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**Board Minutes –** Zoom, 15 August 2023 - 18:30 CET 2 Pages

**Present:** Eric Straus, Ali Küçük, Teodor Sheytanov, Laura van de Graaf, Glenn Maes, Marysa Zourel, Gerald Kuh

**Excused:** Monica Gomez Su

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**Previous board minutes are not presented to approval.**

- 1- Inclusion of the FEI Veterinarians into IJOC membership:** Members present discuss in length the possibility of including the FEI Veterinarians into the IJOC membership, as there had been a request previously. The situation at 2019 Amsterdam GA and today are compared. The following major aspects are highlighted by the board.
- a) What service could the IJOC provide to veterinarians should they become members?
  - b) In line with the growing horse-welfare matters and the status of the veterinarians as the only FEI Official group left outside the IJOC membership, the move can create an additional and stronger edge to the Club.
  - c) An associate membership or a full membership can be considered.

The board agrees to resume talks in the next meeting and inform the member base accordingly to be in line with the statutory deadlines. The Secretary General, Ali Küçük (AK), reminds the statutory deadline of 15 September (for member proposals). According to the next meeting decision, AK will prepare a text to members before 15 September and he will further check the status within other Clubs such as IDOC.

**2- FEI Rule Revision Process:**

- a. IJRC Proposal: GM reminds that the proposal is not accepted by the FEI. The board agrees not to take any action as the matter is already closed.
- b. Other proposals:
  - i. the FEI revision proposal of the Statutes about the Technical Committees is discussed. Such that the technical committees (according to the new proposal) will not be eligible anymore to provide suggestions to the FEI HQ about the promotion of the officials. The board agrees that the current practice and feedback involvement of the technical committees should remain. The IJOC feedback (opposing the change) will be supplied accordingly.
  - ii. Similarly, the social media policy of the FEI in the general regulations (such that the suspension of an official, athlete etc. can take place without a hearing) is discussed. Following the board decision, the IJOC supports the application with the condition that a fair and just defence right of the indicted is provided and as such must be inserted in the text.



- 3- **Webinars:** AK provides the latest update. Next webinar is planned for “Crisis Management” and he is in contact with potential speakers. More to be reported in the next meeting.
- 4- **Case Studies:** AK provides information about the final status and informs that the responses from all sub-groups are being collected to be further shared with the speakers. The final session will run on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of August. This year, (again) there is a lack of quantity and quality in cases/questions. Despite numerous announcements and reminders, there is still no course-design questions and very limited stewarding questions. The board suggests that the reminders about collecting cases can be made earlier and during the IJOc GA a standard form can be distributed to members. Further helpful ideas can be:
  - a. Depending on the content, national cases can also be considered.
  - b. Members can be asked to share the incident fresh from the site.
- 5- **IJOc Future Governance:** GM shares his concern about the IJOc legal entity and official seat being in Switzerland. The challenges with official address and legal authorities continue as the management is not fully residing in Switzerland. Previously Marysa Zourelis was asked for the follow-up. Due to loss of her connection during the meeting, the follow-up will be made in the next board meeting. Meanwhile, AK is asked to contact local legal providers for overtaking or managing such operation.
- 6- **AOB**
  - a. **SPWG request:** Eric Straus relays the topic previously discussed at SPWG, i.e. the growing need for additional number of stewards at shows. Especially when the number of horses/riders/arenas are significantly high. He further mentions that there can be some L1 stewards who are willing to help without payment but only food during the day. To this end, one of the proposals is that the IJOc can/should reach out the organisers with a text encouraging them to accommodate one additional L1 steward at the expense of meals. AK is asked to prepare a text and that it will be discussed at the next meeting.
  - b. **IJOc Merchandise:** AK informs the board about the costs and offers for IJOc pins. The board decides to order 1,000 units for the classic version and ask for a sterling silver limited edition cost as well. AK to follow on this topic as well as a possible “IJOc Jacket” merchandise.
  - c. **IJOc IGA Cooperation:** AK provides information on the final status and informs that board that there might be a survey needed to circulate among the IJOc members. Finding out which cases are frequently encountered in the relation of grooms and officials at shows.
  - d. **Course Fees** (FEI in-person Maintenance Courses during the IJOc GA in Rome) : The board decides the following: Judges or Stewards course ( Member: 125 €, Non-member: 200 €). Course Designers course (Member: 250 €, Non-member: 350 €) The figures will be checked and shared with the FEI.
  - e. **Next board meetings** are set as : 13 September and 23 October.

The president thanks the participants and closes the meeting.