions we have to take from a statutory perspective. As you have seen in the agenda, and in order to be efficient, we will - for specific reports and points - simply refer to the annexes that were provided to National Federations on 26 October and that are publicly available on the FEI General Assembly 2020 hub. And when it comes to questions and voting, we have grouped these in sections, so that we maintain momentum and therefor present a set of topics and at the end of each section, we open the floor to questions and then voting.

Although today's General Assembly is virtual, there are still some important decision to be made

Some are based around rules revisions and changes. This includes a big review of our Anti-Doping regulations for both human and equine athletes. Despite the covid-19 restrictions, we have had a thorough consultation process dating back to the online Sports Forum earlier this year and more recently with the Sessions on Saturday.

Today, there will also be some important elections for FEI Board positions. And further to the statutory changes we approved last year, the Chairs of the Vaulting, Para Equestrian and Medical Committees will be elected for the first time by the GA and will become full Board Members.

Regretfully, we also have to ask you today, in accordance with the FEI Statutes, to ratify the UAE NF suspension. This is not a decision the FEI Board took lightly, and we do not expect our members to take it lightly either. It is unfortunate that we have had to resort to the suspension of a National Federation, but the FEI Board was resolute and unanimous in its assessment of the case. As a community, we cannot and we should not allow individual NFs to apply the rules only as and when it suits them. Especially when it comes to integrity and horse welfare. In the meantime, the Court of Arbitration for Sport has confirmed a suspension of three months for all disciplines and considerable fines, and we will ask you today to ratify the suspension based upon the decision of CAS. As a chain, we can only be as strong as the weakest link and with your support, I do hope this suspension will drive change within the Federation and give rise to a new era for Endurance in the UAE equestrian community.

Regarding the Reining discipline, we will not take any decision today. As you know, even after tireless efforts, we were unable to come to an agreement with NRHA to split the market and to allow the FEI to respect its statutes and to be the sole governing body for a viable part of the Reining discipline. We will continue to work with the FEI Reining Committee and the relevant National Federations to see how we can preserve the legacy of FEI Reining for the future. And we will report on this in the months to come.

Before we delve into the proceedings and the voting, I do want to take a moment to address Covid-19, the repercussions on our sport, and the power of a unified front.

At the start of 2020, before the pandemic, we expected to have around 4,800 Events on the international calendar, which is in line with our 2019 figures.

In reality, and as a result of Covid-19, nearly 60% of those Events have since then been cancelled or postponed, and we will more likely be closer to the region of 2,000 International Events in 2020. This is the reality of the numbers.

For some communities, such as Vaulting, Reining, Driving and Para Driving, over 90% or all of their international activity came to a halt after the onset of the pandemic. While for Jumping, Dressage, Eventing and Endurance, the figures are still very alarming, with around 65% of all their Events cancelled.

The scale and the loss of Events is a huge concern because it affects a large cross section of our community and their livelihoods. For Organisers, Athletes and their entourage, Owners, Officials, Sponsors and the entire equestrian and connected industry, these cancellations are detrimental.

I fully appreciate all the sacrifices and the hardships many have had to endure and I am devastated for all the individuals and businesses that have suffered as a result of the pandemic.

The postponement of the Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games sent shockwaves throughout the global sporting community. And although it was the right decision, it had many direct and indirect consequences. The complications for our calendar have been far reaching and the source of much debate, and then there are the logistical difficulties for athletes, teams and National Federations in terms of preparations and gaining eligibility, as well as venue management and cost saving measures for the OC.

This has been a tough balancing act, and of course there will be an impact and there will be measures in place of which we do not yet know the details. But I remain very confident that these Games will go ahead, that our sport will have a wonderful platform. These will definitely be the Games of hope.

From the very beginning, our main priority at the FEI has been to mitigate the effects and find solutions to protect our community and our sport so that we can not only pick up where we left off, but also learn for the future.

This has been and continues to be our focus.

It has also been and continues to be an incredible team effort.

When news first hit of an impending pandemic in February, the wheels were set in motion.

We immediately created calendar task forces with broad representation from all the stakeholder groups and technical committees to advise the Board on specific measures that needed to be taken within each discipline. The Medical Committee, and in particular Dr Mark Hart, also played a vital role and were enlisted to not only monitor the sanitary situation extremely closely, but also to advise and help us formulate the Return to Play policy, effective risk assessments and guidelines based on the recommendations from the World Health Organisation.

