

# FEI GENERAL ASSEMBLY Abu Dhabi (UAE), 13 November 2024

The FEI General Assembly 2024 took place on 13 November. The main decisions taken by the General Assembly are summarised below.

# **Table of Contents**

OPENING BY THE FEI PRESIDENT	3
QUORUM	3
ELECTION OF SCRUTINEERS	3
MEMBERSHIP	3
MINUTES OF EXTRAORDINARY AND ORDINARY GENERAL ASSE	
FEI ANNUAL REPORT 2023	
FINANCE	
FEI RULES AND REGULATIONS	5
JUMPING	5
DRESSAGE	5
PARA EQUESTRIAN	ε
EVENTING	
ENDURANCE	8
DRIVING AND PARA DRIVING	8
VAULTING	g
VETERINARY	g
MEDICAL	10
ATHLETES	10
FEI SOLIDARITY	10
NOMINATIONS	11
ELECTIONS	11
CLEAN SPORT	12
INTERNATIONAL HORSE SPORTS CONFEDERATION (IHSC)	12
PARIS 2024 OLYMPIC AND PARALYMPIC GAMES	13
FEI MANAGEMENT	13
FEI TRIBUNAL	12



EQUESTRIAN COMMUNITY INTEGRITY UNIT	13
WORLD HORSE WELFARE	13
FEI SPORTS FORUM AND GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2025	13
RECOGNITIONS	14



# **OPENING BY THE FEI PRESIDENT**

In his opening speech, the FEI President warmly welcomed delegates, staff, and stakeholders, both in Abu Dhabi and online, to the hybrid-format FEI General Assembly 2024. The President thanked the UAE Equestrian and Racing Federation for their hospitality and expressed his gratitude to FEI Board for their support with major decisions throughout the year.

The President celebrated the success of the 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games in Paris, held in the extraordinary venue in Versailles, recognising the hard work of the organisers, officials, and volunteers.

The speech highlighted the new **FEI Equine Welfare Strategy Action Plan** and the importance of the "Be a Guardian" message, which aims to enhance horse welfare across the sport. It addressed the necessity to raise the athlete registration fee after years without adjustment, to support expanded services and meet increasing demands. The upcoming presidential election and the need for clear governance in defining the President's role were mentioned, with plans to refine these definitions in view of 2026.

The FEI President invited General Ahmed Naser Al Raisi, President of the UAE Equestrian and Racing Federation, to address the delegates.

The FEI President concluded his opening speech with gratitude to stakeholders, sponsors, and volunteers. He invited delegates to join him in remembering cherished **members of the FEI and Olympic Family** lost in the past 12 months.

The full text of the FEI speech is available **here**.

# **QUORUM**

The Secretary General confirmed the required quorum is **69**. National Federations voting in-person in Abu Dhabi: **80** National Federations voting online: **17** 

national rederations vo

Total: **97** 

# **ELECTION OF SCRUTINEERS**

Sapna Seegobin (MRI) was approved as Chair of the Scrutineers, with Victor Rios (CHI) and Carla Stempel (BER) confirmed as members.

#### **MEMBERSHIP**

The National Federations of Azerbaijan and Nicaragua have been suspended due to non-payment of the Annual Membership Subscription Fee. The suspension will be lifted immediately once the subscription has been paid.

# MINUTES OF EXTRAORDINARY AND ORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLIES 2023

The Minutes of the FEI **Extraordinary** and **Ordinary** General Assemblies 2023 were approved.



# **FEI ANNUAL REPORT 2023**

The **FEI Annual Report 2023** was approved.

# **FINANCE**

The FEI Finance Director presented the audited financial statement for 2023.

In 2023, the total net revenues amounted to CHF 57'382'371 and expenses to CHF 54'962'911.

The net financial results were CHF 1'069'835 thanks to the positive performance of the portfolio which had begun to recover from the heavy loss incurred the previous year. Interest rates had stabilised and inflation seemed to be in control after the sharp increase in 2022.

