

Online Eventing Risk Management NSO Seminar 24 January 2021

A total of **50 Safety Officers and NF Representatives** from 25 countries (AUS, AUT, BRA, CAN, COL, ESP, EST, FRA, GBR, GER, HKG, HUN, IRL, ITA, JPN, NED, NOR, NZL, POL, POR, SUI, SVK, SWE, THA, USA) attended the 14TH Annual Eventing Risk Management Seminar which was held Online due to the world health situation and imposed travel restrictions.

The following NFs were not represented by their NSO or a NF Representative during the Online Risk Management NSO Seminar: ARG, BLR, BEL, BUL, CHI, CZE, DEN, ECU, EST, FIN, GUA, HON, IND, MEX, NAM, RSA, ROU, RUS, UKR, URU, VEN, ZIM, (*see participants list – Annex I*). We strongly encourage them to view the “Replay” video available on the [FEI website](#).

RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS

1. NSO role and responsibilities:

- It was compulsory for NFs organising FEI Eventing competitions to appoint a NSO
- NSO or appointed NF Representative must attend the Eventing Risk Management Seminar

2. Schooling / training fences:

It was reminded that schooling/training fences needed to have flags, groundlines and secured to the ground

3. Frangible Devices:

- Updated instruction manuals and FAQs were regularly posted on the FEI website under [Eventing / Risk Management / Frangible & Deformable Devices](#)
- **Table Fences:** It was strongly encouraged to use MIM devices on Table fence types although it was not made compulsory in the rules for 2021

4. Medical Requirements at Events

- Medical Coverage– Annex D: It was strongly encouraged to provide feedback on the recommendations included in the 2021 Eventing Rules Annex D – Medical Coverage
- The importance of reporting back on all medical incidents at International and National events was emphasized

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1. WELCOME – Introduction by David O'Connor, Chair Eventing Committee and Geoff Sinclair, Chair Risk Management Steering Group Annex II

David O'Connor and Geoff Sinclair welcomed the participants thanked them for attending the seminar and for their contribution.

Geoff Sinclair emphasized the NSO role as essential in spreading the word for Eventing Risk Management and Safety. This weekend was an opportunity for all NSOs to update their knowledge and continue to communicate the FEI standards and Risk Management developments in their countries. In smaller Nations, it was harder to raise awareness to the community about Risk Management, however, as mentioned during the Online Risk Management Seminar the previous day, Officials needed to take responsibility during Events and make the right decisions during competition.

He reminded it was compulsory for all NFs organising FEI Eventing competitions to appoint a NSO. The current list of NSOs was presented with the following comments.

The responsibilities of NSOs included to:

- provide National statistics to the FEI on a bi-annual basis
- liaise between the FEI and National Federation in regards to reporting any international or national serious incidents
- spread the implementation of the Risk management vision and programs of Eventing in the NF including for FEI and National Officials

The list of NSOs as well as the full job description were available on the FEI website under [Eventing / Risk Management](#).

Questions:

Q: Should the national statistics be sent twice a year?

A: It was recommended to provide the FEI of an extract these statistics every 6 months, however, the FEI overall report was compiled once a year for the annual statistics.

2. NATIONAL FEDERATIONS PRESENTATIONS

2.1 SWE NF – Lars Christensson, NSO and Mats Andersson NF Representative Annex III

Sweden was very grateful to Mats Björnetun for developing the MIM frangible system, and he was working together with the FEI Frangible Device Working Group for the development of the technical aspects. The use of frangible devices started as a recommendation and has evolved to mandatory on certain type of fences in the 2021 FEI Eventing rules. The groundlines were also introduced first as a recommendation and now has become a FEI rule.

