



Minutes of Meeting at Burghley Friday 4th September 2009

In attendance: Richard Meade [GBR Chairman], Jean Mitchell [IRL Secretary General], Les Smith [GBR], Jennie Loriston-Clarke [GBR], Jane Tolley [GBR], Jane Holderness-Roddam [GBR], Sue Stewart [GBR], Ronald Alexander [GBR], Roger Day [GBR], Janet Plant [GBR], Judy Bradwell [GBR], Gillian Kyle [IRL], Frans van Meggelen [NED], David Lee [IRL], Mike Etherington-Smith [GBR], Sue Baxter [GBR], Eric Smiley [IRL], Eddie Stibbe [NED], Eric Winter, Pattie Biden [GBR], Patricia Clifton [GBR], Sally O'Connor [USA], Nick Burton [GBR], Chris Bartle [GBR], Ann Bostock [GBR], Harry Payne [GBR], Jane Philip [GBR], Hege Trulsen [NOR], Johan Fahlberg [NOR], Jim Graham [USA], Donald Kear [GBR], Gardié Grissell [GBR], John Lawrence [GBR], Nicky Kelly [IRL], Vanda Robinson [IRL], Janet Plant [GBR], Gillian Rolton [AUS], Fiona Muirhead [GBR], Eric Winter [GBR], Chris Shaw [GBR], Robert Kellerhouse [USA], Silvia Gavornikova [SVK],

Guests present: Wayne Roycroft [Chairman, FEI Eventing Committee], Catrin Norinder [FEI Eventing & Olympic Director], Francis Whittington [Chairman, ERA], Keith Taylor [President, BEF], Faith Perini [USA],

Apologies: David Holmes [FEI Executive Director of Sports], John McEwen [Chairman FEI Veterinary Committee], Annabel Scrimgeour [GBR], Christian Landolt [SUI], Angela Tucker [GBR] - and others.

1. Chairman's Welcome

- a. The Chairman opened the meeting, thanking the Burghley President, Miranda Rock, and Liz Inman for use of the President's marquee for this meeting, Welcomed Wayne Roycroft and Catrin Norinder, from the FEI Eventing Technical Committee.

2. Apologies

- a. The Secretary General advised apologies had been received in advance of the meeting from David Holmes the FEI's Director of Sports, John McEwen Chairman of the Veterinary Committee and others.
- b. The Secretary General requested notification of any other apologies, which were noted.

3. Report of the IEOC activities from the Chairman - Richard Meade

- a. The IEOC acts as a forum for pooling technical information about the sport from all different areas. Over time, membership has been extended to include stewards, vets and organisers. As a result, all the technical knowledge about the sport is covered, and the IEOC is able to help the FEI to develop the sport. Over the years the relationship and liaison between the IEOC and FEI has grown into a very productive two way partnership.

4. Report from the Secretary General of the IEOC – Jean Mitchell

- a. The FEI Global Education Programme for Eventing Officials.

This programme has been up and running since March 2009. Since then positions have been secured for twenty judges, CDs and TDs.



2010 will be the first full year of the programme. To date fifty applications have been received, with more expected from the Italians. The Russians and Australians have both asked for an extension to the closing date. It is therefore anticipated there could be around seventy five applications for the programme in 2010. There are currently just over fifty places available at events - however offers of additional places are still being received.

Once all applications have been received, a small Selection Committee will meet at Fontainebleau to review the applications, and this will be followed by a meeting of the full "Selection Committee", at Lausanne in October 2009.

Comments and Questions:

- Jim Graham [USA] requested clarification on the reimbursement of travel expenses. Jean Mitchell advised that Jim's placement this year – as a Judge for the CCI*** at Blair Castle - didn't go through the "G E Programme" – but through the existing IEOC scheme. Jim's expenses will be reviewed with Wayne Quarles, who is the IEOC Regional Representative for the USA.
- b. Potential new Training Programme for FEI Eventing Stewards.

There was a meeting of Eventing Stewards in Kentucky where it was made very clear they feel under appreciated and that national training is not being undertaken.

