

Regional Meeting of the IEOC, held at
Badminton on
Friday 2nd May 2003

Members in attendance:

Neil Clinton [AUS]; Angela Tucker [GBR]; Wolfgang Feld [GER]; Eric Smiley [IRL]; Ninnie Odenrick [IRL]; Martin Plewa [GER]; Jane Tolley [GBR]; Lyndsay Jenkins [GBR]; Christian Landolt[SUI]; Sue Stewart [GBR]; Andy Bowles [NZL]; Annabel Scrimgeour [GBR]; John Lawrence [GBR]; Jonathan Clissold [GBR]; Tim Hadaway [GBR]; Francois Lucas [FRA]; Gillian Watson [GBR]; Rosemary Lowry [IRL]; Michael Bullen [GBR]; Sue Benson [GBR]; Judy Bradwell [GBR]; Sally O'Connor [USA]; Richard Meade [GBR]; Diann Schrapel [AUS]; Brian Schrapel [AUS]; Jane Starkey [GBR]; Bridget Parker [GBR]; Denis Currie [IRL]; Colin Furness [GBR] David Lee [IRL]; David Merrett [GBR]. Roger Day [GBR]; Roger Edberg [SWE]; [33 present] – there may be others who did not ‘sign in’.

Guests:

Wayne Roycroft – Chairman of the FEI Three day Event Committee

Giuseppe Della Chiesa – Member of the FEI Three Day Event Committee

Andrew Fell [IRL] – TD / CD

Jane Bennett [NZL] – FEI Steward

Apologies were received from:

Frederik Obel [DEN] Vice Chairman of the IEOC; Pat & Yvonne Monaghan [IRL]; Peter & Faith Ponsonby [IRL]; Michael Bell [GBR]; Ronald Alexander [GBR]; Christoph Hess [GER]; Jonathan Warr [GBR]; Mike Etherington-Smith [GBR]; John Tulloch [GBR]; Gillian Kyle [IRL]; Eddy Stibbe [AOH]; Hugh Thomas [GBR]; and Mike Tucker [GBR].

- **The “Acting” Chairman** of the IEOC – The Lord Carew – welcomed everyone to the meeting, and thanked Hugh Thomas for the use of the Director’s Tent, and the hospitality.
- **Patrick** then explained that the Chairman of the IEOC – Bernd Springorum – had decided, at the beginning of 2003, to retire at the 4th AGM, to be held at Punchestown in September. Due to the fact that Bernd was going to be away on business in South America, when the FEI Course for Top Officials took place in March at Warendorf, he asked Patrick to ‘stand in’ as ‘Acting Chairman’ from that date.
- **In 2003** the Board of the IEOC has provided various assistance to the FEI Three Day Event Committee - through Mike Etherington-Smith, including:
 - Assistance with the up-dating of the FEI Memorandum – with Tony McPherson
 - Assistance with the NEW Syllabus for FEI Eventing courses – with Jonathan Warr
 - Judge’s, TD’s and CD’s questionnaires for FEI Eventing Courses – Mike E-S and Jennifer Miller
 - Produced an ‘Aide Memoire’ for the President of the Ground Jury – Jean Mitchell
- **The Secretary General** – Jean – then reported that the IEOC web-site:

www.i-eoc.org

is ‘up and running’ and should be used as much as possible for communication between the Board and the Members, and indeed – using the Bulletin Board –

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between members. Details of all the Regional meetings, their minutes and other matters of interest are all available on the web site, and there is a 'fools guide' about using the Bulletin Board, which is totally 'free'.