SWE NF Current Risk Management projects:

- Developed policy for knocking down a flag:
 - Penalty rule for knocking down a flag was implemented as of January 2021
 - Minimum width of fences were reviewed

B.2.a Pony	P60	P70	P80	P90	P1*	P2*
Minimum width	250	250	180	180	160	140

B.2.b Horses	H80	H90	H100	H2*	H3*	H4*
Minimum width	250	250	200	170	155	140

- consultation with Athletes
- Rule definition of the knock down a flag (7 penalties): "if the horse or rider causes any flag to leave the upper attachment, they will be considered to have knocked down a flag, but does not need to represent the obstacle"
- Regulations for approval of XC Courses
 - Some XC courses were ready too late which led to issues for the Course maps, Athletes, Organisers and also TD in particular when multiple classes were held.
 - To obtain Draft schedule approval, Course Designers must present, at least 6 weeks prior to competition, a draft of each XC course.
 - Any issues can be addressed in a timely manner with the TD, CD and Organiser
 - Reviewing team to set the strategy for the next year's course
 - Database of questions asked on XC courses
- Consistency of XC courses
 - Survey asking Riders, Trainers, NF Team Coaches, Doctors, Veterinarians, etc. If courses were of the adequate level
- Training accident reporting: trainers were now asked to fill in a report on incidents related to Fences during XC training.

2.2 USA NF – Jonathan Holling, NSO

Annex IV Annex IV(.2) XC Schooling Guidelines

The USA NSO presented the steps undertaken by the USA NF in 2020 regarding Risk Management:

- Through the US XC Safety Committee, the following additional Rules had been instituted:
 - Jumping Rule: 20 or more jumping penalties in the Jumping test, the Athlete cannot continue the competition for the XC or would be eliminated (depending on whether the Jumping is before or after XC).
 - Concussion on course: stricter inspection by Doctors
 - National Horse Trials: CDs have the authority to pull up a Horse on Course
- Schooling facilities are where a large percentage of accidents occurred, USEF has implemented a XC schooling guideline document to improve Risk Management and educate the community during XC schooling (see Annex V)
- After a tragic accident at a National event in February 2020, which occurred at a non-frangible table fence,, Jonathan Holling led a group which raised 500,000 USD to set a Frangible fence fund. Through the grant programme, OCs could apply for funding of frangible devices for their Venue + 1000 USD grant. So far, there have been 238 grants (151 tables, 53 oxers and 34 gate/wall fences) allocated. The amount was raised through a multi-media campaign, social media, video updates, updates on fundraising goals and a personal tattoo (...!)

Geoff Sinclair added that the RMSG was looking into making tables fitted with a frangible device compulsory in the FEI Rules. The yellow frangible device was a great improvement for table fitting.

Questions:

Q: Could the XC Schooling Guidelines be made available?

A: They will be included on the FEI Website as an Annex (Annex IV (.2)).

2.3 IRL NF – Alison Packman, NSO

Annex VI

The 2020 National statistics for Ireland were presented:

- The season was delayed until July, as a consequence, the number of events was reduced by 50 % compared to 2019
- The number of XC clear rates had slightly increased compared to the previous years, most probably due to less challenging courses
- Number of horse falls had dropped significantly since using EquiRatings
- The EquiRatings ERQI system was used, Horses could only compete if they had green or amber EquiRatings rating. This had significantly helped reducing Horse Falls as red-classified Athletes were not allowed to start
- No day tickets (National day registrations) were given in 2020, all athletes competing were members and horses were registered

2.4 POR NF – Emanuel Umbelino, NSO

Annex VII

In 2020, only 2 venues organised events in Portugal: Barroca d'Alva and Alter de Chao.

4 National Events were organised with 14 competitions, 95 starters (Cross Country), level of competition from 0.90 to 1.15m.

Since 2003, the National Eventing Rules followed the FEI Rules.

Course Designers had been made aware of Risk Management related issues and how to implement safety by attending trainings, clinics, etc. as well as use of the FEI Eventing XC Guide for Officials.

Currently, a total of 15 fences were fitted with frangible devices at 2*, 3* and 4* level.

The main goal for the POR NF was to develop the sport and bringing more Athletes safely to the sport.