The year 2023 was a good year for the FEI with a net profit of 3'489'295. This brings the FEI's reserves to just over CHF 24 million, close to the minimum of CHF 25 million recommended the FEI risk evaluation strategy.

Given the good results, FEI Solidarity Fund was not used for the 2023 projects, keeping CHF 1.2 million for use in future projects. As of 31 December 2023, the balance of the FEI Solidarity Fund amounted to CHF 10.86 million, which has been accounted for in the audited figures.

The General Assembly approved the audited financial statement for 2023.

The General Assembly released the Board and Secretary General for the year 2023.

The General Assembly appointed PricewaterhouseCoopers, Lausanne (SUI) as the Auditors for 2025.

The Finance Director presented the <u>revised budget for 2024</u>. At the FEI General Assembly 2023, a budget with a deficit of CHF 391'115 had been presented. As a result, the spending and revenue based on FEI strategic priorities were analysed. The review challenged the expenses and prioritises projects for 2024 bringing the revised budget to a neutral net result.

The Finance Director presented the <u>budget for 2025</u>, which is based on a favourable economic outlook with inflation stabilised across Europe and the USA, combined with the decrease of interest rates from central banks. The budget outlines the total commercial revenues; total operational revenues; total non-operational revenues; total commercial expenses; total operational expenses; and the total general and administrative expenses. Overall, the budget has a neutral net result mainly supported by the planned provision release of CHF 1.5 million.

The General Assembly approved the **financial charges for the year 2025**.

A notable change compared to previous years is the increase of the Human Athlete registration fee from CHF 10 to CHF 55. Since the introduction of the Human Athlete registration in 2006, the annual fee has remained at CHF 10, despite the significant expansion of services and digital solutions provided by the FEI over the past two decades. The increase was made in recognition of the evolving demands and the adjustment ensures that the FEI can continue delivering essential services to the athletes. Further to



discussions at Session 3: Athletes Services and Registration, it was agreed that this change will be applicable as of **1 January 2026**.

As of 1 January 2026, registration for Horses/Ponies will also be increased to CHF 55.

# **FEI RULES AND REGULATIONS**

The General Assembly approved the proposed modifications to the:

- **FEI General Regulations**. The wording clarifying how horse welfare/abuse of horse matters that arise out of competition should be reported has been updated (Art. 142.1 Abuse of Horses and Annex A Definitions). All the proposed modifications are outlined **here**.
- The **Equine Anti-Doping and Controlled Medication Regulations** were undergoing full revision this year in accordance with the <u>FEI Periodical Rules Revision Policy</u>. One of the key changes was the proposal to include rules allowing for Out-of-Competition Testing to discourage and catch the administration of Banned Substances out of competition. Further welfare related changes include a prohibition on genetic therapy, gene editing, and genome editing (<u>proposed modifications</u>; <u>clean version</u>; <u>FEI Guidelines for Fines and Contributions towards Legal Costs</u>).

#### **JUMPING**

The Chair of the FEI Jumping Committee provided a brief overview of the Jumping Report.

The year 2024 had been very successful for Jumping. The Paris 2024 Olympic Games had produced extraordinary sport. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia hosting the Longines FEI Jumping World Cup™ Final had been an exciting first along with the launch of the Longines League of Nations™.

The Chair reported on the in-person meetings and teleconferences the Committee had held in 2024; the meetings with various stakeholders; the revision of the FEI Jumping Rules; the Paris 2024 Olympic Games; the Longines FEI Jumping World Cup™; the Longines League of Nations; the Longines Ranking Working Group; the appointment and education of Jumping Officials; the membership of the FEI Jumping Committee; as well as the contributions made to the FEI TackApp and rules for FEI-approved series.

The Chair thanked the FEI Jumping Committee as well as other stakeholders for their continued contribution. He expressed his appreciation to the FEI Jumping Director for his leadership and congratulated him on his very successful first year in the role.

The full report is available **here**.

The General Assembly approved the **proposed modifications** to the FEI Jumping Rules.

The updated rules effective 1 January 2025 will be published here in due course.

