

Dear Catrin and members of the FEI Eventing Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to engage in the debate on the future of our Olympic Sport. We had a meeting with our stakeholders within the Eventing discipline in Sweden together with Peter Reinebo from the Swedish NOC.

Peter Reinebo presented and explained the main essence in the Olympic Agenda 2020.

The SWE NF are convinced that changes has to be done and we all have the same objective – to maintain our Olympic status by modernizing and developing Eventing, whilst keeping the very essence of the sport.

By doing this we have to focus on following

- Engagement, dedication
- Presentation
- Understanding
- Sustainability

Our opinion is that the changes that so far has been presented is not enough to fulfill the wish of IOC to modernize and make Eventing a sport for the broad audience.

Therefore we propose a different format – Cross Country test in reverse order of merits from the result of show jumping as the last phase.

We believe that using the format with having the Cross Country test as the last phase, would create easy understanding, attracts a broader audience, easy to present and package to media and most important it keeps the essence and focus of the Cross Country phase in our sport.

As we need to reduce the number of Athletes but still increase the number of Nations, then our suggestion is to have a 3 Horse/Athlete combinations per Nation.

We also strongly believe that this will enhance the security of both Horses and Athletes as with no drop score Athletes and Team officials cannot take any risks as this can jeopardize the team result.

Having the Cross Country test as the last phase will also eliminate the risk of not having a full team of 3 combinations entering the final phase of the competition.

We also need to have two separate competitions for the individual medals and team medals.

Our suggestion then is to have an individual competition with a maximum of 2 individual Athletes per Nation in the beginning of the Olympic period, i.e. the first two days. Dressage and Showjumping on the first day and Cross Country test on the second day, followed by a Medal ceremony. With a shorter Dressage test, Show Jumping and Dressage can be done in one day.

Towards the end of the Olympic Games, ten days in between the individual competition, the Team competition could be held with 15 Team with three Athletes per Team. On the first day Dressage could be held in the morning followed by a break and then Show Jumping in the afternoon.

Second day, Cross Country test followed by Team Medals.

For the Team Competition the Cross Country test can easily be changed by altering /removing/adding portable obstacles to create a different course.

We know that the formula with having the Cross County test as the last performance is working, and well received by all as it has been used in Aachen the last couple of years.

We are well aware of the negative reactions that this will inhibit the possibility to show that Eventing is caring for Animal Welfare by, after veterinary check, show our horses in showjumping.

We disagree with this opinion as the Horses will not have to perform the day after the strenuous Cross Country test.

We strongly believe that it is against animal welfare when veterinarians and physiotherapists has to treat and work with horses to make them able to Show Jump the day after the Cross Country test.

A large majority is of the opinion that if, having the Cross Country test as the last phase Riders will jeopardize the safety of their Horses while riding too fast and hard.

We strongly disagree with this, but we firmly believe that Athletes on this level rides and treats their Horses with responsibility and respect.

We know that there are several issues to be worked on before implementing this formula but by doing these changes we truly believe that we can fulfill the criteria of:



- Engagement, dedication
- Presentation
- Understanding
- Sustainability

We are well aware of that this proposal may see far-reaching but are also confident that these changes will make Eventing an attractive event among the Olympic disciplines for coming years. This changes will meet the demand and create a broader interest from Media, audience and organizers without changing the soul of our sport.

// Swedish Equestrian Federation