2.5 JPN NF – Shigeru Hashimoto, NSO

Annex VIII

During the first half of 2020 the NF was unable to run competitions, therefore, a quiz was prepared to provide the community to keep interest in Eventing.

During the second half of 2020, 22 competitions were organised with 270 starters.

The goal was to stay focused on the Olympic Games in Tokyo and prepare for after the Olympic Games.

Fingers were crossed for the Olympic Games and Geoff Sinclair acknowledged the huge amount of work from Japan to make these Games happen.

2.6 ESP NF – Felicísimo Aguado Arroyo, NSO

Annex IX

The ESP NSO thanked the FEI for organising the yearly Risk Management Seminar as the points raised contributed to increasing awareness in the Eventing Community.

Covid-19 had had immense consequences on Eventing competitions with 19% less participation in 2020 than in previous years.

Generally in Spain between March and July, 40% of starters and competitions were held. The ESP NF had made a very big effort in the organisation of competitions despite the pandemic, by adapting Rules, continued education of Officials via seminars and implementation of new technologies (improving the courses' safety with new technologies).

During the pandemic, stakeholders organised meetings to set up a programme on Instagram defining topics related to safety each week and spreading safety awareness to the community, Athletes and Coaches.

2.7 AUS NF – Meredith Chapman, NSO

Annex X

2020 was a year like no other. There had been two major crises in 2020 for the Australian NF: The Covid-19 response and voluntary administration of the NF.

Number of events were reduced from 70 to 32 and a new Board was elected.

The Eventing Risk Management matrix, which was started in 2017 by the previous NSO Roger Kane had been updated, the main message was changed from “management” to “proactive” as health and safety needed to cover prevention, being protective and being very proactive.

Preventive measures:

- Updates of National Guidelines and Rules
- Phase 1 of the Coronial records (Report / recommendations following Coroners’ inquest)

Protective measures:

- Updated concussion protocols & New training
- Concussion on-hold-MyEA (athletes with concussion are prevented from entering an event until they can present a medical certificate)
- MSP (Medical Service Provider) Register
- MSP Pre-event Service agreement and Audit process (Doctors, paramedics, etc.)
- 2021 Horse welfare

Proactive measures:

- Competitive Survey
- Horse Fall Injury Analysis
- Event De-briefs (Covid-19)
- National CIMT (Critical Incident Management Team)
- Phase 2 Audit: Coronial Recommendations
- OC-Official Survey
- Australian Eventing Forum
- New Incident Reporting Protocols

2020 Eventing Statistics and facts 2020:

- ▶ 6892 XC Starters> 32 events: 214 Rider Falls & 13 Horse Falls
- ▶ Mechanism of falls: 1) Horse refusal & 2) Rider lost balance
- ▶ All reported falls: 3.3% minor injuries riders & horses
- ▶ 20% all falls were on the flat
- ▶ 29% of 185 jump falls: with a combination fence
- ▶ Additional 113 falls (SJ & Dressage)
 - 47.7% SJ & 19.5% warm up
 - 16% Dressage (Inc warm up)
 - 7% XC Warm-up (1 unspecified location)

Technical Delegates have been reporting on frangible devices, support and training has been provided to them to improve communication.

Health and Safety interventions:

• Medical Reporting Review

A consistent reporting process across all states with all Organising Committees had been implemented to allow the collection of accurate data. Incident reporting was Equestrian specific.

- Forms were developed for all Medical Service providers, the first (form 06) for service agreement, the second (form 07) for an audit of their equipment and skills to elevate the medical standards at Eventing events.
- Incident Report Form (form 08) was developed and information is collected in a database. Concussion information was included on the form.
- Medical Service providers were offered training, support and communication

Geoff Sinclair highlighted the importance to ensure strong medical requirements during Events. The medical requirements currently set in the 2021 FEI Eventing Rules were recommendations with the aim of implementing them as Rules after two years taking into account the feedback of implementation from National Federations.

The FEI Eventing & Olympic Director stressed the importance of reporting medical incidents.

