



IEOC – MINUTES OF THE REGIONAL MEETING HELD AT
ADELAIDE INTERNATIONAL HORSE TRIALS,
ON THE 14TH NOVEMBER 2009

Present: Jim Dunn, Lynn & Barry Roycroft, PollyAnn Huntington, W Hunt, Mary Hovers, Christine Wallis, Brett Jones, Geoff & Jill Sinclair, Sylvia Roberts, Desmond Hughes, D Duffy, Anne Tylee, Gillian Rolton, Vince Roche, Andy Griffiths, Neil Clinton, Hugh Folletta, John Lechner, I Coulson, Wayne Roycroft and other “observers”.

Apologies: Kerrie Robins [WA] and Helen Christie [NZ].

Neil Clinton took the Role of Chair, in the absence of Helen Christie.

General Business:

1. Discussion regarding CIC Inspections and Stabling in response to Paul Grahams GB letter. New Zealand supports his comments.

Andy Griffiths: At every CIC there must be a formal Horse Inspection before the Showjumping phase. Must still have Pass port /ID check. GJ has the option when to have it, and that **Horse Welfare** is paramount. Could be at end of X/C but all GJ must be present as a formal Inspection. It must be a level playing field. Confirm correct wording with FEI. Nobody wants to make it more expensive, nor CIC’s to last longer.

Jim Dunn: Stabling Issue is left open to Interpretation.

2. **Christine Wallis:** Regarding stewards and training. Dressage and Showjumping training is already in place, and hopefully Eventing by mid November. How do Stewards upgrade?

Andy Griffiths: Unfortunately there is a time lag. The principle is there but the implementation is lagging behind.

Christine Wallis: Stewards are given more responsibility therefore they should have the same training as FEI Officials otherwise training is not consistent with the other FEI Officials, with whom we work closely.

Andy Griffiths: Discussed the John Roche Paper which was presented at the IEOC AGM held at Fontainebleau in September 2009, regarding FEI Steward’s Training, etc. Starting in 2010: Jean Mitchell is involved with the FEI Global Education Programme for Eventing Officials: 5 Stewards from around the World will be chosen and invited to WEG at Kentucky in 2010. Information will be sent to NF’s to put forward names of their steward/s for selection. It is only a small number but it is a beginning.

3. **Wayne Roycroft:** Advised that his Term of office as the Chairman of the FEI Eventing Technical Committee would end in a few days. A new Chairman would be appointed at the General Assembly. Giuseppe Della Chiesa, Roger Haller and Carl Bouckaert were ‘possible’ replacements.

Wayne commented that “through his Term he was proud that Australia had understood where the sport had to go e.g. to take out the Roads and Tracks and the Steeplechase” and that the UK and the USA were the “baddies and NZ not too bad”. He could name a number of things that his Committee were responsible for. The Sport is in a good frame. For the sport to go where it has gone some things had to change. Some IEOC members over the World were a bit unhappy about the changes, but Australia said lets do it! It’s been a long journey for me and “Thank You” to everyone for their help.

Vince Roche: That he has had disagreements with Wayne, in the past, however, he thanked him on behalf of the riders, horses and especially the sport, and proposed a vote of thanks to Wayne, for what he has done Eventing worldwide.

Wayne Roycroft replied by saying that “You need to fight hard for what you think is right”.

Neil Clinton: In spite of the disagreements, everyone is ‘helping and supporting’.

Geoff Sinclair: Said that there has been an amazing transition in the past 12 years and he can’t think of anyone in the World who could have done it, other than Wayne. The Sport has progressed enormously, and of course showed up some countries that were more traditional. He feels that only the Aussies were strong enough to do it.

Wayne Roycroft: My passion is respected by my peers. Eventing was the 3rd cousin to Dressage and Showjumping. We are now better trained in all aspects. We need to improve the Dressage phase, and with deeper cups in the Jumping. He doesn’t agree with Lucinda Green that you don’t have to see the distance to a fence. You just have to see this 2009 Adelaide course to know ‘what’ you need to know. He sincerely hopes that the new Committee can keep the momentum going.

Jill Sinclair: noted Wayne Roycroft’s passion and devotion – and especially to the riders.

Wayne Roycroft: The “Welfare of the Horse” - The Veterinary Welfare must be “visible”. The Eventing Horse Inspections are not done like Dressage and Showjumping. We put our sport in front of the Public and have nothing to hide. The integrity of our sport is paramount. The danger is that Inspections will become watered down, and we must keep them strong and transparent.