We were quick to react and time has shown this was very wise. We have since passed over 150 event and sport related Covid-19 resolutions - which I appreciate are not always to the liking of all. But they have been the fruit of collaboration and consensus and they reflect the needs of the community and our values. In this exercise we always have to find a balance between needs for flexibility while still preserving the integrity of our sport and providing a level playing field.

For our National Federations, we applied some financial measures to alleviate the strain from the Covid-19 repercussions, by waiving calendar fees altogether, applying a 50% reduction in annual fees and more recently in September, with the announcement of the FEI Covid-19 Relief Fund. Today already 30 applications have been received and 230,000 CHF has been transferred to National Federations and there is more to come.

At the same time, we are also confronted with a 2/3 decrease in revenues for the FEI and a forecast loss of 8.2 million Swiss francs for 2020 as a result of Covid-19.

We have worked hard over the past 10 months to keep this loss at a minimum and alongside implementing many resolutions for the sport, we also implemented a number of measures within the FEI, including:

- *a full review of all programmes and projects, removing or postponing all non-essential expenditures in 2020*
- *the placement of over 70% of the FEI Staff on partial unemployment – for an average of 30% of total working hours - thanks to a scheme offered by the Swiss government*
- *And a unanimous and voluntary cut in salaries from all the FEI Directors.*

These measures have helped to significantly limit the losses in 2020. As for 2021, you will have seen in the budget, we have projected a loss of 40% in our revenues while continuing our efforts to reduce costs and end up with an estimated deficit of 1.3 million Swiss francs.

Fortunately, we have always been conservative in our prognoses by underestimating revenues and overestimating costs. This has led to some very positive figures in recent years. As a result of this but also thanks to a robust risk management plan we started to implement a couple of years ago, we have identified and built up a strategic reserve which effectively allows us to absorb these losses and safeguard the organisation for the future. The FEI therefore remains in a healthy position financially, unlike many other IFs in these difficult times that have had to resort to loans from banks and even the IOC.

I also want to point out that we have maintained investments in areas that we believe are essential. The services to National Federations and our stakeholders remain at the same level. We continue to invest in our digital platforms and presence, as this is essential to maintain our fan base and to remain relevant as a sport in this very competitive world. We continued to invest in FEI Solidarity by maintaining projects that had to be postponed in 2020, by allocating new projects for 2021 and even increased our support with the creation of the FEI Covid-19 Relief Fund.

We were and still will be faced with challenges we never imagined... And in a year where compromise, change and uncertainty have been the norm, I believe, as a community, we have responded with great resilience and perseverance.

A major crisis requires a major response, which in itself requires good governance, and a true passion to overcome any obstacles in the way. This is the strength of our community and the building blocks to our future.

I have been profoundly impressed by the resilience of the equestrian community when faced with adversity. And I am indebted to everyone that has contributed to finding or providing solutions this year.

Without the expertise and hard work of our experienced Committee and Task Force members, or the dedication of the FEI Board who have devoted countless hours to meetings and deliberations, the resourcefulness of our National Federations to assist their local communities and the understanding FEI Staff at Headquarters, we would not be in the position we are today.

And last, but certainly not least, I would like thank our sponsors and in particular our Top Partner Longines for their loyalty during these difficult times.

We have had an excellent relationship with Longines since we began our partnership in 2012, and I would like to take this opportunity to welcome new CEO Matthias Breschan, and wish the legendary Walter von Känel who has been in the industry for over fifty years, a wonderful retirement. Thanks to a shared vision on the unique qualities of equestrian sport, and working closely with Longines Marketing Vice President Matthieu Baumgartner, special advisor Urs Schiendorfer and Yanick Rosier, I am confident we will continue to produce unforgettable Events and engage our global fan base with top sport, great stories and inspiring horsemanship.

Thank you to everyone. This year has been a tremendous team effort. We were more than ever forced to think out of the box.

We still have a lot to do when it comes to Covid-19. There is still a lot of uncertainty, but I believe we have a good system in place, we have the right people and we are working around the clock to provide the very best conditions for our sport and our industry. The pandemic is not over yet and even when vaccinations and medication will be available, the effects of Covid-19 on our community and industry will resonate for quite a while. We will have to monitor this and continue our efforts to provide the best solutions possible. But there is light at the end of the tunnel and I am very confident that by working together and with the lessons learned we will be stronger afterwards. As many of you know I always say "optimism is a moral duty".