Questions:

Q: Do you get all the data concerning injuries/diseases from the doctors with the strong restrictions due to privacy and confidentiality.

A: We have included a medical history section on Form 08. We encourage history relevant to treatment and injury status. e.g. allergies, medications etc.

2.8 NED NF – Gert Naber, NSO

Annex XI

The NED NF had developed since 2001 the Dutch breakable pole following the death of 2 horses in Boekelo, which had been presented to the 2008 FEI Eventing Safety Forum in Copenhagen. It had been tested for FEI approval in 2013, however, did not pass as there was no clear indicator of when a pole needed to be replaced, this aspect was not important for National competitions as no penalty for breaking the pole was applied. Efforts to obtain the FEI approval had been discontinued in 2015.

The Dutch breakable pole consisted of a cardboard structure with waterproof coating, produced under ISO standards, lightweight, affordable, durable, and available in different natural colours and different diameters sizes.

After consultation with experts and not obtaining FEI approval, the NED NF had decided to maintain use the “breakable pole” in national events as it had a positive impact on safety and the image of the sport especially for horse welfare.

The use was compulsory at all National competitions. The distribution was done through a centre delivering to all 80 cm to 110 cm competitions 14 days prior to the competition (above 110 cm events were considered FEI). After the competition, the poles were collected and delivered to the next competition. The standard package was composed of 18 poles which allowed to build several fences.

The MIM devices were mandatory in 1.00m and 1.10m competitions. For national competitions these were provided free of charge, funded by the Dutch Safety Fund.

The “Eventing Safety Fund” was supplied by the riders’ contribution of €2.50 per competition start. It covered the costs of research, development and distribution of the Dutch pole and the use of MIM devices.

Guidelines for National Course Designing had been developed for National Course Designers based on FEI Guide and used from 80 cm to 115 cm competitions.

Questions:

Q: What was the cost of the Dutch pole?

A: Between € 80 and € 140 depending on the diameter

Q: Has it helped reduce falls?

A: It had reduced rotational falls as the pole breaks both on horizontal and/or vertical force

2.9 AUT NF – Katrin Eichinger-Kniely, NSO

Annex XII

In 2020, only 1/3 of competitions with 50% of starters were organised compared to the previous years. The rider falls increased from 3.46 % to 3.77 % and only one horse fall was recorded.

A large amount of rider falls did not relate to fence (Athletes out of balance, not riding according to ground conditions, too fast). In 2018, it was 20% of falls, in 2019, 25 % of falls and 2020 21 % of falls.

The AUT NF tried to raise the Athletes, Trainers and Judges’ awareness. A rider fitness programme had been developed as an educational tool by Judith Eisnecker, AUT NF Education responsible and FEI Eventing Judge. The programme had been developed to help

athletes improve with better body awareness, which had a direct effect on suppleness and security. It was split in two parts covering:

- Theoretical background and exercises for a balanced seat
- Practice on horse biomechanics and riding lessons in movement with the horse

The first session included 30 participants and would be further developed to hopefully improve the rate of falls not related to a fence.

The Trainers and Judges Seminar will be organised in March either on site or by videoconference.

2.10 FRA NF – Laurent Bousquet, NF Representative

Annex XIII

Several measures had been planned by the French NF in 2020 but due to Covid-19, not all had been implemented.

The distribution of athletes per category showed that the vast majority were amateurs. France had a very large number of events and starters.

In 2019, the following action plan was developed:

October 2019: Working meeting with 70 actors of the sport to analyse the situation, following fatal accident of a French Athlete

December 2019:

- Creation of a Steering Committee to establish a *security management system* (with participation of skydiving actors)
- Creation of 8 Working Groups from different sectors (Riders, Horses, Equipment, Rules, Officials, Coaches, Obstacles and Communication)

The 2020 Action plan included:

January 2020: Professor Fournier (head trauma surgeon) had provided a video on head trauma, concussion and its management

February 2020: Rules modification and creation of a FFE (FRA NF) manual for Course Designers correlated to the FEI XC Guide, providing fundamental advice on XC building as well as guidelines for Athletes to move from one level to the next

March 2020: Implementation of a new Fall Report to develop a database on fall circumstances.