4. **Jill Sinclair:** At Seminars judges need to be able to access course design in X/C and S/J as well as spending time refining the Dressage, which is already their strength. Sometimes we go overseas and come back full of enthusiasm to disallow certain issues in X/C design and need to learn the important things to improve on a X/C course. In Sydney walking in groups with experienced GJ, TD and CD and SJ specialists like Jim Dunn, was a huge benefit to “dressage bound jurors” Suggested Dressage tests could be judged by showing Videos at the Seminars, to speed up the Education process instead of spending a whole day judging Dressage.

Andy Griffiths: The new Seminar format will allow for 1 day dressage, 1 day X/C, 1 day S/J. Too much time is spent on the ‘written’ tests. Better to have these done before they come to the Seminars.

Neil Clinton: Commented on ‘closed’ Rule Book Tests. Shouldn’t be a memory test, but know how to use the Rule Books. He agreed that it would be better to do tests before coming to the Seminars.

5. **Lynn Roycroft:** Comments by Dressage Judges that it’s easier to become an FEI International Dressage Judge than an International Eventing Judge. That pure

dressage judges do not have enough of the 'other' essential experience, to become Eventing GJs.

Geoff Sinclair: The Assessment process is in place for those not really ready, to get out into the field as members of GJ and get experience with good GJ. Agreed it was quite strict to become Eventing Ground Jurors.

PollyAnn Huntington: Agreed with Geoff Sinclair that 'course directors' have to be well educated, to take each specialised part at a Seminar, and work together as a team and look after the weaker person. It's essential that we get more people on to the bottom rung of the ladder.

6. **Barry Roycroft:** Very concerned about the mandatory retirement of Judges over 70 years of age – especially with the lack of new Officials coming through the system.

Andy Griffiths: That the 70 year rule runs across all disciplines in the FEI and was unlikely to be changed. **Jill Sinclair:** Wolfgang Niggli brought in the Rule, assuming concentration would become difficult for Judges over 70.

7. **Hugh Folletta:** Was at the Seminar in Melbourne 2008 and had not had any feed back. He rang the National Office, and did not get any information, no results and no satisfaction. What's the protocol?

Andy Griffiths: The Course Director sends results to NF's, that Nathan would know these results. Course Directors now discuss results individually with each candidate as per the Seminar at Sydney 2009.

I Coulson: Said he had no feed back either. Nathan hadn't heard either. Says he'll give up - If someone somewhere thinks I am not capable, I want to know!

Wayne Roycroft: Look within your State and see "who is blocking who" !!!

Geoff Sinclair: That Vince Roche and PollyAnn Huntington are now responsible in Australia for Officials promotion. They should now investigate the present situation, and push Nathan to answer the questions.

Wayne Roycroft: Warned that the situation needs to be investigated.

Vince Roche: Feedback is required from the "Course Directors", not to give up and will sort it out.

Jill Sinclair: After every FEI Event, all the team - TD/GJ/CD could write a report commenting on the team players, highlighting good mentors within the system to assist those with less experience.

Andy Griffiths: responded that this process is already in place with the TD Report

Christine Wallis: Is the Australian Eventing Steward General and said she did not know about it.

8. **Barry Roycroft:** Queried the Re-accreditation of FEI Officials with multiple Roles, at one Seminar.

Andy Griffiths: This only applies if requiring an Up-grade, so not jeopardising the younger ones coming through.

Barry Roycroft: Can the time between the courses be extended if a working Official? Barry had been granted an Extension by the FEI because he was already committed to be the TD in Japan, at the same time as the course at Sydney. So far there doesn't seem to be any Courses listed for first 6 months of 1010.

Andy Griffiths: Advised Barry to make this know to the National Federation.

He also advised that an Eventing Officials Course will be run each year in Australia in the future to give time and opportunity to upgrade and re-accredit, rather than one every alternate year in AUS and NZ.

9. **Wayne Roycroft:** Australia needs to push for a National approach to Eventing to, create a solid basis for the Sport, and avoid miscommunication and lack of clarity between the States, regarding all national and FEI Officials.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 5.55pm

- **Sincere thanks to Neil Clinton for chairing the meeting.**
- **Lynn Roycroft for taking the minutes, and**
- **Gillian Rolton for agreeing to host the meeting during the Adelaide International Horse Trials**

Jean S Mitchell [Secretary General of the IEOC]