

## **Important change of Cross Country technical requirements**

### **Tokyo2020 Olympic Games – Equestrian Eventing Cross Country update**

Further to the Ready Steady Tokyo Equestrian Test event, held in August this year and during which an FEI official climate impact study and horse monitoring project took place, the FEI has decided to shorten the Olympic Eventing Cross Country course to approximately eight (8) minutes, allowing for a course of approximately 4,500 metres. The decision to shorten the course, based on advice from the Veterinary and Eventing Committees, has been approved by the FEI Board.

In addition Tokyo2020 have agreed that the start time for the cross country will be brought forward to between 07:30 and 08:00 in order to enable an 11:00 finish, the time identified by our climate studies as the beginning of the potentially highest Wet Bulb Globe Temperature (WBGT) readings. A final decision on the exact starting time is expected in January.

The welfare of both human and equine athletes is at the heart of the FEI's decision-making process and these decisions have been taken to allow competing nations to optimise their performances in the Tokyo summer climate.

Further technical details on the Eventing Cross Country course will be released in due course.