- The minutes of the International Show Jumping Club [ISJC] are also available on the web site, and are extremely well produced, and interesting.
- The minutes from the "Top Officials" course at Warendorf are also on the web site.
- In the FEI Bulletin 1/04 it states that:
 1. Further to the recommendation of the Strategic Planning Committee, the Bureau agreed to recommend to organisers to pay a 'per diem' allowance of €100 for the Veterinary Officials, Judges, TD's and Chief Stewards, in addition to their travel expenses. **While this seems a very good idea for the officials, the feeling of the meeting was that many Organising Committees could not afford this payment, and of course it is only a 'recommendation' and not compulsory.**
 2. From 1st January 2004, it will no longer be *compulsory* for National Federations to purchase Bulletins for all their officials in the FEI Directory, and the Bulletin will be available on the FEI web site.
- Jean explained that there were continuing difficulties with sourcing a 'Bank' that would take the IEOC account, at reasonable and affordable charges. The 'acting treasurer' David Lee is in continued negotiation with Dolores Bruun, and it is hoped that she will arrange for the IEOC account to remain in her bank, while David takes on the 'role' of Treasurer.
- **Therefore years 2002 and 2002 have been free, and there will be a membership fee decided, for 2004.**
- There was a discussion about the 'Future Format' for the Olympic Games, World Games, etc, and particularly Athens 2004.
- **Wayne Roycroft** explained that the IOC are not 'horse people' and that changes have to come, so that Eventing can stay within the Olympics. This means the dropping of the 'endurance' of Phases A, B and C, having a shorter Cross Country – 10 minutes, but at a 'significant' level – 4 star. He said that there was nothing to stop other Organising Committees continuing to run CCI**** competitions, with 9 – 12 minutes of Cross Country and up to 45 jumping efforts.
- **Mike Bullen** questioned the fact that Aachen had 'bid' to run a CCI**** at the next World Equestrian Games, and seemed to be 'going back' on this by now suggesting that 'for various reasons' it may now change to a CIC**** and he quoted the fact that they are capable of running the '4 in hand' championships.
- **Richard Meade** stated that in his opinion the changes so far are 'mostly' good, but the committee have had to go back on some of them. He agreed with Mike Bullen that

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Aachen should stick to the CCI format, or at least wait and see how the 'Athens' format works in 2004. In his opinion if Aachen is permitted to change now, it will be unfortunate and regrettable.

- **Wayne Roycroft** continued to explain that there were so many 'extra' costs at Sydney e.g. \$AUS 3 million for an Indoor Stadium, that there needs to be a compromise, and this was generally agreed. It's very important that we support the Executive of the FEI.
- **4 star events have to be "Commercially, Morally and Physically" viable to be retained.**
- **Roger Day** asked "what will the IOC think of us in 5 years time"? In his opinion they are ruthless to 'all sports' and that it's necessary to be economical and also entertaining.
- **By keeping Eventing in the Olympics, there is at least \$10 million per year, paid into the sport, so it's vital that we stay in the Olympic programme.**
- **Giuseppe Della Chiesa** agreed that it's necessary to be 'in' the games, and the decisions have now been taken for Athens, so we can wait and see [and learn] from them.
- **Christian Landolt and Roger Edberg** put forward a suggestion that in future the FEI Championships at Junior Level should be a CIC*, and not a CCI* as at present. They feel that this change is necessary with the new qualifications, school terms, etc. and the way the sport is evolving, and there was general agreement.
- **Jean mentioned the changes in the 'running' of the FEI Eventing Seminars and the new Syllabus**, which are basically good. However, there have already been problems with finding a 'TOP' Dressage Director, as many of these judges are booked up years in advance. Also, the method of 'assessing' the FEI officials and recommending them for promotion etc. needs to be much clearer.
- **Jean also brought up the subject of the 'training' of FEI Chief Stewards, who now have now to play a very big part in the running of International events.** At present there is a great demand for some better form of training, and indeed a request that they can be included in some part of the Eventing seminars. We now have assistant TD's at most events, and indeed there are many requests from FEI Chief Stewards to be allowed to 'shadow' the more experienced Chief Stewards at the major events.
- **Jean also advised those present that there will be an "Open Eventing Forum" held on Monday 10th and Tuesday 11th November at Addington Manor Equestrian Centre, Buckinghamshire, England – more details on the web site:**

www.openeventingforum.com

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At this point, they're being no further business, Patrick thanked everyone for their attendance, and the meeting was closed.

Jean Mitchell

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