John Roche [FEI Director of Jumping Department] is responsible for the training for Stewards in ALL disciplines. Jean Mitchell has met with John, made him aware of the situation and suggested they start a similar "Global education programme for Stewards". This idea is being given consideration and John will give a presentation in this regard at the IEOC meeting [AGM] at Fontainebleau.
- c. The new FEI Chief Vet has just been appointed - Graham Cook – originally from Northern Ireland. Graham will be invited to attend the IEOC meeting at Fontainebleau.
- d. Catrin Norinder has provided details of a programme for FEI Dressage judges, to be held in Aachen this month. Details are available from Jean Mitchell.
- e. The Secretary General extended thanks to Catrin Norinder for her ongoing assistance and collaboration.

5. Report from the FEI Eventing Committee – Wayne Roycroft / Catrin Norinder

- a. Wayne Roycroft thanked the IEOC for inviting him to their meeting and confirmed Fontainebleau will be his last event as chairman of the FEI Eventing Technical Committee. He thanked Catrin Norinder and his fellow members of the Eventing Committee for all their hard work and co-operation during his 10 years of office...
- b. Wayne stressed the importance of everyone reading the 'proposals' that will be put to the General Assembly, regarding the restructuring of the FEI, and contacting their National Federations to make sure the proposals - if necessary - are challenged. The intention is to introduce a new Board of seven people, and that all the technical committees will report to that Board.
- c. This proposal will result in the strength being taken away from the "Technical Committees", such as the Eventing Committee. Under the new proposal the Chairs of these Committees will no longer have any authority.



Comments and Questions:

- Francis Whittington asked where the seven representatives on this Board will come from. Wayne confirmed they will be nominated by the National Federations.

Mike Etherington-Smith was asked to comment and confirmed the British NF is working on a counter proposal to put to the General Assembly. The intention is to try to achieve a balance between the sporting interest and policy / procedural interests. The British NF will propose that there is a "Sport Committee" to interface between the technical committees. This committee will include the Chair of each of the technical committees and will take technical decisions, leaving the new Board of seven to set policy and strategy. The aim is to blend sporting knowledge / interest with strategic and policy interest. Mike confirmed this proposal is still to be "fleshed out". He also advised that Eventing, Dressage and SJ are as one on this, they are all very uncomfortable with the suggestions that are on the table.

Keith Taylor [BEF] indicated he hasn't yet had the chance to review the British NF's proposal in any depth, but recognises that the proposed reorganisation needs to be addressed. He advised it's not a foregone conclusion that there will not be representation from the Eventing Committee on the new Board, although that may be the case. Discussions are still being held about the make-up of the Board. Discussions on how the Board members will be nominated will take place at the upcoming Group 1 and Group 2 meetings.

Wayne suggested that one possible compromise could be for the new Board to also include a representative from each of the three Olympic disciplines, Eventing, dressage and Show Jumping; and if necessary the Board size increased to ten members.

- Catrin Norinder advised that the revised "Eventing" rules were sent out in July, along with guidance notes. Following comments received with regard to stabling and horse inspections at the IEOC meetings at Lexington and Badminton, some corrections are to be made. The rules will then be circulated again to all National Federations.
- Ronald Alexander queried the rules around qualification for a CCI. Catrin confirmed the rules were changed in July; in order to qualify you must do two CICs at the same level and must be clear XC jumping in both of them.
- John Lawrence requested clarification with regard to the use of sheepskin cheek pieces.

Catrin Norinder confirmed this will be reviewed by the committee on their upcoming conference call. Clarification will then be provided.

{P.S. The new 2010 rule will state that "Sheepskin Cheek Pieces" will no longer be permitted in either the Cross Country or Jumping phases}.

Catrin also commented that as far as possible the committee try to follow the rules for the individual disciplines, rather than having a different set of rules for Eventing.

6. Report from Event Riders Association (ERA) – Francis Whittington

Francis has recently taken over the role of Chairman of ERA and thanked the IEOC for their invitation to attend this meeting.