Visit by Michel Asseray of CRITT (testing laboratory of sport equipment): helmets and personal protective equipment to provide guidance and advice on use of safety equipment as well as a helmet study & impact.

May 2020: Large Safety meeting to review the progress of the last 6 months and provide proposal from the FRA Steering Committee to the French Eventing Committee

July 2020: Setting alert levels for Course Designers having more than 3% of Falls and 15% Eliminations reported, leading to an ongoing training of Course Designers to raise awareness on XC Design related to risk management.

All concerned by Safety actions:

- No penalties if broken frangible device on course to encourage use of frangible devices. To be reconsidered by the FRA NF, once the safety devices have been well implemented in FRA.
- Creation of a XC Warm-up Steward short list with elements to check before start, i.e.: is the athlete on his own? Is a coach with him? Is he stressed? Is he relaxed before start? Is tack and equipment used relevant?
- Creation of *Group of Athletes/coaches "alerters"* who have enough knowledge to support the Judges in warm-up/training areas and XC Courses to raise awareness during Events. If an Athlete is identified by one of the members of this group as not ready to start XC for example, the member can report awareness to the Judges for action.
- Video tutorials have been added to the FFE Campus website on Coaching, physical training, how to prepare for a competition, etc.

- Publication of the Rules: the preamble has been modified, new rules and modifications related to safety
- Safety issues awareness program to be developed for Young riders and children following a Belgian initiative

All the safety issues needed a collective approach, improvements will happen as we all work together on this subject. "Safety – all concerned".

Geoff Sinclair reminded that France was a very strong country in Eventing, especially with the children and pony development community. He suggested that the FRA Fall Report be shared with the attendees.

Laurent Bousquet mentioned the intention to test the *Yellow Flag* programme in France. Athletes under adrenaline during a course, could have their judgement altered and when there are a series of bad jumps, would not withdraw on their own initiative on course willingly. The aim of the yellow flag, would be an intermediate step between Fence Judges observation and Red flag, to raise awareness for Athletes on course to make the right decision for his horse before being red flagged. The FRA NF would implement this flagging protocol in 2021.

David O'Connor reminded this protocol had been tested a few years ago in Pratoni (ITA) and it was currently not against the FEI Rules and could be internationally implemented as long as the Athletes and Officials were made aware prior to the Cross Country start.

The main question was to decide who was capable of having the responsibility to use the Yellow Flag during XC.

2.11 GER NF – Philine Ganders-Meyer, NSO

Annex XIV

Germany had started competitions in May 2020 despite the pandemic restrictions. All scheduled Championships had taken place.

In addition to the 700 MIM devices already fitted on fences, a further 165 had been distributed to Organisers and training centres free of charge in 2020.

2020 projects /actions:

- Video project: 720 minutes of video footage for educational video clips for Athletes and Coaches had been filmed.
 - The short videos (5-7 minutes) for social media on safe Cross Country riding had been made with expert Coaches covering areas such as: position of the rider, stirrup length, Rock & Ruby Mechanical horse use, physical education fitness programme to improve stability and flexibility, horse fitness, safety equipment use, mental training for competition preparation and Course walk priorities.
- 205 Eventing Emergency Doctors had been educated
- Further studies about the frangible system "Klengel-reverse pin combination" had been made. After additional testing at national competitions in 2021 it will be submitted to the FEI for approval.
- MIM frangible devices would be distributed free for the Organisers in 2020 and 2021 as funding was available. Additional fences had been built and were available for rent use. The goal was to have all CNC2* and above use MIM tables and Corners.
- 2 kettlebells were available in Germany for testing
- Squad and top riders were available to organisers to act as mentors for XC course walk with the TD and CD to share ideas on safety from the riders point of view.
- Workshops for Officials and Organisers
- New education tool: FN levelUp App – Video Analysis by experts: allowed Athletes to upload a video of training at home to the App that could then be commented by a selected Coach. It was not meant to replace the Athletes' coach but to provide an additional point of view.