# **DRESSAGE**

The Chair of the FEI Dressage Committee provided a brief overview of the Dressage Report.

The report referenced the meetings held by the FEI Dressage Committee in 2024 as well as meetings with key stakeholders, such as the ones held in Riyadh (KSA) on the occasion



of the FEI Dressage World Cup™ and at the FEI Headquarters in Lausanne (SUI) on 1 October.

The Chair provided an overview of the main events and championships, which had taken place during the year including the very successful Paris 2024 Olympic Games and mentioned the education courses for Dressage Judges and Stewards of various levels that has been organised.

The Chair thanked the FEI Dressage Committee as well as other stakeholders and the volunteers for their continued contribution. She expressed her gratitude to the Dressage Department and the Dressage Director for his guidance and clear vision.

The full report is available <u>here</u>.

The General Assembly approved the **proposed modifications** to the FEI Dressage Rules.

The updated rules effective 1 January 2025 will be published <a href="here">here</a> in due course.

# **PARA EQUESTRIAN**

The Chair of the FEI Para Equestrian Committee acknowledged the highly successful Paris 2024 Paralympic Games, which had attracted athletes and horses from 30 nations, compared to 27 in the previous edition in Tokyo 2020. This was a record number of participating nations in the history of Paralympic Equestrian sport. A two-member Judges Supervisory Panel had officiated for the first time at the Paralympic Games.

The Paralympic Games generated very positive news for the sport in traditional as well as on social media generating impressive engagement figures.

Some 36 shows hosted by 19 National Federations had taken place in 2024. The introduction of the new sports structure, with a progressive development through the star levels had continued to show benefit with expanded opportunities for lower-level classes.

The registration of athletes and horses had decreased slightly.

The Chair mentioned the ongoing preparations for the FEI Asian Championships 2025 in Pattaya (THA) and expressed her gratitude to the Thailand Equestrian Federation for including Para Dressage in the programme. She provided an overview of classification and education with 31 courses for judges, stewards, and classifiers organised in 2024.

Plans for 2025 include a Para Equestrian Forum to be held in February in Birmingham (GBR). It will be preceded by in-person seminars for classifiers and Level 4 judges.

The Chair thanked the FEI Para Equestrian Committee and outgoing Committee Member Joyce an Rooijen-Heuitink (NED) for her great contribution as well the FEI Dressage and Para Dressage Department and its Director.

The full report is available **here**.

The General Assembly approved the <u>proposed modifications</u> to the FEI Para Dressage Rules.

The updated rules effective 1 January 2025 will be published here in due course.



#### **EVENTING**

The Chair of the FEI Eventing Committee presented a comprehensive report on the Committee's activities. He highlighted the outstanding success of the Paris 2024 Olympic Games. The medal distribution between three continents had been exceptional. The Japanese team had won bronze further to a substitution and the use of the reserve rider had confirmed the validity of the Eventing format.

In 2024 the Committee met via teleconference and in-person to receive updates on preparations for the Paris 2024 Olympic Games and discuss the Eventing Risk Management Programme; proposed modifications to the FEI Eventing Rules 2025; documents supporting the Rules such as The Cross Country Guide for Officials, Memorandum and Equipment & Tack FAQ; and education of Officials.

Since its inception in 2000, the FEI Eventing Risk Management Programme has amassed 24 years of data, showcasing a consistent improvement in data quality. The collected information, including fence descriptions, fall reports, and fence analyses from each competition, has facilitated significant data mining for the Risk Management Steering Group, aiding in queries related to Athlete and Horse qualification and addressing technical issues in the discipline. The plan to have the data collection go from a manual process to an online system had been delayed to 2025.

The estimated number of competitions had decreased by 2.5% from 813 in 2023 to 793 (figures by 27 September 2024) due to difficult weather conditions and raise of organising costs.