And now, to a more sobering and humbling tradition – the minute of silence.

This year has also seen the passing of some cherished and important members of our community. Please join me in remembering them by rising for a moment of silence.

Thank you and I will now pass the floor to our Secretary General, Sabrina Ibáñez to take us through the Agenda and Procedures. "

Delegates were invited to take a moment of silence to remember the people who had passed away in 2020 and who would be always remembered for their contribution to the sport and equestrian community. **(I)**

The Secretary General explained to the Delegates few housekeeping points before moving forward: **(I)**

- Following the Board Teleconference on 18 November 2020 where the Agenda of the General Assembly had been approved, in order to run the General Assembly as efficiently as possible, the Agenda had been updated to reflect that questions and voting would be taken in 6 different blocks, particularly after points: 3, 14, 15, 28, 29 and 39;

- As the General Assembly was being held online and given timing and technical limitations, there would be no oral presentations to the different reports with the exception of points 7, 13 and 14 which were to be presented by the Chief Financial Officer. Notwithstanding if Delegates had any questions these could be raised after each block as explained previously;
- Because of the technology limitations, Delegates were reminded that there would be approximately 30 seconds delay.

2. QUORUM

The quorum was reached with 104 National Federations (NFs) present and 1 proxy for a total of 105 eligible votes. **(I)**

The quorum required was 69. **(I)**

3. ELECTION OF SCRUTINEERS

The General Assembly unanimously elected the Scrutineers for the General Assembly as follows: **(R)**

- Sandra Wiedmer (SUI), Chair. Present at the FEI Headquarters in Lausanne (SUI);
- Angharad Palin (GBR), Member. Public Notary. Present at the Lumi offices in the United Kingdom; and
- Andrew Smith (GBR), Member. Present at the Lumi offices in the United Kingdom.

The Secretary General reminded the Delegates that the voting system was being performed by an independent company Lumi. Lumi was a secure voting system which had been used by the International Olympic Committee, the Association of Summer Olympic International Federations and the Global Association of International Sports Federations for voting at their sessions and/or General Assemblies. **(I)**

4. MEMBERSHIP

4.1. Suspension

10 National Federations were suspended for non-payment of the 2020 annual subscription. The National Federation would be reinstated upon payment of the annual subscription. **(I)**

- ARM
- AZE
- CUB
- GEO
- IRQ
- MGL
- PAK
- PLE
- SYR
- TKM

Note from Headquarters: Since the General Assembly the following National Federations have paid their annual subscription fees are consequently members in good standing:

- ARM
- AZE
- CUB
- GEO
- MGL
- PAK
- PLE
- SYR
- TKM

4.2. Ratification of UAE NF Suspension

The General Assembly ratified the suspension of the UAE NF until 31 December 2020, in line with Article 10.7 of the FEI Statutes and as per the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) Decision of 17 November 2020. **(R)**

4.3. Exclusion

BRU NF was automatically excluded as per Article 8.7 of the FEI Statutes for failure to pay their annual subscription for two consecutive years: 2019 and 2020. **(I)**

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2019, MOSCOW (RUS)

The General Assembly approved the Minutes of the General Assembly 2019. **(R)**

6. APPROVAL OF ANNUAL REPORT 2019

The General Assembly approved the Annual Report 2019 published on the FEI website. **(R)**

7. ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT. APPROVAL OF 2019 ACCOUNTS AND AUDITORS' REPORT

The Chief Financial Officer presented the 2019 annual accounts to the General Assembly with detailed explanations on revenues and expenses. **(I)**

The General Assembly approved the 2019 accounts. **(R)**

8. AUDIT & COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

8.1. Refer to Audit & Compliance Committee Report

The Chief Financial Officer referred to the written report. **(I)**

No question were raised. **(I)**

9. RELEASE OF THE BOARD & SECRETARY GENERAL FOR 2019

The General Assembly approved the release of the Board and the Secretary General for 2019. **(R)**

10. APPOINTMENT OF FEI AUDITORS

The General Assembly appointed PricewaterhouseCoopers in Lausanne as FEI Auditors for 2020. **(R)**

