



Icelandic Horse Society of Great Britain Ltd BoT Meeting + Management

MEETING MINUTES MONDAY 6TH JANUARY 19.30 ZOOM ON-LINE

Present: Trustees & Management.

Martine Bye-Duke Chair (MBD), Jem Adams (JA), Hilary Ashford (HA), Ellen Brimble (EB), Debbie Ede (DE), Crissie Edwards (CE), Linnie Frith (LF), Freija Glansdorp(FG), Fi Pugh (FP), Mic Rushden (MR)

Meeting Minutes: Saby Chetcuti (SC)

1. Apologies : Ellen Brimble (EB).

2. Minutes of last meeting & Matters Arising.

Chair opened the meeting and wished everyone a Happy New Year.

The minutes of the last meeting on 2nd December 2024 were agreed upon. A couple of typos were identified and corrected by committee members

- AGM alternative location in keeping with a hybrid event - *to be confirmed(tbc)* **Action: EB**
- Planning Day 8th February booking at Bank House Hotel - *tbc* **Action: EB**
- Scottish Open followed up but no response received to date
- Shetland actions are still outstanding due to the season and weather conditions. Dates need to be organised **Action: Chair , CE & JA**
- Catch up required for all new trustees including safeguarding courses
- Delegates assembly attendees: EB, FP (in dual role) and MDB are booked.

3. Chair's Update – MBD

FEIF Delegates Assembly & Conference

- Elections - Key points highlighted

FEIF President: Jean-Paul Balz – not standing for re-election

Gundula Sharman, nominated by the Board of FEIF; is willing to stand for election.
The nomination is officially supported by DK, FI, NO, SE.

Application for full FEIF membership from New Zealand

- Voting Procedures: Discussion on how votes would be conducted, clarifying that the UK has one vote regardless of delegate numbers.

Conference Proposals

Proposals to be brought to the Delegates assembly. All voting will be on line. The chair took everyone through the paper for discussion and trustee decisions on voting intention.

Statutes

Statutes, Chapter 3: Membership

The Chairperson meeting 2024 agreed that the current statutes are missing options to exclude associations from FEIF membership that do not fulfil the obligations or do not follow FEIF's Rules&Regulations or statutes. The representatives agreed to bring the following proposal to the Delegates' Assembly 2025 to be added to the FEIF statutes.

The Board of Directors can propose to the Delegates Assembly an exclusion of a member association from FEIF, if the association has not fulfilled its obligation according to the Purpose and Goals of FEIF or if the association has not applied to the rules and regulations of FEIF. Before such a proposal is brought to the Delegates' Assembly, the Board of Directors shall give fair notice to the member association to comply and give notice that the Board is considering this proposal to the Delegates Assembly. Such a proposal from the Board of Directors can be approved by majority at the Delegates Assembly.

Trustees Decision

Concerns were raised about the broad wording of the proposal and the rights of appeal. The committee agreed with the spirit of the proposal but clarity was necessary around the exact wording.

All trustees agreed to vote against the proposal in its current form.

Breeding proposals

a. B4.5 Ringmaster

Ring masters at breeding shows need to be certified by FEIF. Certification can be attained by attending a seminar for ringmasters which is organized by the breeding committee of FEIF. A ringmaster test may also be implemented. To keep the license, a ringmaster needs to work at breeding shows with a minimum of 50 horses in a period of two years. **measure (or judge), a minimum of 50 horses in a period of two years (registered in WorldFengur).** It's also necessary to attend a ringmaster seminar every 4 years.

Trustees Decision

The final voting decision will be left to EB to assess and vote following the discussion at the assembly

Sport Proposals

FP took the discussion for these proposals

1. Maximum tests per day

With horse welfare in mind the proposal is to change the allowed maximum starts per day.

Exact wording of the proposal:

G7.3.2. Participating horses in sport events

Purebred Icelandic horses aged five years and above are eligible. Proof is required in the form of the pedigree or a corresponding national certificate. Proof can be required in the form of a passport, or a corresponding certificate.

For World Championships and other international competitions, horses must be at least 6 years old.

The number of tests per horse per day is limited as follows:

- a. a 5-year-old horse, may start ~~twice~~ **once** per day, ~~not including races or cross-country (however, pace test, speed pace and pace races are permitted),~~
- b. a 6-year-old horse may start ~~3~~ **2** times per day,
- c. a 7 year and older horse, may start ~~4~~ **3** times per day,
- d. any preliminary round or final is considered to be a start,

- e. for pace test, SpeedPass, pace race 250m and 150m, 2 rounds on one day are counted as 1 start. **Starting only one round for pace test, speed pace, pace race 250m and 150m, is also counted as 1 start.**
- f. horses are allowed to compete more than once in the same test if it is in a different age class.