In 2024 the overall number of falls had decreased at all levels except for 3-star which had remained stable. The 5-star level fall rate had decreased by 51% (provisional data 30 June 2024), which was the lowest rate attained for the last 10 years (2020 excluded due to Covid). Horse falls have decreased by 35% from 1.40 % in 2016 to 0.91 % in 2024 (30 June 2024) with 0.10% rotational falls recorded. Rotational falls had shown a consistent decreasing trend since 2013.

The Chair provided an update on the FEI Risk Management Policy and Action plan, the FEI Eventing Forum and NSO Seminar held in January 2024, which had attracted 280 participants from 36 countries as well as the Horse Form Index (HFI).

In addition, the Chair reported on the activities of the Eventing Risk Management Steering Group (RMSG); the Eventing series and championships; the FEI Eventing Nations Cup™; the FEI Eventing World Athletes Rankings; and the Eventing Development Programme with a special mention of the newly launched Eventing Challenge. In 2023, nine countries had organised this hybrid competition compared to 19 applying for 2024. The enthusiasm and interest of countries from Central America and the Caribbean as well as Asia and Central Asia was very encouraging for the future development of the discipline in these regions.

A mention was made of the FEI Eventing Officials Education System effective as of 1 January 2023 and which had been fully operational in 2024.

In conclusion, the Chair encouraged participation in the Eventing Forum scheduled for 17-19 January 2026 where rules to be valid for the LA28 Olympics Games would be discussed. A full revision of the FEI Eventing Rules was due in 2026 and he invited active input from the NFs. The full revision would also be discussed at the FEI Sports Forum 2025.

The full report is available **here**.



The General Assembly approved the **proposed modifications** to the FEI Eventing Rules.

The updated rules effective 1 January 2025 will be published here in due course.

# **ENDURANCE**

The Chair of the FEI Endurance Committee presented his report.

The report listed the Committee's teleconferences throughout the year. It provided an update on the main Championships that had taken place in 2024 results; allocation of future Championships; the implementation of the FEI Endurance Rules; the updated calculation of the FEI Endurance Rankings Lists; the Vet-Endurance Working Group; and hyposensitivity testing, which had been used at all the Championships.

The Chair thanked the FEI Endurance Committee and the FEI Endurance Department. He expressed his gratitude to outgoing Deputy Chair Sarah Coombs (GBR) and Committee Member Daniel Fenaux (ESP) for their contribution.

The full report is available **here**.

The General Assembly approved the **proposed modifications** to the FEI Endurance Rules.

The updated rules effective 1 January 2025 will be published here in due course.

# **DRIVING AND PARA DRIVING**

The Chair of the FEI Driving Committee reported on the activities of the Committee, which had met via teleconference and in person throughout the year. The year 2024 had been good for Driving with 52 events held at new as well as well-established venues.

One of the Committee's main points of focus had been the revision of the Dressage tests done through the FEI Driving Modification policy using the expertise of the Working Group established for this purpose. The following six new tests, effective 1 January 2025, had been created: 2\* and 3\* Four-in-Hand and Pair tests; one test for Children, and one for Juniors.

The Chair also reported on the year's Championships; FEI Driving World Challenge; Driving Youth Cup Test Event held in Estonia; rules revision; noseband measuring test conducted in cooperation with the FEI Veterinary Department; and strategy for the future.

The Chair thanked the FEI Driving Committee and FEI Driving Department and expressed his appreciation to outgoing Committee Member Benjamin Aillaud (FRA).

The full report is available **here**.

The General Assembly approved the <u>proposed modifications</u> to the FEI Driving and Para Driving Rules.

The updated rules effective 1 January 2025 will be published here in due course.



# **VAULTING**

The Chair of the FEI Vaulting Committee reported on the increase of Vaulting events, which had taken place in 2024. Some 33 events had been organised which was a record number for a single season.

The number of Vaulting courses had also grown significantly.

The Chair presented a detailed outline of the activities of the Vaulting Committee and provided information on the FEI Online Open Forum, which had taken place in February and had attracted 200 participants from 26 countries.

She thanked the Swiss Equestrian Federation for the good organisation of the FEI Vaulting World Championship and the FEI Vaulting European Championships for Youth and Juniors held in Bern in July 2024.

