

**Minutes of the 3rd Annual General Meeting at
Luhmuhlen
Friday 14th June 2002.**

The Chairman, **Bernd Springorum**, welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked Gert Stumme for making the arrangements, for the excellent venue, and the very kind hospitality, on offer.

Jean read the apologies, as below:

Frederik Obel; Jack Le Goff; Jose Ortelli; Patrick Carew; Dolores Bruun; Jonathan Warr; Francois Lucas; Sally O'Connor; Roger Edberg; Peter Herrick; Brian Schrapel; Hugh Thomas; John Tulloch; Mike Bullen; Michael Bell; Denis Currie; Rosemary Lowry; David Lee; Marion Greene; Joaquim Duarte Silva; Jim Dunn; Helen Christie; Christoph Hess; Angela and Mike Tucker.

The following officials recorded their attendance:

Mike Etherington-Smith [GB]; Genevieve Pfister [Sui]; Christian Landolt [Sui]; Andy Griffiths [GB]; Gina McPherson [Bel]; Tony McPherson [Bel]; Jillian Cobcroft [Aus]; Soren Cederquist [Swe]; Giulio Pocci [Ita]; Fritz von Blottniz [Ger]; Martin Plewa [Ger]; Friedhelm Borgmann [Ger]; Joachim Dimmek [Ger]; Gert Stumme [Ger]; Anne-Mette Binder [Den]; Hanno Dohn [Ger]; Gerhard Moser [Ger]; Jane Starkey [GB]; Tom Ryckewaert [Bel]; Raf Desmedt [Bel]; Diedrich Ficke [Ger]; Jutta Koivula [Fin]; Elena Varnavskaya [Rus]; Seppo Laine [Fin]; Mrs. F.J.M. van Meggelen-Peek [NL]; Hedvig von Knorring-Albertson [Swe]; Anne Persson [Swe]; Birgitta Wallin [Swe]; Martin Mollgard [Swe]; J H G Welman; Franz-Karl Peiss [Ger]; Johan Fahlberg; - my apologies to others present who did not 'sign in' or whose signatures I was not able to decipher.

We were also pleased to welcome **Catrin Norinder** and **Giuseppe Della Chiesa** to the meeting [they also attended the 2nd Annual General Meeting at Blenheim in September 2002] and **Dr. Dieter Schule** who was the Dressage Director on the FEI course at the CCI*** at Luhmuhlen.

Bernd Springorum then mentioned that we had lost one of our IEOC members during the year – Mr. Arnold J. Martin [Australia] had passed away - sympathy has already been passed on to Mrs. Martin and the Australian Federation, and Bernd said that Arnold will be greatly missed.

Bernd Springorum then gave his Chairman's report where he said that the Board of the IEOC have been working extremely hard for the past 3 years to ensure that the FEI Eventing Officials are able to provide the best and most professional standards, to keep our sport at the top level:

- ❖ By setting up the Club.
- ❖ Holding regular Board meetings.
- ❖ Using the Regional Representatives [based world-wide] to disseminate information.
- ❖ Having an on-going dialogue with the Chairman – Wayne Roycroft – and the Three Day Event Committee, especially about the Selection, training and promotion of Officials and rule changes.
- ❖ Providing the opportunity to keep our members informed about the proposed 'considerable' Rule changes, so that we can have an 'input' before they are finalised.
- ❖ This has been done, up until now, by sending out regular 'Newsletters'.
- ❖ The new IEOC Web-site will allow much speedier contact with our members, when the occasion arises.
- ❖ There is a "Bulletin Board" to allow discussion on topics which members would like to 'air', or on which they would like to ask other members for advice – obviously available for 24 hours a day / 7 days a week.
- ❖ The Web-site is up and running at:

❖ www.i-eoc.org

Bernd then referred back to the meeting with the Three Day Committee, held during the European Championships at Pau in 2000. Unfortunately the 'follow-up' did not actually go ahead as planned, and a further meeting at Badminton in 2001 had to be cancelled, due to the Foot and Mouth problems.

After some serious, and clear correspondence with the Three Day Committee, an excellent 'joint' meeting took place on the Monday after Badminton, this year.

Following this meeting the Three Day Committee asked the Board of the IEOC to put forward their proposals [by 1st July 2002] on the following 4 subjects:

1. Identification, training, assessment and promotion procedures for new officials.
2. Update of the Eventing Course Syllabus.
3. List of names of new Judges and Technical Delegates to be considered for appointment in FEI Championships.
4. Ideas for a 3 year programme of courses per continent / region and official categories.

The Board are very happy to do this, and hope that this will be the way forward, in the future, when topics that affect our members, are involved.

IEOC Honorary Treasurer:

Jean advised the meeting that **Dolores Bruun** had recently decided to give up all her Equestrian activities, including her judging, and her position as Honorary Treasurer of the IEOC.

Bernd said that we had expressed our disappointment to Dolores, and thanked her sincerely for her major contribution to the IEOC, since it's inception.

Dolores had prepared the accounts for the meeting and Jean presented them to the meeting as follows:

Credit Balance on 25th May, in the Allied Irish Bank, at William Street, Tullamore, Ireland, is 6514.42 Euros.