It is up to the organisers to check the age of the horse. If a rider disregards this rule, and finishes an additional test, the rider is eliminated from the test.

2. Loss of a shoe

The two present rules in S1.6.3.2 conflict if a horse loses a shoe after completing a pace round but before the equipment check (e.g. after crossing the finish line). The proposal is to make it more clear that the horse has to have all shoes at the equipment check. Otherwise the run is not valid.

Exact wording of the proposal:

S1.6.3.2 Loss of a shoe

If a horse loses a shoe or the shoeing becomes damaged during a test the rider must stop the performance. Whenever one of the judges judging the test is certain about the loss of a shoe and the rider continues riding, the judge must stop the performance of this combination.

Pace track tests:

- If this occurs during a run in a pace track test no marks and/or times are given for this run.
- When the loss of a shoe is noticed in the equipment check, it will result in elimination from the actual run.

All other tests:

- If this occurs during a preliminary round the rider is eliminated from the test and no marks are given.
- If this occurs in the finals ~~or in a pace track test~~ any marks ~~and/or times~~ earned before the loss of the shoe are kept including those from completed sections ~~(in oval track tests) or runs (in pace events)~~. The rider receives a "0" for the remaining sections.
- When the loss of a shoe is noticed in the equipment check, it will result in elimination in the preliminaries. In the final, it will result in a zero for the last section.

3. G8 Equipment

The proposal is to change the title of G8 in equipment (and all other places in the R&R).

Exact wording of the proposal:

G8 Tack *Equipment*

Change the word tack into equipment in all other places in the R&R

4. G8.4 Additional equipment

To make it more clear what is allowed and what not the proposal is to add the sentence "only equipment listed is allowed and to add some additional parts. The sentence that the rules are valid for the entire for the whole competition area, and for the entire duration of the competition is mentioned under G8 and it is not necessary to repeat this in the sub articles.

Exact wording of the proposal:

G8.1. Saddles

In principle any sort of saddle or saddle pad, which is suitable for the Icelandic horse, is allowed. Permissible equipment also includes *girth, stirrups*, saddle cloths/*pads*, front girths, cruppers, saddle supports, *snap links for holding up the stirrups and front handle*.

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G8.2.2. Sport

Permitted bits published on the FEIF website may be used as part of a bridle provided it fits the horse and is used correctly. Nothing may be added on to bits other than smooth bit guards and chain guards, and nothing else is allowed in the horse's mouth. *Bridles includes noseband, browband, throat latch, reins.*

The Chief Judge's decision about the use of any bit or bridle at a specific event is final for that specific event.

G8.4. Additional equipment

Sport:

- **Only equipment listed is allowed**
- The use of elastic bands to divide the manes of a horse equally is allowed in sport.
- In wintertime the use of 'snow grip' (rings/soles with extra grip on the ground, to be used on slippery surfaces) is allowed for safety reasons, in addition to nails and studs as described under studs (see chapter on shoes). The ring/sole itself should fit otherwise in the description of the description of leather and plastic rings and soles.
- The use of earplugs is not allowed.
- The use of a muzzle net is allowed under the following conditions: The net must be of a neutral colour, not pinch the horse and allow the bit to be visible at all times.
- **While warming up the use of a horse blanket is allowed**
- **Lunging equipment is allowed as listed in S15 Appendix 8**

G8.4.1. The whip

The whip must not be longer than 120 cm including the tassel. In pace races whips are forbidden. **The use of a whip while warming up for pace races is allowed.** The rider can use only one whip at the time. ~~The rule concerning whips is valid for the whole competition area, and for the entire duration of the competition.~~

G8.5.2.

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~~These rules are valid for the whole competition area and for the entire duration of the competition.~~

5. Permission of re-shoeing

As the wording of 'S1.6.3.1 Incorrect shoeing' is now, it would not be allowed to reshoe a horse after failing a shoeing check, even with permission of the chief judge. This rule seems to be too strict. It should be allowed with permission of the chief judge.

Exact wording of the proposal:

S1.6.3.1 Incorrect shoeing

If a horse/combination is found to break the rules regarding shoeing when selected for an equipment check, it will be disqualified **eliminated** from **that test and** all **previous ridden** tests at the current tournament. **including the forfeiture of any prizes already given** **Reshoeing is possible with the permission of the chief judge and the rider is allowed to start in the following tests.**

6. S2.3.2 Finals and preliminary rounds with more than one horse on the track

Re-word this rule for clarity and remove the part 'under supervision of the chief judge'.