The annual Vaulting seminar had taken place in October and had concentrated on the future Free Test concept; artistic sessions; outcomes of the Vaulting Reins study; and video judging.

The Committee had also worked on the proposed modifications to the rules and guidelines for 2025.

The Chair outlined the key projects for 2025. She thanked the FEI Vaulting Committee, the members of the Free Test Concept Working Group and Wellbeing of the Horse Subcommittee, as well as the FEI Vaulting and Education Departments.

The full report is available **here**.

The General Assembly approved the **proposed modifications** to the FEI Vaulting Rules.

The updated rules effective 1 January 2025 will be published here in due course.

# **VETERINARY**

The Chair of the FEI Veterinary Committee reported on the activities of the Committee, which had met via teleconference and in person throughout the year. The report covered the FEI Veterinary Regulations; Key Event Requirements (KERs); equine welfare; biosecurity; Games and Championships; Clean Sport; pony measurement; FEI Equipment Expert Group; National Head Veterinarians (NHVs); FEI Solidarity; the Veterinary Working Group on Endurance; research; the International Movement of Horses; and networking and communication.

The full report is available here.

The General Assembly approved the **proposed modifications** to the FEI Veterinary Regulations, with the following clarifications:

- The proposed change for Article 1075 Injury and Disease Surveillance was withdrawn by the FEI.
- The proposal for Article 1084 Refusal to Measure was amended before voting by replacing "ensuring" with "check".

The updated rules will be effective **1 January 2025**, except for the implementation date for the FEI Noseband Measuring Device as per Article 1044.8, which was amended from 1 January to **1 May 2025**.



The updated rules will be published <u>here</u> in due course.

# **MEDICAL**

The Chair of the Medical Committee presented a report on activities covering:

- **Medical coverage at Events** to optimise event quality through well-defined requirements and provide stakeholder guidance & education;
- Mental health, which is an essential part of an athlete's health and safety;
- **Personal protective safety equipment** to lead the development and use of safer head and body protectors;
- **Concussion & head injuries** aimed at minimising the impact of concussions through a well disseminated policy;
- Injury reporting to expand injury data collection to inform future safety policies;
- **Human anti-doping** to minimise unintentional doping violations and ensure compliance with Word Anti Doping Agency (WADA);
- **NF Medical Advisor project** to optimise FEI-NF collaboration on human athlete health and safety matters

The Chair highlighted the achievements of 2024, including the assistance provided to the Paris 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games Organising Committee in planning equestrian-specific medical coverage needs and the participation in ASOIF/IOC video training project for sport specific medical issues. He highlighted the main focus areas for 2025.

The full report is available **here**.

#### **ATHLETES**

The Chair of the FEI Athletes Committee presented her report. It provided an overview of the Paris 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games, which had been a resounding success but had also highlighted some challenges in particular regarding horse welfare. The report provided an update on the competitions, which had taken place in 2024 and, in particular, the inaugural season of the Longines League of Nations $^{\text{TM}}$  as well as the Grooms Consultative Group.

The full report is available **here**.

# **FEI SOLIDARITY**

# Report on activities

The FEI President opened discussion in his capacity as Chair of the FEI Solidarity Committee and encouraged the NFs to sign up for the annual Course for NF Secretary Generals and Administrator, which was a valuable learning opportunity. He passed the floor to the FEI Solidarity Director, who presented a report on the activities of FEI Solidarity.

The report, which is very comprehensive, includes the:

- FEI Solidarity Department activities, projects, and programmes;
- Overview of NFs projects;
- Equestrian Sport Educative Events (ESEEs);
- Horse welfare;
- FEI Coach Education Programme;
- FEI World Challenge Series with a special mention of the FEI Jumping World Challenge Final 2024 held in Tashkent (UZB). The 2025 Final would be held in



Senegal and would serve as a test event for the Youth Olympic Games due to be held in Dakar in 2026;

- FEI Solidarity Hub;
- FEI Campus;
- Cooperation with various FEI Departments, including Communications and Veterinary;
- FEI Solidarity Relief Fund for Ukraine;
- Gender equality, diversity, and inclusion in equestrian sport.

