

IEOC REGIONAL MEETING at TAUPO

Wednesday 14 May 2003

PRESENT:

Jean Mitchell, Peter Herrick, Wayne Roycroft, Helen Christie, Andy Griffiths, Jim Wright, Jim Dunn, Mary Longden, Gill Rolton, Maxine Leigh, Bev Shandley, Graeme McCrostie, Val McGregor, Margaret Dickie, Anne Tylee, Graeme Smallwood, Joan Matheson, Don Matheson, Susan O'Brien, Mike Manning, Rae Tebbutt, Jennifer Millar, Jacques van Dael, Carol Harrison, Eiki Miyazaki, Neil Mosley.

APOLOGIES:

Des Skene, Brendan Proctor, Robbie MacLean, John Carmichael.

WELCOME:

Peter Herrick welcomed everyone to the meeting, especially Wayne Roycroft, the Chairman of the FEI Eventing Committee, and Jean Mitchell, the Secretary General of the IEOC. He said that it was a great pleasure for us to have Jean in Taupo, as she is one of the main driving forces of the IEOC.

Jean Mitchell, in her opening remarks, said that the Club acts as the liaison between Eventing Officials and the FEI, in much the same way that PERA puts forward the Riders point of view, and the IAEOC looks after Event Organisers. The Board of the IEOC welcomes feedback from all members. If the Board doesn't know what the members are thinking, it becomes very difficult to represent the needs of the members. She also encouraged everyone to use the web site: www.i-eoc.org. There is more and more information on the web site now, and the Bulletin Board is particularly good for questions, discussions etc.

Jean Mitchell informed everyone that the club's Chairman, Bernd Springorum, had stood down from the Board as he had reached the magic age of 70, and had had to retire as an FEI Judge. The Lord Carew has taken over as Acting Chairman until the AGM in September. Three others of our hard working members were also retiring: Frederik Obel, Jack le Goff and Nanni Grignolo. Jean emphasised how grateful the club was for all the hard work that these members had put into our sport over the years. Wayne Roycroft said that the FEI appreciated the hard work that these members had put in, and it was unfortunate when capable people had to retire, but it was important to have an objective cut-off point.

Jean told everyone that David Lee, from Dublin, had taken over from Dolores Bruun as

treasurer of the club, and so now it had a very Irish look to it!! The problems with the bank account were being overcome, and so the details of the membership should be available soon. In the meantime anyone who has paid a sub in the past is still on the list as a member. New details of membership fees etc should be available later this year. Jean thought that the Board would encourage the regional reps to collect subs in their regions, and then forward them all together in one cheque to save on bank fees.

The club has been very active lately in a number of ways:

1. Tony McPherson has been updating the FEI Memorandum for Eventing, and the club has been assisting with this, particularly from the judging aspect.
2. Jonathon Warr is helping Mike Etherington-Smith to produce the new syllabus for the FEI Eventing Seminars.
3. The club has been assisting Jennifer Millar and Mike Etherington-Smith with the new test papers for Seminars.
4. Jean Mitchell has produced an "Aide Memoir" for use by Presidents of Ground Juries. This will be available soon.

Jean Mitchell reminded everyone that under the terms of the FEI Travel Insurance, every Official appointed by the FEI or an Organising Committee to officiate at an event was covered while traveling to an event. She also announced that an "Open Eventing Forum" was going to be held in England on 10 and 11 November 2003. The format would be similar to the very successful "Open Dressage Forum" held recently in Belgium. It would involve many aspects of the sport, and would include: Riders, Trainers, Owners, Breeders, Officials and Organisers.

Wayne Roycroft said that the FEI Eventing Committee was very grateful for the work being done by the IEOC; he felt that they were a great help to the committee members.

Wayne said that the Olympic problem had come as a great shock. The Committee felt that they had done a great deal to improve the sport, but unfortunately this had not helped reduce the cost. The Olympic Format was the result, and while it wouldn't suit everyone, it was the only way to keep the sport in the Olympics, at least until Beijing. The IOC has announced that all sports would be reassessed after that. He is certain that the Olympics will not go back to a CCI. In fact, he said that there is a strong feeling in the FEI Bureau that the WEG should use the Olympic Format; again this was driven by the cost factor. Wayne felt confident that the same rider would be successful if the

competition was a CCI or a CIC. However he was a bit concerned with the fact that over shorter courses with the same number of obstacles, horses may have to go faster through the combinations, thus increasing the risk.

In response to a question on qualifications, Wayne invited anyone who was worried about them to put forward a proposition that could be looked at. He felt that it was only Australia, New Zealand and America that had a problem. The system seemed to be working quite well in Europe. Peter Herrick commented that it was probably because of the few events that riders could go to in our countries, and thus the less chances to get qualifications.

Andy Griffiths suggested that there should be a separate FEI Report form for CICs. At present a lot of the questions on the CCI form are not relevant to a CIC.

Jennifer Millar asked Jean Mitchell how members would be notified about nominations for the Board of the IEOC. Jean replied that the AGM of the Club would be held at Punctestown on Friday 19 September at the time of the European Championships. Members would be advised of all matters through the Regional Reps.

Wayne Roycroft said that the FEI felt that the sport has a name problem. Is the name "Eventing" really relevant? Does it identify the sport sufficiently in the eyes of the general public? The Committee would like anyone who has any bright ideas for a name to send them in.

In conclusion Peter Herrick thanked everyone for their attendance, in particular Jean Mitchell and Wayne Roycroft for their input.