Exact wording of the proposal:

S2.3.2 Finals and preliminary rounds with more than one horse on the track

The horses must enter the oval track at the speaker's command on the rein on which the first section is begun (see S2.4). The riders spread themselves evenly around the oval track. The beginning and the end of each section is directed by the speaker. During the intervals when the marks are being shown, the horses ~~may~~ **shall** only be ridden at walk. In order to spread out, the riders can circle at the request of the speaker, ~~under supervision of the chief judge.~~

7. Withdrawals

Withdrawals have to be in time. Too late withdrawal can lead to disqualification and a 2-week suspension. Sometimes the time schedule is such, that the first final of a test, for which a rider is qualified for the A-final, is before the preliminaries of another test where the rider might be qualified for the final. This means that a rider, who only wants to ride one final, must decide before the preliminary round of the second test, if she/he wants to withdraw. For horses 'welfare it must be possible to withdraw, since it happens now that the rider shows up for a final to avoid the punishment for violating the rule, but after entering the

track, they ride onto the grass and are eliminated. The proposal is that, due to a certain time schedule at a sport event, a withdrawal can be done later. Besides that, in exceptional circumstances, the chief judge has the right to give an individual permission for a late withdrawal without disciplinary measures.

Exact wording of the proposal:

S1.7 Withdrawals

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In competitions without teams, riders and horses are expected to be fit for the finals unless stated differently one hour before the first final for that relevant test begins. *If the rider/horse combination is preregistered for preliminaries that are scheduled after this first final, and the rider has only one horse in this final, the rider is allowed to withdraw from it until 30 minutes after the end of the last preregistered preliminary of the horse/rider combination.* Withdrawal after this time limit will only be accepted if the horse (by a veterinary surgeon who has examined the horse on site) or the rider (by a doctor) is declared unfit or, *in exceptional circumstances*, by decision of the Chief Judge; ...
If a rider has two or more horses in either the A- , B- *or C-final*, they have to decide with which horse they will start in each final at least one hour before the start of each final. ...

Trustees Decision

Following discussion, the trustees agreed to vote in favour of the above Sport proposals

For Information

I. G6.3 Finances (World Championships)

For quite a long time, the fees for the World Championships for the organiser and the countries were not changed. The Annual Chairperson meeting 2024 agreed on the following changes (in red). The changes will only be valid for the World Championships 2029.

- The organiser must ~~either pass 10 % of the entrance fee on to FEIF, with a minimum of pay €65.000~~ **€ 70.000** indexed according to the rate of inflation as reported by the European Central Bank from the date the agreement is signed to the date of final payment. Alternatively, the host may come to an agreement with FEIF at least 3 years before the start of the World Championships where the fee can be based upon any combination of a fixed amount, or a fixed amount combined with a share in the total turnover or profit or a certain number of free tickets with VIP-access for guests invited by FEIF. However, the expected outcome should be comparable to the amount remitted in comparable situations. This payment shall be remitted by September 30 just after the World Championship at the latest. A certified accountant should approve the final accounting.
- The costs of travelling and lodging will be shared between the organiser and participating countries. The ~~organiser contributes €20.000~~ **25.000** (indexed for inflation according to the same procedure as the basic FEIF fee), the rest will be contributed by the participating countries, based upon the number of members per team (registered combinations including reserve combinations). The costs of travel and lodging for the required meeting of the judges are included in this expense.

Trustees Decision

The trustees agreed to vote in favour of the above financial proposals

Drug Misuse

II. New paragraph in G1.5:

FEIF's Rules & Regulations include references to anti-doping rules for horses but does not include any provisions for human doping. The Annual Chairperson meeting 2024 agreed to add a paragraph stressing the importance of a doping free sport also for the athletes.

G1.5: "Play Clean"

Drug misuse can be harmful to the health of riders and the use of doping substances or doping methods damages the integrity, image and value of the sport, whether or not the motivation to use drugs is to improve performance.

In its mission to preserve the integrity of competition, inspire true sport, and protect the rights of athletes, FEIF believes that every athlete has the right to compete on a clean and level playing field, free from the pressures and influences of performance-enhancing drugs.