The main focus over the next few months will be consolidation. Francis will be looking at ways to improve communication between riders, from those riding at national / international level right down to the Pre-Novice riders; as well as how the riders communicate with organisers and officials.



The sport is made up of owners, riders and organisers. Most officials and stewards have at some time been part of one of those groups and do a great job.

Francis indicated that riders haven't always voiced their concerns in the right way. This is something he wants to improve. In order to bring about change and improve the sport everyone must work together. It is important that when criticisms are made alternative suggestions are also presented.

Francis wants to ensure ERA is a constructive voice giving the opinion of all riders not just a select few. ERA will soon have a new "Web Site".

Catrin Norinder will ensure Francis is copied in on all relevant communications.

7. Report from Event Organisers Association (AOCCI) – Frans van Meggelen

Frans confirmed there will be a new organisers' representative on the Eventing Committee. He believes three applications have been received which are currently being reviewed by the Nominations Committee.

8. Any Other Business

- a. Catrin Norinder: The new "Risk Management Policy and Action Plan" was emailed to National Federations, National Safety Officers, the IEOC, AOCCI and ERA earlier this week. This is intended as a reference document on everything that has been proposed, reviewed and decided over recent years on safety in Eventing. The document goes into everything around XC design, statistics etc. This is a first draft, please review and come back with feedback. Catrin believes this will be a really useful reference guide for the sport.
- b. Frans van Meggelen: There has been a rumour circulating that at three events this season riders have ridden a horse that was W/D before the competition began around the XC course, after the competition had ended. There is great concern that it seems there is currently no rule to enable this to be stopped. Organisers are worried about the implications if someone were to have an accident when riding around the course after the event has finished.
- c. Frans van Meggelen: expressed his thanks to Wayne Roycroft for all his work over the past ten years on the FEI Eventing Committee
- d. Mike Etherington-Smith echoed Frans' comments. There have been some difficult times during Wayne's term of office, and whilst they've had their run-ins over the years they have become the greatest of friends and Wayne has done a fantastic job.
- e. Sue Stewart: commented that without this meeting, and prior to the formation of the IEOC by Jean Mitchell, officials would have been completely unaware of the proposed changes in the structure of FEI. She feels it's vital that we all review these proposals and feed our opinions back in to our NFs.
- f. Richard Meade: stressed the importance of officials being aware of the implications of decisions made by the FEI, particularly if they're not in the interest of our sport. More and more sports federations, perhaps for the right reasons are run by administrators, and those with a business background, that don't necessarily understand the sport. It's very important that there is input by those who understand the sport. The IEOC is made up of such people and it's vital that we review the proposals and each talk to our own NF to make sure they're aware of the proposals, because if something goes through it will be very difficult to turn the clock back. This is particularly important with the FEI as it represents many sports, not just the three Olympic disciplines, and it's vital that within the



organisation we in Eventing have a direct line to the top to ensure the sport continues to be run for the good of our sport and our horses.

- g. **Eric Smiley: The Hartpury International Eventing Forum – “Training for Safety”** - will take place at Hartpury on Monday 8th February 2010.

This forum will be very relevant for everyone involved in the sport; riders, trainers, owners and officials. The forum has run for a number of years, and in 2010 will focus on young horse training, jumping at speed, how jockeys are trained, dressage - and how it need not be detrimental to the jumping performance.

There will also be some input from International show jumpers / trainers so that event riders can learn from them. The forum will include key people from the FEI and the British Eventing Safety Committees - as well as other trainers.

Francis Whittington asked if this forum is only being run in the UK. Eric advised it has run for a number of years in the UK, but it could certainly be run in other countries.

- h. The 10th AGM of the IEOC will take place after the dressage at Fontainebleau on Friday 25 September 2009.
- i. The 11th AGM of the IEOC will take place at Burghley Horse Trials on Friday 3rd September 2010.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 18.00 hours.

Jean S Mitchell [Secretary General of the IEOC]

[With special thanks to Rachel Moore and Sue Stewart]