11. APPROVAL OF 2021 FINANCIAL CHARGES

The General Assembly approved the 2021 financial charges. **(R)**

12. FEI ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

FEI Annual Subscriptions remain unchanged. **(I)**

13. REVISED BUDGET 2020

The Chief Financial Officer presented the main aspects of the 2020 Revised Budget which was approved by the General Assembly. **(R)**

14. BUDGET 2021

The Chief Financial Officer presented the main aspects of the 2021 Budget which was approved by the General Assembly. **(R)**

15. APPROVAL OF FEI RULES & REGULATIONS

15.1. FEI General Regulations: Modifications

The Secretary General reminded the National Federations that no questions had been raised regarding the General Regulations during the Rules Session on 21 November 2020. **(I)**

The General Assembly approved the proposed changes to the FEI General Regulations. **(R)**

15.2. Anti-Doping Rules for Human Athletes: Modifications

The Secretary General reminded the General Assembly the WADA's approved definition of "in-competition" as presented by the Legal Director during the online Rules Session on 21 November 2020: **(I)**

"The period commencing one (1) hour before the beginning of the first Horse inspection the day before a Competition in which the athlete/rider is scheduled to participate through to the end of the last Competition at the Event for that athlete/rider or the sample collection process related to such Competition."

The General Assembly approved the proposed changes to the FEI Anti-Doping Rules for Human Athletes. **(R)**

15.3. Equine Anti-Doping & Controlled Medication Regulations: Modifications

The Secretary General reminded the National Federations that no questions were raised regarding the Equine Anti-Doping & Controlled Medication Regulations during the Rules Session on 21 November 2020. **(I)**

The General Assembly approved the proposed changes to the FEI Equine Anti-Doping & Controlled Medication Regulations. **(R)**

16. JUMPING

16.1. Refer to Jumping Committee Report

The Secretary General referred to the written report. **(I)**

No questions were raised. **(I)**

16.2. Jumping Rules Modifications

The General Assembly approved the proposed modifications to the Jumping Rules. **(R)**

17. DRESSAGE

17.1. Refer to Dressage Committee Report

The Secretary General referred to the written report. **(I)**

No questions were raised. **(I)**

17.2. Dressage Rules Modifications

The General Assembly approved the proposed modifications to the Dressage Rules. **(R)**

18. PARA DRESSAGE

18.1. Refer to Para Dressage Committee Report

The Secretary General referred to the written report. **(I)**

No questions were raised. **(I)**

18.2. Para Dressage Rules Modifications

The General Assembly approved the proposed modifications to the Para Dressage Rules. **(R)**

19. EVENTING

19.1. Refer to Dressage Committee Report

The Secretary General referred to the written report. **(I)**

No questions were raised. **(I)**

19.2. Eventing Rules Modifications

The Secretary General reminded the General Assembly that during the Rules Session on 21 November 2020 it was clarified that Annex D of the FEI Eventing Rules (Medical Services) would be slightly modified prior to publication of the Rules for ease of reading, with newly introduced requirements identified as notes rather than footnotes. The content however would not be changed. **(I)**

The General Assembly approved the proposed modifications to the Eventing Rules. **(R)**

20. ENDURANCE

20.1. Refer to Endurance Committee Report

The Secretary General referred to the written report. **(I)**

No questions were raised. **(I)**

20.2. Endurance Rules Modifications

The General Assembly approved the proposed modifications to the Endurance Rules. **(R)**

21. DRIVING & PARA DRIVING

21.1. Refer to Driving Committee Report

The Secretary General referred to the written report. **(I)**

No questions were raised. **(I)**

21.2. Driving & Para Driving Rules Modifications

The Secretary General reminded the Delegates that, as discussed during the Rules Session on 21 November 2020, the FEI took full note on the comments regarding the amendments to the invitation process for team Driving Events (CAIOs) - Article 916.3 where National Federations were invited according to the previous World Championships team results – This article, although included in the current draft needed to be further discussed and would be included in the full Rules revision next year. **(I)**

It would also be raised with the FEI Board as a potential Emergency Board Resolution if needed. **(I)**

The General Assembly approved the proposed modifications to the Driving & Para Driving Rules. **(R)**

22. VAULTING

22.1. Refer to Vaulting Committee Report

The Secretary General referred to the written report. **(I)**

No questions were raised. **(I)**

22.2. Vaulting Rules Modifications

The General Assembly approved the proposed modifications to the Vaulting Rules. **(R)**

