



## Minutes of the IEOC Regional Meeting at Badminton, on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May, 2009 at 5.00pm

### **In attendance:**

Richard Meade [GBR Chairman]; Jean Mitchell [IRL Secretary General]; Andy Griffiths [GBR]; Sue Stewart [GBR]; Les Smith [GBR]; Polly Lochore [GBR]; Francois Lucas [FRA]; Katherine Lucheschi [ITA]; Pattie Biden [GBR]; John Tulloch [GBR]; Tom Ryckewaert [BEL]; Giuseppe Della Chiesa [ITA]; Pierre Michelet [FRA]; Annabel Scrimgeour [GBR]; Christian Landolt [SUI]; Gill Watson [GBR]; Julia Otto [GER]; Anne-Marie Taylor [GBR]; Michel Asseray [FRA]; Justin Llewelyn [GBR]; Liz Inman [GBR]; James Wolfe [USA]; Paul Farrington [GBR]; Judy Bradwell [GBR]; Roger Haller [USA]; Dr. Gerit Matthesen [GER]; Andrew Fell [IRL]; Roger Day [GBR]; Mike Etherington-Smith [GBR]; Mary Hambro [GBR]; Eric Winter [GBR]; Angela Tucker [GBR]; Sandy Phillips [GBR]; Jane Holderness-Roddam [GBR]; Lord and Lady Carew [IRL]; Jennie Loriston-Clarke [GBR]; Ronald Alexander [GBR]; Mike Tucker [GBR];

**Guests:** Chris Hodson [NZL] FEI 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President; John McEwen [GBR] Chairman of the FEI Veterinary Committee; Carsten Couchouron: FEI Executive Director Commercial; Catrin Norinder: Director of the FEI Eventing Department and Edoardo Lucheschi [ITA].

**Apologies:** David Lee [IRL]; Gillian Kyle [IRL]; Vanda Robinson [IRL]; Patricia Clifton [GBR]; Sue Baxter [GBR]; Anne-Mette Binder [DEN]

### **1. Chairman's Welcome**

The Chairman thanked Hugh Thomas and the Organising Committee of Badminton Horse Trials for the hospitality, and use of the Directors Tent.

He also extended a warm welcome to Chris Hodson, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President of the FEI; Catrin Norinder; Andy Griffiths, Deputy Chairman of the FEI Eventing Committee; John McEwen, Chairman of the FEI Veterinary Committee; Pierre Michelet and Tom Ryckewaert: Members of the FEI Eventing Committee and Carsten Couchouron: Commercial Director of the FEI.

### **2. Report of the Secretary General, Jean Mitchell:**

Jean summarised the minutes from the 2009 Regional Meeting at Kentucky which have already been distributed and are also available on the IEOC web site [[www.i-eoc.org](http://www.i-eoc.org)]

### **3. Report from Andy Griffiths, Deputy Chairman of the FEI Eventing Committee:**

The Eventing Committee is a diverse committee of great experience, who try to find the best overall solutions for the running of the sport. A lot of work is going into looking at the future of the sport, for the next 10 years. The financial climate is affecting everything, bit by bit. The Committee looks at all levels of 1\*, 2\* and 3\* competition - not just at the top 5% of competitors.

**Safety** is a very high priority. There is a "Risk Management" programme and the statistics from it will be discussed and acted upon.

The Committee are always prepared to discuss results and different opinions. **They will listen and change rules when and where required, but clearly they need 'feedback' from the National Federations.**

#### 4. Catrin Norinder:

There are further rule changes coming in at 1st July 2009, some of which have been strongly requested by riders and National Federations, etc.

- a) **To clarify qualification results:** All CIC results need to be clear of XC jumping penalties, to be counted as a “Qualifying Result”.
- b) **The CIC\*\*\* World Cup Qualifiers** will count as a CCI\*\*\* qualification – **for 2009 only**
- c) **Reviews of penalty on “broken frangible pin” - this will now result in 25 penalties** to keep in line with dangerous riding. However, Catrin agreed that this situation needs to be looked at, and assessed, by the Ground Jury.
- d) **Fall of athlete** anywhere on the Cross Country Course will now mean **elimination**. This new rule has been agreed by using data on falls, and advice from the medical profession as they are not always able to adequately assess a ‘fallen’ rider, on course.
- e) **Black flag clarification.** Appears still to be under discussion. Any input is much appreciated from this forum - agreed by Richard Meade.
- f) Jane Holderness-Roddam had concerns about **de-formable fences**. All horses really need videoing at this type of fence, to enable officials to make a clear assessment rather than relying on hearsay. Also please could the committee consider the costs involved, sometimes decisions can add huge costs to organisers, i.e. Horse Inspections at CIC’s? Qualifications: please remember the horse, they shouldn’t be expected to keep going on and on to get qualifications, as this could have a bad effect, especially on older horses.
- g) Richard Meade questioned how practical it is to have video evidence. It is important not to create more problems. The Ground Jury already makes the decisions regarding dangerous riding.
- h) Lord Carew suggested that the fence judge should record all “hits” at a frangible fence and report to the Ground Jury. He also recommended a clarification to the fall of athlete rule; maybe use the word “involuntary” – as opposed to a rider making a “voluntary” dismount to adjust tack, etc.
- i) Much discussion went on regarding the overnight stabling rule. It would appear this is not required at 1 and 2 \* level, but further clarification is required as there is still confusion. Mike Etherington-Smith asked for clarification for the future, and assurance that there will not be a rule to ensure stabling on site. Roger Day felt the rules are fluffy; too many rules are being made with too much variance in interpretation. Horses could be stabled 15 miles away, but can’t be checked. He also commented on the cheek pieces which riders ‘dampen down’ to comply with the measurement rule. Roger Haller mentioned security is needed for stabling. Jim Wolf, if separate stables have to be set up it affects and inconveniences riders and organisers, especially where riders have National and International horses.