It did not appear to be possible to immediately find a 'successor' to Dolores, so the post was left open at this point, and the Board will address the situation in the near future.

Addition to the Board:

The Board would like to keep up its numbers and also to have some of the 'younger' officials 'on board'. With this in mind, it was decided to ask Christian Landolt [an International judge and Rider] to become a 'Permanent Advisor' along with Peter Herrick, Patrick Carew and Francois Lucas who were appointed in 2001, and after some serious consideration [as to how he could fit it in to his busy life] he very kindly agreed. In 2003 [after 4 years in existence] there will be 'elections' to 'officially' fill all the positions on the Board.

Christian Landolt then queried the apparent controversy about the ‘new format’ for the 2002 Eventing seminars.

Bernd explained that while he appreciated that the FEI Three Day Committee was putting the emphasis on ‘dressage’ this year, there had been absolutely no consultation with those members who have been, until this year [as Eventing Judges] ‘directing’ these courses, and indeed regularly used ‘pure dressage’ judges to cover the dressage part of the courses. He was of the opinion that there were quite a few important ‘topics’ that would not be covered sufficiently by either a ‘Pure Dressage’ judge or a Technical Delegate, and that some ‘rules’ would need to be modified.

Probably this ‘impasse’ has resulted from a lack of **“communication”** between busy people, and it is to be hoped that this will not be allowed to happen again.

Intervals between FEI Courses:

There was then some discussion about the fact that there is a possibility that FEI Officials, in the three Olympic disciplines, will be required to attend courses every 2 years, instead of 3, as at present. It was agreed that this would be quite difficult for some countries, and that there would require to be many more courses arranged.

There was a question about the level of courses, and it was agreed that there should be a strict ‘division’ i.e. courses for Candidate and National officials, and separate courses for International and above. Also, a recommendation of not more than 30 persons / course. It was agreed that it is beneficial to hold these as ‘joint’ courses with Judges, Technical Delegates and Course Designers, to get the maximum benefit.

It was also felt that most courses should take place at an International event, but that a specialised Judge’s course could be held ‘on it’s own’ where the necessary level of ‘guinea pig’ horses / riders would be available.

Courses should be advertised at least 2 years in advance, to allow participants to make their ‘time-off’ arrangements, and to get the best and most economically suitable travel arrangements.

Courses for ‘Top Officials’:

There was also a feeling that there is a need to continue with the FEI Courses for ‘Top Officials’ – preferably held early in the year, and

especially if there are any major rule changes, or as with the New Dressage tests, this year.

Membership Fee:

A membership fee has not been charged this year [2002] and indeed every official who paid a membership in 2000 and 2001 is still on the mailing / E-mailing list.

There was then some chat about the IEOC membership Fee – Jean explained that we were trying to keep it as ‘low’ as possible, as the Australians and New Zealanders were finding it too expensive [because of their exchange rate].

However, Giulio Poggi felt that perhaps we could have a ‘nominal’ fee and then an ‘extra’ amount that each member could choose to pay [or not] so that a fund could be started to help to pay the travel expenses of Assistant ‘Officials’ who need to travel to events to gain experience, and at present, in many cases, have to fund it all out of their own pocket, which in some cases makes it impossible.

The Board will look into this proposal.

It will be possible to pay the membership fee [when it’s decided] through the Web site, and we will keep members informed.

Rule Books:

Catrin was asked about the fact that the ‘new rule books’, amendments, etc. were only available on the FEI Website, at present, and were quite time-consuming to download. She said that the 2003 rule book [which is presently being finalised by Hugh Thomas] would in fact be produced in a ‘printed version’, as before.

Jane Starkey asked if it would be possible, once the 2003 rules are finalised and printed for 1st January that we then can go back to a normal ‘cycle’, with no changes in between. Catrin agreed that this should happen.

Jane also asked about the qualifications for horses, and felt that there should be at least one year’s notice of any changes, and that some horses this year had ‘fallen’ between the old and new rules, even with the ‘interim’ 1999 rule. Catrin said that this was the reason for providing the ‘interim’ dispensation this year, and that we now know exactly what is required for 2003.

Some countries – New Zealand in particular – feel that it will be quite difficult for some of their riders to fulfil the various qualifications, as there may not be enough suitable events.

Inclusion of International Trainers and Riders:

Martin Plewa brought up the subject of more involvement of trainers and riders in some of the courses, and it was agreed that this could be investigated and be beneficial to the sport.

No decision was taken as to the venue for the 2003 Annual General Meeting, so the Board will put this on the agenda for their next meeting.

At this point the Chairman brought the very successful meeting to a close.

Jean Mitchell [Secretary General IEOC]

N.B. The Memo with the response from the IEOC Board to the Three Day Event Committee was E-mailed to Catrin Norinder on 26th June 2002, and can be seen on the IEOC Web site – **[IEOC Response to Three Day Event Committee – 26.06.02](#)**

P.S. if you have not already provided your E-mail address [or have changed it recently] please forward it to:

Jeans.mitchell@virgin.net