23. REINING

23.1. Refer to Reining Committee Report

The Secretary General referred to the written report. **(I)**

No questions were raised. **(I)**

23.2. Future of Reining. Refer to Report

The Secretary General referred to the written report. **(I)**

No questions were raised. **(I)**

24. VETERINARY

24.1. Refer to Veterinary Committee Report

The Secretary General referred to the written report. **(I)**

No questions were raised. **(I)**

24.2. Veterinary Regulations Modifications

The General Assembly approved the proposed modifications to the Veterinary Regulations. **(R)**

25. MEDICAL

25.1. Refer to Medical Committee Report

The Secretary General referred to the written report. **(I)**

No questions were raised. **(I)**

26. ATHLETES

26.1. Refer to Athletes Committee Report

The Secretary General referred to the written report. **(I)**

No questions were raised. **(I)**

27. SOLIDARITY

27.1. Refer to Solidarity Committee Report

The Secretary General referred to the written report. **(I)**

No questions were raised. **(I)**

27.2. Appointment of FEI Solidarity Committee Members

The General Assembly approved the composition of the FEI Solidarity Committee for 1 year, as follows **(R)**:

EEF Group	Ingmar De Vos, BEL, FEI President and Chair
EEF Group	Ulf Helgstrand, President DEN NF
Group III	Marina Sechina, President RUS NF
Group IV	Eve van den Bol, President CAY NF
Group V	Hannia Chinchilla De Wolf, President CRC NF
Group VI	Pablo Mayorga, ARG, FEI Hon. Vice-President
Group VII	HH Prince Moulay Abdellah El Alaoui, President MAR NF
Group VIII	Mona Tep, President CAM NF
Group IX	Glenda Warburton, President SWZ NF

28. NOMINATIONS

28.1. Refer to Nominations Committee Report

The Secretary General referred to the written report. **(I)**

No questions were raised. **(I)**

29. ELECTIONS

29.1. Regional Group Chair IV

The General Assembly re-elected Mark Samuel (CAN) as Chair of Regional Group IV for a term of 4 years (2020-2024). **(R)**

29.2. Regional Group Chair VIII

The General Assembly re-elected Jack Huang (TPE) as Chair of Regional Group VIII for a term of 4 years (2020-2024). **(R)**

29.3. Regional Group Chairs IX

The General Assembly elected Brigitte Mathias (NAM) as Chair of Regional Group IX for a term of 4 years (2020-2024). **(R)**

29.4. Chair of Endurance Committee

The General Assembly elected Christian Lozano (FRA) as Chair of the Endurance Committee for a term of 4 years (2020-2024). **(R)**

29.5. Chair of Vaulting Committee

The General Assembly elected Pavla Krauspe (SVK) as Chair of the Vaulting Committee for a term of 4 years (2020-2024). **(R)**

29.6. Chair of Para Equestrian Committee

The General Assembly elected Amanda Bond (HKG) as Chair of the Para Equestrian Committee for a term of 4 years (2020-2024). **(R)**

29.7. Chair of Medical Committee

The General Assembly elected Mark Hart (USA) as Chair of the Medical Committee for a term of 4 years (2020-2024). **(R)**

29.8. Chair of Audit & Compliance Committee

The General Assembly elected Janice Shardlow (GBR) as Member of the Audit & Compliance Committee for a term of 4 years (2020-2024). **(R)**

29.9. Audit & Compliance Committee Member

The General Assembly elected Theola Barclay (NZL) as member of the Audit & Compliance Committee for the remaining term of 2 years (2020-2022).

29.10. Deputy Group Chair IV

The General Assembly re-elected Monique Archer (BAR) as Deputy Group Chair IV for a term of 4 years (2020-2024). **(R)**

29.11. Deputy Group Chair VIII

The General Assembly elected Kimihiro Okubo (JPN) as Deputy Group Chair VIII for a term of 4 years (2020-2024). **(R)**

29.12. Deputy Group Chair IX

The General Assembly elected Mary Binks (KEN) as Deputy Group Chair IX for a term of 4 years (2020-2024). **(R)**

30. DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE BOARD & APPOINTMENTS BY THE BOARD OF TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS – REFER TO REPORT

The Secretary General informed the Delegates that the Resolutions taken by the Board had been included in the wrap up document issued on 19 November 2020 and published on the FEI website. **(I)**

The Secretary General thanked all of the outgoing members on FEI Technical Committees and the Endurance Temporary Committee, led by Ms Sarah Coombs for their hard work and expertise. Their input had been invaluable. **(I)**

The Secretary General reminded the Delegates that the Endurance Committee members would be appointed by the FEI Board on Wednesday, 25 November 2020 during the Board's 2nd Board Meeting as 3 candidates for the Committee had also submitted their candidacy as Chair.