#### 5. John McEwen, Chairman of the FEI Veterinary Committee

- a) Also present, Paul Farrington, Vice Chairman; and Dr.Gerit Mattheson.
- b) The committee is presently in the process of drafting a format for CIC Horse Inspections, which they hope to have on the table within 7 days.
- c) They are working towards a “clean sport”.
- d) A complete review of the MCP.



- e) "Doping" and "medications" will be simplified, and everyone needs to be aware that this is happening. More education is needed for both riders and officials.
- f) The "Medical Box" is being extended.
- g) They are also looking at transport and import/export issues, which are only in the early stages, but a lot of work is being done on emerging diseases, as we must be prepared.

## 6. Global Officials Education Programme, Andy Griffiths

### Andy explained about the:

#### NEW FEI Global Education Programme for Eventing Officials 2009 - 2013

- a) After more than three years on the "Drawing Board", the good news is that Princess Haya, President of the FEI, and the Bureau of the FEI, agreed in 2008 to provide a fund of 1.6 million Swiss Francs, over a period of five years, after which the programme must become self-funding.
- b) This programme provides all National Federations involved in Eventing - especially developing countries – with the opportunity to participate.
- c) Jean Mitchell is the "Project Administrator"
- d) FEI Eventing Judges, Technical Delegates and Course Designers will be eligible to participate in 'Mentoring', Exchanges and Shadow officiating.
- e) The "Pilot Scheme" for 2009 is already in place, with 15 participants from about 10 countries being involved. There is a sum of money set aside for Travel & Accommodation, which means that the 'officials' are not 'out of pocket' and of course this is also a great financial benefit to the Organising Committees who agree to participate in the programme!
- f) "Spotters" have been appointed [many from the existing "Regional Representatives" of the IEOC] and they are encouraged to put forward names of suitable 'applicants' **through their National Federation.**
- g) It is hoped that this number will increase to **50 in 2010**, with the closing date for applications being **1<sup>st</sup> September 2009.**
- h) Application forms are available from: Sandra Lecoultré: [sandra.lecoultre@fei.org](mailto:sandra.lecoultre@fei.org)
- i) Jean Mitchell thanked Andy for his perseverance in getting this initiative through the various FEI committees, along with Catrin who had worked together with her office and the NFs. Everyone had moved quickly forward in the spring of 2009,
- j) The IEOC [International Eventing Officials Club] and AOCCI [Event Organisers Association] are now part of the new "Education Programme" so there is no longer a requirement to pay an annual subscription.
- k) However, the IEOC still caters for All FEI Eventing Officials: Judges, Technical Delegates, Course Designers, Chief Stewards and Vets.
- l) Event organisers will be asked to make places available at their 2010 events.
- m) This is a worldwide structure to make all Eventing NF's feel involved.
- n) Organisers can contact Jean Mitchell: [jeans.mitchell@virgin.net](mailto:jeans.mitchell@virgin.net)

- o) There are 31 Federations participating. It is up to us to make it work for the betterment of the sport, and for people to feel part of “the team”.

#### **Any Other Business**

- a) **Sandy Phillips** asked for clarification of when the dressage test finishes due to an unfortunate incident a couple of years ago, which was not in the interest of the sport. A horse had finished the test, then was spooked by loud clapping and actually jumped out of the arena – to be eliminated. Lord Carew suggested adjusting the rule. Justin Llewelyn said commentators were regularly asking spectators not to clap or use cameras but they took no notice. The suggestion was the test ended after the halt, and it would be referred to the committee to decide.
- b) **Mike Etherington-Smith** thanked the committee for their hard work in an unenviable task. There were many frustrations and dissatisfactions with the rules worldwide, maybe a vision or directional statement could be made by the committee - as to where they are going - to help NFs to avoid further frustration, if possible.
- c) **Jean Mitchell** advised that some National Federations are ‘presently’ not very good at responding, and this can result in only the ‘major’ NF’s make their voices heard. She asked those present to make sure that their NF’s do reply, when asked.
- d) **Communications.** Does the committee see themselves serving NFs or telling them what to do? Perhaps this could be linked to the vision statement so we know what is going on. Richard Meade said this needs to go to NFs for feedback and comments in good time.
- e) **Frans Van Meggelen** [Organiser of Boekelo] pointed out that Tom Ryckewaert ends his term of office on the FEI Eventing Committee at the end of 2009, so there is a vacancy for an ‘organiser’. Organisers can apply by 15th June via their NF to the FEI, with a CV and letter of recommendation from their NF, along with their reasons for standing for this committee.
- f) **Chris Hodson**, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President of the FEI, said it was a privilege to attend the meeting. The FEI needs to know what is going on, and the thinking behind these discussions. He passed on his thanks, and sincere congratulations, on the standard of debate.
- g) **Richard Meade** stated that the aims of the IEOC are to coordinate input from all aspects; judges, TD’s, CD’s etc. producing “two way communication” and thinking.

Richard Meade announced that the next Regional meeting of the IEOC will be held at:

**Burghley on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2009** [after the dressage] in the **President’s Marquee**, and

**The 10<sup>th</sup> AGM of the IEOC** will take place during the **European Eventing Championships at Fontainebleau**, on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> September, after the dressage.

**The meeting ended at 18:20.**