

The IEOC / AOCCI and

The FEI Global Education Programme for Eventing Officials 2009 - 2013

As Members of the International Eventing Officials Club [IEOC] and members of the Association of Eventing Organisers [AOCCI], I have great pleasure in giving you the following **'Good News'**!

Andy Griffiths [Deputy Chairman of the FEI Eventing Technical Committee] and Catrin Norinder [FEI Director of Multi Sport Games, FEI Eventing World Cup and the Eventing Department] put together a detailed 'presentation' in 2008, to apply to the FEI for 'funding' for a "Long Term Global Educational Programme for Eventing Officials".

Harald Muller [FEI Executive Director for Development] presented this programme to the FEI Bureau meeting at Interlaken in April 2008, and then to the General Assembly at Buenos Aires - where [on both occasions] he was supported by Wayne Roycroft [Chairman of the FEI Eventing Technical Committee] and the presentation [and essential funding] received full approval.

While we were at the FEI Bureau meeting at Interlaken in April 2008, Andy Griffiths asked me if the IEOC / AOCCI would be interested in 'helping' to get this programme established.

Since then I've been assisting Andy to put the "Words into Actions" that will hopefully bring a 'major' benefit to EVERYONE within International Eventing.

The involvement of the IEOC / AOCCI really makes sense, as some of the 'proposals' put forward in the **NEW** programme are actually 'extensions / continuations' of the schemes already organised / proposed by the IEOC / AOCCI.

Andy Griffiths and I had a meeting at Heathrow on 29th December 2008, and we subsequently attended a successful meeting at the HQ of the FEI in Lausanne, on Thursday 8th January 2009, along with:

- Harald Muller [FEI Executive Director of Development]
- David Holmes [FEI Executive Sports Director]
- Catrin Norinder [FEI Eventing Department]

As you can imagine, there is still a great deal of work to do, and the 'official' announcement about this programme is scheduled for the beginning of March 2009.

In the meantime I want to let you know - so that we [or more appropriately "I"] can start to put together a "database" of FEI listed Eventing Officials, and also of International Event Organisers / Directors [at all star levels] - the following decisions have been made:

- As from 1st January 2009
- FEI listed Eventing Officials will 'automatically' become members of the IEOC / AOCCI [no annual membership fee required]. I realise that some of the 'really good' members have already paid for 2009, and where these fees have not yet been banked, etc. we will try to return them, etc.
- IEOC Regional Representatives: Those of you who already act as wonderful "Regional Representatives" of the IEOC can be assured that there will still be an important job for you within the NEW programme - you will just have to 'wait' for further details!

- [FEI Event Organisers / Directors](#) [at all star levels] will automatically become members of the IEOC / AOCCI [no annual membership fee required]

These decisions will be a great help in starting to compile a major 'database' containing names, current details, and 'up-to-date' e-mail addresses for FEI Listed Eventing Officials and Event Organisers / Directors, which will enable all those involved with 'Organising and Officiating' at International Events, to be contacted / informed, quickly - when necessary - and to facilitate the New Global Education Programme, at the same time.

Collecting the fairly small IEOC / AOCCI 'membership fees' has always been difficult - and especially in the present financial climate with the seriously 'fluctuating' currencies, so our long suffering Treasurer - David Lee - is glad to hear that they are being abolished!

The Chairman of the IEOC - Richard Meade - is presently working on up-dating the "Articles of Association / Statutes" of the IEOC - which are now seriously out of date, having been prepared 11 years ago! The 2008 General Assembly of the FEI agreed to affiliate organisations such as the IEOC and AOCCI, as 'Associate' members for a 1 year period. This will give them access to the FEI Family [extranet] which is to provide an 'online' office for all FEI Stakeholders.

I fully realise that this is all a very "serious" undertaking - but I'm prepared to give it a go, and so I have accepted the position of:

- "Project Administrator" - to the FEI Eventing Project Management Group.

So now you all know how I'm going to 'cope' with my "ENFORCED RETIREMENT" as an FEI Eventing Judge!

I do hope that you are happy to 'progress' the IEOC / AOCCI in this 'direction', and look forward to being able to provide you with further 'details' of this exciting Education Programme - when they are officially announced!

Kindest regards,

Jean Mitchell [Secretary General of the IEOC]