Questions:

Q: Geoff Sinclair highlighted the importance of making the Coaching videos available to all.

A: Philine Ganders-Meyer reminded that the videos would be made available on Youtube.

2.12 SVK NF – Sylvia Gavornikova, NSO

Annex XV

The number of competitions in Slovakia had substantially reduced in 2020 due to the pandemic. Only 2 Events, 5 Competitions with 39 starters had been organised. No falls had been recorded.

Due to the situation, the ability to obtain MERs for Athletes had been almost impossible. All athletes would therefore aim to compete also abroad in 2021 to obtain MERs.

It was questioned whether National competition results could be used for International MER purpose?

David O'Connor reminded that the FEI Board had agreed that no exemptions would be granted in relation to authorising National MERs for International purposes, as a Risk Management measure.

The SVK NSO mentioned that NFs were giving exemptions for Athletes to compete in National competitions abroad and this was a worry as no exceptions should be given. It was answered that Working Groups existed in some NFs, i.e. USA or GBR to address such issues, in consultation with Regional Coaches. The SVK NSO was encouraged to discuss the issue more closely with neighbouring countries like Poland.

2.13 GBR NF – Jonathan Clissold, NSO

Annex XVI

The 2020 season saw a huge drop in number of events with only 40 % of starters (32,152 starters instead of the usual 75,000).

Rider falls remained at a similar level to previous years, however, there was a considerable drop of Horse Falls.

Continuous Requirements (CPR) were being used with the help of EquiRatings, 7,375 horses had been considered in the analysis and 79 (1.1%) had received a reverse qualification under these CPR rules.

A significant increase of MERs were obtained in 2020, possibly due to more time for training or reduced difficulty of the courses.

An increased number of clear rounds had been noted.

The CPR & Reverse Qualification system was proving efficient and there was a better understanding from Athletes that protocols had been into place for their own benefit and Risk Management.

The CPR list was currently sent to the Technical Delegates and Athletes were made aware of their Reverse Qualifications.

The EquiRatings® ERQI were currently being used and HFI would be envisaged to bring transparency for Athletes.

Questions:

Q: Did GBR consciously reduce the degree of difficulty of the XC courses in 2020 due to circumstances?

A: There may have been a tendency to do that for the first events, but on the whole it was not felt that this was the case

Q: Some Equiratings data showed 2020 competitor breakdown in the higher levels appeared to be more professional riders. Could be reason for BE results on MER and falls.

A: The data might have been for the USA, however, the breakdown of GBR data would be interesting.

2.14 ITA NF – Alberto Casolari, NSO

Annex XV

It was a difficult year for Italy due to the pandemic and reduced competitions. 278 competitions were run with 2,188 starters, 83 athlete falls and 4 horse falls. Thankfully no serious injuries were recorded.

The ITA NF currently had 16 Organising Committees and a dedicated and experienced group of trainers.

NF Action plan:

- Application of the FEI Rules and guidelines. ITA Rules were updated every year
- Event show management "Show and Courses Committee" to help OCs improve their shows
- Course Design Guidelines
- Financial aid to OCs for new fences
- Encouraged Officials' qualification to start FEI career
- Risk Management Committee implementation from 2021 with a focus on active safety (improvement of general and XC riding technique, horses and riders fitness, horse health, etc.) and passive safety (improvement of Course Designing, fence construction).

Geoff Sinclair welcomed Alberto Casolari to the NSO Group and hoped he would find it useful to share ideas.

2.15 SUI NF – Marius Marro, NSO and Dominik Burger, NF Representative

Annex XVI

The SUI NF Safety and Horse project was presented.

