



IEOC Regional Meeting at Rolex KY CCI**
Thursday April 23, 2009
5:00PM
Summary Notes**

Present: Wayne Quarles, (USA), Jean Mitchell (IRL), Catrin Norinder (FEI), Wayne Roycroft(FEI), John McEwen (FEI), David O'Connor (USA), Jan Stephens (CAN), Sally O'Connor (USA), Maxine Leigh (NZL), Rod Sanders (NZL), David Lee (IRL), Hugh Lochore (GBR), Sarah Armstrong(GBR), Yogi Breisner (GBR), Will Connell (GBR), Mandy Stibbe (GBR), Mark Phillips (GBR), Sandy Phillips [GBR], Alex Lochore (GBR), Mike Etherington-Smith (GBR), Sue Etherington-Smith (GBR), Lucy Wiegiersma (GBR), William Fox-Pitt (GBR), Richard Jeffery (GBR), Juan Carlos Nunez (URU), Tom Ryckewaert (BEL), Clayton Fredericks (AUS), Jack Burton (USA), Marilyn Payne (USA), Roger Haller (USA), Malcolm Hook (USA), Joe Carr (USA), Karen Winn (USA), Jack Burton (USA), Loris Henry (USA), Janis Linnan (USA), Patte Clement (USA), Robert Kellerhouse (USA), USA guests: Eileen Pritchard-Bryan, Vicki Rauwolf, Mary Hutchins, Gail Majaukas, Frances Cross, Ann Forer, Catherine Jacob.

Wayne Quarles and David O'Connor opened the meeting and welcomed everyone, in particular Jean Mitchell – Secretary General of The IEOC, Catrin Norinder – FEI Director of Eventing and Olympic Departments, Wayne Roycroft – FEI Eventing Committee Chairman, John McEwan – FEI Veterinary Commission and all the foreign and national officials and guests attending.

Wayne Roycroft led off discussion with a brief history of the direction and the reasoning behind the changes that have been made in our sport since 1998, when he took over as Chairman.

- The 1996 Atlanta Olympics, with its television coverage, spotlighted the sport of Eventing as a dangerous sport.
- 2000 – After Sydney the IEOC decided that it must be either a Team or an Individual competition. No athlete can get two medals for doing one competition. The plan of including a second SJ courses for the individual medals was tested at Burghley.
- In 2002, just before Jerez, Eventing was marked to be dropped from the Olympics. In order to stay a part of the Olympics, we needed to eliminate the steeplechase and Roads and Tracks.

- 2004 - Athens, the Bettina Hoy issue dampened the proceedings, but Eventing was able to stay within the program.
- For Hong Kong 2008, with its adverse conditions, the new format proved it works.

Changes for the betterment of the sport.

- Bringing SJ to a higher level by building UP to the riders, not down.
- Rider Rep program
- Black Flags - to allow alternates without requiring all the additional un-jumpable portions.
- World Cup Eventing, based on the Show Jumping World Cup.

Catrin Norinder summarized the latest rule changes for our sport, which started much relevant discussion.

Rules Effective from the 15 April 2009

- Qualification results - that all CICs be clear rounds on XC. The main discussion points raised were
 - The primary concern about this is that with the 90 seconds of time allowed to still be a qualifier that the result could be that some riders may qualify to move up having taken all the long safe routes and not really answered the questions of the levels.
 - Discussion occurred about basing the 90-second window on the fastest result of the competition. David O'Connor responded that by athlete law, Athletes must know what it takes to win, when they start, therefore an adjustable time would not be allowed.
 - The Eventing Committee was asked to review the proposed qualifications procedure for 2010.
 - It was also suggested that the terminology of Qualification be changed to Minimum Requirement.
- Breaking of Frangible Pin penalty - Change from Elimination to 25 penalties.
 - Mike Etherington-Smith explained that pins are safety devices, not deformable structures. Their purpose is to stop a serious accident.
 - It was felt that until such time as the integrity of the pin can be assured from first horse to last, that giving a penalty for a broken pin is unfavorable.
 - It was the consensus of the room that this should **not** be an automatic penalty.
 - As Chairman of the Eventing Committee, Wayne Roycroft agreed to take back to the committee the concerns and suggestions of those present.
 - It was suggested to have a test period where the Ground Jury would make the determination as to whether or not the pin was broken in connection with hitting the fence in such a way with the front legs or stifles to cause possible injury, whether the fall happened or not.
 - It was also felt that this could be looked at as an additional description/ classification for a Dangerous Riding penalty.
- Black Flag modification – to allow Course Designers and riders more flexibility in building and using alternatives.

- The concept is sound, but it is felt by CDs that this new wording may cause some CDs to start using more un-jumpable barriers to get the result they are looking for.

Rules Effective from the 1 July 2009

- Falls penalized wherever they happen on the XC course.
- Reduced Stable Security requirements was added to the Eventing rulebook directives for 2009 as it was dropped from the FEI Veterinary rules.
 - Requiring stabling onsite is viewed as an extreme hardship on the organizers and riders, especially in the UK, where many CICs are done in the one-day format. these requirements would be reviewed annually as per the directive –

Rules effective from the 1 January 2010

- Introduction of Vision statement and definition of Cross Country
- Change in restriction of horses entering one star competitions
- Horse Inspection for CICs to happen either before the Dressage or before the 1st jumping effort.
 - Some present felt that the current requirement, effective 1 January 2009, requiring a Horse inspection prior to Dressage has created quite a hardship for organizers and riders, especially for one-day format CICs.
 - It was also felt that competitions that do a 2nd inspection create an inconsistency and subjects those horses to stricter qualification standards.
 - Consensus of the room is that at minimum, a clarification needs to be posted so everyone is using the same procedure and understands that only one inspection is required.
 - Reconsideration of the hardship this presents for One-Day format CICs needs to be made.

Miscellaneous Rule discussion

- Having a 4 star qualification from the World Cup competition was questioned by most of the riders. Wayne R. stated that this will change after this year.
- Based on the design of two of the fences at Rolex, where there was a bounce distance with clear alternate routes, it was commented that the wording on the Bounce rule be adjusted for such cases.

John McEwan reported that the Veterinary commission is currently reviewing the full MCP. The plan is to clarify it for the sport and have clear lists of doping substances and medical products, along accurate detection times.

Catrin Norinder made a brief presentation of the new Global training program for Eventing officials. This program has been received funding for 5 years with the goal being to improve the quality of Officiating and safety standards worldwide.

- The project manager is Andy Griffiths with Jean Mitchell as the Project Administrator.
- There are 3 pillars to the program –

1. Shadow Judging
 2. Exchange of Officials
 3. Mentoring
- Full information can be found on the FEI website.

The meeting closed at 7:10 PM.

Wayne Quarles – IEOC Regional Representative, USA