Trustees Decision

The Trustees agreed to vote in favour of statement G1.5

Additional Paragraphs

III. G9.2.1. Oval track tests and details on tracks

All tests taking place on the oval track must be carried out on oval tracks, which satisfy the standard dimensions shown in the drawings in S17 for 4m and 6m. When groups of riders are riding to the speaker's instructions, the time a specific section is shown shall be according to the table set by the FEIF Sport Committee and published in S13 S14.

IV. G7.3.2 Participating horses in sport events

point e. for pace test, speed pace, pace race 250m and 150m, 2 rounds on one day are counted as 1 start. Starting only one round for pace test, speed pace, pace race 250m and 150m, is also counted as 1 start.

V. S2.8.16.1 Preliminary Round (F2)

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The horses may show pace 3 times on one long side. The riders choose the long side by majority vote. In the event of a draw a draw of lots by the speaker will decide. The marks for tölt and pace will be doubled.

Trustees Decision

The Trustees agreed in favour of statements iii, IV and V.

Planning Day

Discussion on hold in lieu of confirmation of venue booking. The event is confirmed but requires final booking verification. The focus will be governance, terms of reference, and policy updates. Chair confirmed that only necessary attendees will be present to minimise costs.

Action: Chair to seek confirmation with EB

Updates on policy organization efforts were provided, with a structured review process planned for February. To be emailed to Trustees before meeting

Action: DE and FG

Welfare

No update- next welfare group meeting 14th January

Chair checked if any other trustee wanted to volunteer to oversee the welfare group.

This role remains with the Chair

Showing Council

Chair was unable to attend the last meeting due to ill health.

Minutes will be circulated as soon as they are available.

Chair requested the committee to feedback that any issues detected

Committee and Project Updates

2. Education - JA

- Seven participants are confirmed for the Sandy Carson course at Netherton. Additional locations for future courses are under consideration.
- Email attempts at contacting Dorothy Sales about becoming a regional coordinator
- Attempts to find locations for two more courses are ongoing. A request was made for suggestions for a South and Central England location. **Action:** All
 - FP suggested Cannock chase location Action: JA to contact Maya Redfern

3. Sport – FP

- Expressed disappointment at the lack of interest in the Tölt-on-line competition. Different way of encouraging participation was suggested. Offering different tests for each month with videos of demo tests with the use of social media to promote the event.
- Action from the last meeting on potential use of Valley View Ranch venue for winter competition is outstanding.
- Mike and Jem Adams have offered to host a one day competition in the spring(April), date tbc. Potential to incorporate team training the day before is also under consideration.
- British Championships at Aston Le Walls has been booked June 20-22

4. Youth – CE

The DBS check file has been located and moved into the main Trustee file.

Action: All to upload DBS checks so the check file can be updated required for Insurance purposes

One enquiry about Young rider badges. Considering adding youth classes for the BC's

5. Leisure – MBD

- Online christmas fun competition extended to Sunday 5th January . A dozen entries have been submitted. To be judged by Sarah Prior by Friday 10th January.
- FEIF leisure report on all the events has been completed by DE. Martine congratulated & thanked Debbie on the results. It was agreed by trustees that it was ready for submission.
- Spring Camp organisation is work in progress. Will be advertised in Sleipnir. Members fee has gone up to £150
- Organising group for leisure to be deferred until after January

6. Breeding & Studbook – EB (FG)

- No further news to report as the team is taking a well earned break

7. Comms – LF

- Meet the teams is underway
- E bulletin in conversation with Ian
- Email update to members is on going
 - Congratulations on a great format by FG/MBD
- New leaflet draft has been circulated for review
 - Deadline for response is being requested by FG

8. Finance-DE

- Working on the endowment and will bring a proposal to the planning day

9. AOB

- HA has updated the membership map two versions with one for publication with no member details and the other for trustee use for contacts.
- FG Lapsed members will no longer have access to World Fengur
- Sleipnir - publication dates to be reviewed to attempt to get a timely Christmas publication; Longer proofreading times requested . Notice of publication dates to be published to members.

Newsletter Schedule

Revised deadlines and publication dates for 2025 newsletters were set:

- January 15 (publication: early February)
- May 10 (publication: late May)
- August 17 (publication: late August)
- November 10 (publication: early December, which will be Christmas edition)
 - Leaving Trustees to contribute to the year newsletter
 - Space will be left for AGM and new trustees
 - Proof Reading Rota to be organised - **Action: JA**

Meeting Ended at 20.59

Date & Type/Venue of next meeting –

Due the the Planning meeting the next date is in March

- Monday 3rd March 2025, 19.30 hours GMT
- Trustees & Management team Zoom Meeting