The Secretary General referred to the written report. **(I)**

31. CLEAN SPORT

31.1. Global Equine Anti-Doping Control Medication Programme (EADCMP). Refer to Report

The Secretary General referred to the written report. **(I)**

No questions were raised. **(I)**

32. OLYMPIC GAMES/PARALYMPIC GAMES

32.1. Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games and Paralympic Games Update. Refer to report

The Secretary General referred to the written report. **(I)**

No questions were raised. **(I)**

33. ALLOCATION OF FEI SERIES, CHAMPIONSHIPS & FINALS

The Secretary General referred to the written report and read the allocation made by the Board at its Teleconference on 18 November 2020. **(I)**

No questions were raised. **(I)**

34. FEI MANAGEMENT. REFER TO REPORT

The Secretary General referred to the written report. **(I)**

In addition, the Secretary General informed the General Assembly that the recruitment process of the Endurance Director had been reinitiated during the month of November. It was hoped that the recruitment process would be finalised before the end of the year. **(I)**

For Jumping Director the interview with the short listed candidates would start in December 2020. The Secretary General thanked all applicants for their patience and understanding. **(I)**

The Secretary general also thanked the FEI Board, the FEI President, all Committees, the members of the Calendar Task Forces and the FEI staff for their incredible support during this year of crisis and uncertainty and for having accepted the numerous meetings that had to take place in 2020 in order to assist the National Federations, all Stakeholders and the equestrian sport in general. **(I)**

No questions were raised. **(I)**

35. FEI TRIBUNAL. REFER TO REPORT

The Secretary General referred to the written report. **(I)**

No questions were raised. **(I)**

36. EQUESTRIAN COMMUNITY INTEGRITY UNIT. REFER TO REPORT

The Secretary General referred to the written report. **(I)**

No questions were raised. **(I)**

37. WORLD HORSE WELFARE. REFER TO REPORT

The Secretary General referred to the written report and the video that had been published alongside the report. **(I)**

No questions were raised. **(I)**

38. SPORTS FORUM & GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2021

The Secretary General informed the Delegates that the Sports Forum 2021 would take place in Lausanne (SUI) on 19-20 April 2021 if not in person that online and would focus on the following topics: **(I)**

1. FEI Jumping Rules Revision
2. Minimum Requirements for CIs
3. Grooms : Importance of their Role - Welfare and integrity

39. ITEMS RAISED BY NATIONAL FEDERATIONS WITHIN STATUTORY DEADLINE (NO ITEMS RAISED)

N/A

40. CLOSING

The FEI President closed the session with the following message:

"Your Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen, dear friends and colleagues,

Thank you for being a part of this very first online General Assembly.

Although it has gone smoothly, this does not compare to an in-person GA, and I am really looking forward to next November when we hopefully can come together again, and take the time to discuss and debate the challenges, the achievements and the future of our sport.

We made some important decisions today.

I would like to take a moment to send my heartfelt thanks to all the outgoing members from the Technical Committees and express my gratitude for your support and your expertise these past years, and especially the past few months which have tested our sport and our systems at every level. I also would like to congratulate again the newly appointment members and wish them the same strength and perseverance as their predecessors.

I would also like to express my sincere appreciation to the outgoing Board Members:

To Mary Binks, Chair of Group IX, who has been a great ambassador for our Sport in Africa and who has always clearly voiced her opinions in the Board and has never been afraid to ask the right questions. Thank you so much Mary and we are happy to see that you will continue, at least for a while, to support the newly elected Chair.

To Brian Mangan, Chair of the Audit & Compliance Committee, thank you for your incredible contribution to the FEI and the FEI Board for over a decade! Your commitment over the years has been vital for our structures and governance processes. You should be extremely proud of all you have achieved and especially for the risk management of which today we collect the fruits.

A special word of thanks also to John Eccles, who has been Chair of the Vaulting Committee. You have clearly contributed to putting this discipline further on the map and as a result of this, the Chair position has now become a full Board Member.