The FEI Solidarity Director welcomed the opportunity to hold a workshop for the NFs of Regional Group VII after the FEI General Assembly. This would be an important gathering and he thanked delegates for their participation.

The full report is available **here**.

# **Appointment of FEI Solidarity Committee Members**

The General Assembly approved the FEI Solidarity Committee Members as proposed by the FEI President:

Group I Ingmar De Vos (BEL), FEI President and Chair (term started in 2018)

Group II Marjukka Manninen (FIN) (2022)

Group III Sadyr Mamytov, President (KGZ) (2021)

Group IV Catherine Ramsingh-Pierre (BAH) (2021)

Group V Juan Manuel Melgar (GUA) (2022)

Group VI Diego Iturralde Aponte (BOL) (2023)

Group VII Badr bin Mohamed Al Darwish (QAT) (2022)

Group VIII Mikaela Cojuangco Jaworski (PHI) (2021)

Group IX Mary K.B Binks, Deputy Chair GRIX (KEN) (2022)

The FEI Solidarity Committee Members are appointed for a term of one year and may serve a maximum of four terms. As the FEI President is the Chair of the FEI Solidarity Committee, the terms of his mandate is in line with the presidential terms.

# **NOMINATIONS**

The FEI Nominations Committee report can be viewed <a href="https://example.com/here">here</a>.

# **ELECTIONS**

# **Regional Group Chairs and Deputy Chairs**

**FEI Regional Group IV: Monique Archer (BAR)** was elected FEI Regional Group IV Chair by the General Assembly for the four-year term 2024 - 2028. **Mark Samuel (CAN)** was elected by the General Assembly for the position of FEI Regional Group IV Deputy Chair for the four-year term 2024 - 2028.

**FEI Regional Group VIII: Jack Huang (TPE)** was re-elected FEI Regional Group VIII Chair by the General Assembly for the four-year term 2024 - 2028. **Nanda-Devi Norodom (CAM)** was elected by the General Assembly for the position of FEI Regional Group VIII Deputy Chair for the four-year term 2024 - 2028.

**FEI Regional Group IX: Brigitte Mathias (NAM)** was re-elected FEI Regional Group IX Chair by the General Assembly for the four-year term 2024 - 2028. **Bertrand De Coriolis** 



**(MRI)** was elected by the General Assembly for the position of FEI Regional Group IX Deputy Chair for the four-year term 2024 - 2028.

# **Para Equestrian Committee Chair**

**Amanda Bond (HKG)** was re-elected as Chair of the FEI Para Equestrian Committee for the four-year term 2024-2028.

#### **Endurance Committee Chair**

**Christian Lozano (FRA)** was re-elected as Chair of the FEI Endurance Committee for the four-year term 2024-2028.

#### **Vaulting Committee Chair**

**Pavla Krauspe (SVK)** was re-elected as Chair of the FEI Vaulting Committee for the four-year term 2024-2028.

#### **Medical Committee Chair**

**Mark Hart (USA)** was re-elected as Chair of the FEI Medical Committee for the four-year term 2024-2028.

# **Audit and Compliance Committee Chair**

**Janice Shardlow (GBR)** was re-elected as Chair of the FEI Audit and Compliance Committee for the four-year term 2024-2028.

## **Vice President**

**Jenny Hall (GBR),** FEI Veterinary Chair and Board Member, was elected as FEI Vice President until 2026.

# **CLEAN SPORT**

The FEI Veterinary Director presented the report from the FEI Global Equine Anti-Doping Controlled Medication Programme (EADCMP), which includes data on FEI Global EADCMP 2023 testing, Hypo Sensitivity and Limb Sensitivity Control (HSC) examinations for the period 2022-2024, as well as information on Doping and Controlled Medication Cases.

The full presentation can be viewed **here**.