Six competitive "masterclass" trainings had been organised in 2020, to compensate for the decrease of competitions linked to Covid-19 pandemic and further to the qualification of the Swiss team for the Olympic Games. These trainings had allowed scientific Horse analysis using many different devices (Alogo, Equigait, Arioneo, etc.) and grouping data to improve safety. It was a standardized study on 37 horses, checked 3 times at a 3 weeks interval. The study had been conducted by the Bern University with 25 Veterinarians and Students involved. The competitions had been held in an identical format, with on the first day the Vet check, Dressage and the first Jumping round. On the second day, there was the Cross Country and on the third day a Vet check, the second Jumping round (to compare horses jumping before and after XC).

The Cross Country had been built to resemble the Tokyo Olympic Cross Country Course on a racetrack. Equibois and Christian Achard provided the fences and the competitions were livestreamed (27,000 Facebook visitors).

For the scientific study the horses had been examined on the same day with the consent of the owners and riders. A questionnaire per horse had been filled and the horses had been examined by the Veterinarians but also with a system called Equigait, which registered the irregularity of every limb. Heart rates and ECG had been measured together with lactate levels, thermography measurement and evaluation of gait analysed, to study possible links between heartrate irregularities, stress of horses and adequate training.

The data analysis raised scientific questions to enable improvement of risk management.

The Masterclasses would be held again in 2021 to further explore scientific studies and data collection related to Risk Management of Athletes and Horses.

Geoff Sinclair encouraged the SUI NF to provide the results and findings from the scientific studies.

2.16 CAN NF – Fleur Tipton, NF Representative

Rob Stevenson had stepped down temporarily from his role in the Risk Management Steering Group and NSO for 2021. Fleur Tipton had replaced him as NSO.

Covid-19 had had a huge impact on competitions in Canada in 2020 with a reduction of 70% of competitions and starters, a slight decrease of the number of falls was noted.

Since 2005, fall reports have been required for any fall happening during warm-up or competition at all competition levels. One of the objectives was to eliminate rotational falls. In the past 7 years, there have been no rotational falls reported.

A Concussion and Return to play protocol was established, athletes needed to be cleared of the medical suspension before going back to competition.

Following the tragic loss of a CAN Athlete in the USA at a national competition, the National Eventing Committee had reinstated a strengthened Risk Management programme including:

- Safety initiative programme: small grants to Organisers to access frangible technology or purchase of clips and flagpoles.
- Education programme: webinars with focus on Course Design for Officials, Coaches and Athletes (encourage Athletes to approach Course Designers about a Course and break communication barriers)
- Launch of a Course in March 2021 for Officials to maintain status or be promoted
- E-Campus platform launch with published educational videos
- Athlete and Coach education programme with training camps (postponed to 2021)
- Athlete fitness programme launched on YouTube

The FEI could provide more information to CAN NF in regards to minor injury/serious injury definition.

CONCLUSIONS

David O'Connor proposed that a survey would be sent out to attendees of the Seminar to understand if an Online Seminar could replace an in-person as a useful platform, sufficiently efficient if to be made permanent.

It was confirmed that the Seminar stream, Reports and Annexes would be made available on the FEI Website.

For the future NSO seminars, the participation of the NSOs of all NFs involved in Eventing would be compulsory, as it was essential for the Eventing community to stay updated on Risk Management related matters.

Geoff Sinclair thanked the Risk Management Steering Group, the Eventing Committee, the FEI Eventing and IT Department, and the all participants for making this Seminar happen and ongoing work for the benefit of Eventing and Risk Management.

On a positive note, he reminded that the Sport would most certainly develop quickly when competition would be permitted again.

Finally, the NSOs were thanked as the whole Risk Management programme could not work without them. The huge amount of work going on in all the different NFs, the enthusiasm and willingness to share the information were invaluable.

David O'Connor thanked the attendees for the Seminar as it was a continuous improvement in regards to Risk Management and enhanced education. He reminded that the door was open for communication and the NSOs should reach out to the FEI with any query.