I would like to make a particular mention for the outgoing Temporary Endurance Committee and especially the Chair, Sarah Coombs, for their courage and determination when it came to identifying and tackling the real issues of this discipline and, with the creation of the new rules we approved last year, to raise the sport to a new level and help forge a new path for Endurance based on the shared values of the global equestrian family. This is a true legacy they leave behind.

I know I speak for the entire Board when I say you all will be dearly missed!

And now to the new incumbents! Congratulations with your election. You have not arrived at the easiest time, but I am confident you have the skill-set, the determination and the stamina to pick up where the outgoing members left off. It is a pleasure to have you on-board, and I look forward to working closely with you and your teams in the future.

I am also very happy to see that our two Vice-Presidents, Mark Samuel and Jack Huang, have been re-elected as Chair of their respective Regional Group. This clearly demonstrates the trust your region and National Federations have in you and it is also a big relief for me that you will be able to continue as FEI Vice-Presidents. You have been fantastic team players and I look forward to working with you also in the future.

Our governance structure rests on the great advice and the wise council of a global community and we are indebted to all of the Volunteers who fill our Committees, the FEI Board and the FEI Executive Board. So thank you to all of you once again – and especially for all your hard work through these tough times.

Now to the future, we have a lot to look forward to, and we also have a great legacy to preserve!

With the Olympic and Paralympic Games in Tokyo coming up, we need to make sure that our sport is THE shining light in what they are now calling the Games of Hope. We need to show how unique we are in the sporting landscape. From the incredible horsemanship in the arena to the inspired teamwork behind the scenes making it all happen. There is no sport that compares to equestrian and it is our responsibility and our duty to make sure we present the very best of who we are and what we are all about. From Tokyo to Paris to LA, we have to keep our finger on the pulse and deliver cutting edge sport, from production to formats and rules. This is our mission.

As you know, next we year, we will also be celebrating 100 Years of the FEI. We are a long way from 1921 when eight founding members - Belgium, Denmark, France, Italy, Japan, Norway, Sweden and the United States of America - came together to organise the sport and formulate international rules and protocols. In the meantime a lot has changed. But we have never been scared of a challenge – and together with all 137 affiliated National Federation Members –we can continue to set ambitious goals.

In terms of what we stand for – I believe in recent years, we have demonstrated that we are a sport that is committed to the future. And we have done this at many levels – from good governance, to sustainability and digital engagement. We have solid foundations to continue building our sport and our fanbase.

2020 was no different, and even though everything was up in the air, we continued to win awards and to be recognised as leaders in these fields. From the ASOIF Governance Review to the IOC DoW Awards. And when it comes to our value in the market place, with no live events and less possibility to engage with our fans or provide returns to our sponsors, we had to act fast. And not only did we win awards for our content, we ensured that our sponsors and our community could remain connected. And by doing this, we were able to maintain a healthy digital footprint, which has become an important performance indicator also in the eyes of the IOC when it comes to evaluating sports in the Olympic programme.

The resilience, determination and passion over these past few months has been inspiring and I am grateful to everyone for their resourcefulness and ability to adapt. This has been a team effort - we have had to think out of the box and we have had to be quick on our feet.

And this is remarkable when you think about it. We are nearly 100 years old – so whoever said you can't teach an old dog new tricks – was wrong. You can and we are living proof!

And last, but certainly not least, I would like to thank Sabrina Ibáñez, FEI Secretary General and the wonderful team at HQ for helping us weather the storm, and ensure that we can continue to provide you, our members, and the greater community, with the very best service in these difficult times.

Sabrina, congratulations on your recent appointment as Chair of the ASOIF Diversity and Gender Equality Consultative Group. And for the successful integration of APSO, which you are President of, within GAISF. Once again, you have been the perfect master of ceremonies, making sure we are always on track and that everyone knows exactly what they should be doing and when. In the very same way, over the past few months, you have led the Calendar Task Forces and the HQ fearlessly, always ensuring we fulfill our remit with integrity and panache.

We are a big team, and a big FEI Family, so, one more time, thank you to everyone. And I look forward to seeing many of you in South Africa – and hopefully before - in Tokyo or maybe even in Lausanne for the FEI Sports Forum 2021. We shall see!

Thank you, goodbye and stay safe."