# INTERNATIONAL HORSE SPORTS CONFEDERATION (IHSC)

The FEI Veterinary Director presented the main activities for 2024 within the collaboration between the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) and the International Horse Sports Confederation (IHSC).

He highlighted, in particular, the successful completion of a project in South America, conducted in collaboration with the WOAH, of an agreed health certificate for temporary movement of competition horses in the Mercosur and the Andes region countries.

The Veterinary Director mentioned work done with the Gulf Cooperation Council and provided an update on outbreaks of African horse sickness and promising work on vaccinations against the disease.

In conclusion, the Director spoke of the renewal of the IHSC – WOAH ublic-private-partnership and the proposed new activities.

The full report is available **here**.



# PARIS 2024 OLYMPIC AND PARALYMPIC GAMES

The FEI President, Secretary General, Director of Eventing and Olympic, and Commercial Director presented a first debrief on the Paris 2024 Olympic Games.

The presentations will be published in due course.

#### **FEI MANAGEMENT**

The FEI Management report on the activities of the non-sports Departments at FEI Headquarters – Education & Officials, Technology and Sport Services, Commercial, Communications, and Human Resources – can be viewed <a href="here">here</a>.

#### **FEI TRIBUNAL**

In the absence of the Chair of the FEI Tribunal, the FEI Legal Director referred to the Tribunal's report, which provided an overview of the FEI Tribunal decisions in 2024, as well as information on the Hearings, Preliminary Decisions, Agreements, CAS Appeals and Decisions. More details can be found <a href="here">here</a>.

# **EQUESTRIAN COMMUNITY INTEGRITY UNIT**

The FEI Legal Director referred to the report of the Equestrian Community Integrity Unit (ECIU), which is available <a href="here">here</a>. He explained that the company Quest would no longer be acting as the FEI's ECIU and thanked Lord Stevens and Andrew Smith for their work in the past years. Going forward, the FEI would be free to use any service provider it deems necessary depending on the alleged violations.

The Legal Director reported that the Board had approved the appointment of Martin Gibbs (GBR) as ECIU Chair. Gibbs is a former member of the FEI Tribunal, former Director General of the Union Cycliste Internationale (UCI), and is the current Managing Director of SportAccord.

The Legal Director presented the new ECIU terms of reference along with the newly created **FEI Reporting Hub**, which will be used to address horse abuse; safeguarding matters; as well as equine and human anti-doping.

The full presentation is available <u>here</u>.

# **WORLD HORSE WELFARE**

Roly Owers, CEO of World Horse Welfare (WHW), addressed the General Assembly. The presentation emphasising the importance of horse welfare and WHW's evolving role as a leading advocate for horses worldwide.

The presentation will be published in due course.

# FEI SPORTS FORUM AND GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2025

The FEI Sports Forum 2025 will be held in Lausanne (SUI) on 31 March and 1 April.

The sessions for the FEI Sports Forum 2025 will include an update on the FEI Equine Welfare Strategy Action Plan and an update on the Dressage Strategic action planning process; FEI Jumping, FEI Eventing Rules, and FEI Driving and Para Driving Rules, which



will be undergoing full revision in 2025; profile and job description for the future FEI President; Qualification systems for the LA28 Olympic and Paralympic Games; and an update from the Education Working Group.

Delegates were also informed that the FEI General Assembly 2025 will take place from 5 to 7 November in Hong Kong.

# **RECOGNITIONS**

Outgoing Board Member:

 Marc Samuel (CAN), Chair, Regional Group IV, FEI Executive Board Member and Vice President, term in office 2012-2024

The General Assembly confirmed the FEI Board's proposal to appoint Marc Samuel as Honorary Vice President.

New Board member elected at the FEI General Assembly 2024:

Monique Archer (BAR), Chair, Regional Group IV

The FEI President acknowledged FEI Eventing and Olympic Director Catrin Norinder, who is retiring at the end of the year after 37 years of remarkable service.

The FEI President offered special gifts to the Secretary General Dr Al Hajiri of the UAE Equestrian and Racing Federation and thanked him for the welcome and warm hospitality.

\* \* \*