



NEWS & MESSAGES

24 / 03

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▪ **Message from Pierre Cazes, FRA**

The next years , in France , we will have between 20 to 30 CEI and , maybe 1500 starts on ** et *** . About the weight , our national rule says 75 kg for ** and 3*** . We do not wish to change that. WHY ?

1) It's more easy for our riders to apply the same rules everywhere

2) We have knowledge since our statistical research that a difference less than 10kg is not significant , so : 70 kg > 85 kg = 15kg ; 75 kg > 85 kg = 10kg

MORE THAN 10 KG OF DIFFERENCE ON THE HORSE IS A STRONG PSYCHOLOGICAL BARRIER FOR MEN AND BOYS WHO HAVE A BODY WEIGHTING OF 70KG OR MORE

Do not transform our sport in a female or weak men sport . Don' t forget that the medium weight of the new generations is increasing .

3) Technically , with the new saddles and saddle pads, 5 kg more for the light persons are not difficult to manage , last 20 years they have done that without problems for the horses , even they have won high level races

4) In France to compete on ** and finish ** is necessary to be authorised for a *** , so it's necessary to learn how to manage the weight in ** before ***

5) Universality of our sport is all the countries and all the people : light women and normal men .

OUR PROPOSAL :

75kg for ** and more , with 20 kg ballast maximum .

2d topic : 5 vetgates MAXIMUM for 160 km , you already know our arguments : length impose respect ; endurance is not a veterinary show ; solution of our problems are respect and qualifications .

Without these 2 topics we think that your new proposal for endurance rules is a good job

▪ **Message from Pierre Arnould, BEL**

Many thanks and congratulations for the excellent job made regarding the endurance new rules. Basically, I have only two comments:

1. Coming back to the philosophy of the "Toulouse Group", a race of 160 kms has to have minimum 4 vet gates (5 loops) and MAXIMUM 5 vet gates (6 loops). The reasons of this were largely discussed and admitted in the different meetings and seminars.

2. I would like also maintain the rule of the 75 kilos. I don't want to see our sport becoming only for girls or "jockeys". Regarding this, see the comments of Pierre Cazes and Toby Crockett.

Concerning Punchestown, I'm very surprised to see, in the schedule, any details regarding two separate classifications: one for the European Championship reserved only to the European nations; another for the CEI **** opened to all participating nations. I would like to have comments about this.

Concerning Punchestown and Prato del Vivaro, we have not yet received any map of the trail. Would it be already available on the net? In February in Paris, it seems that everybody agreed that the map had to be available 4 months before the event...

▪ **Message from Suzanne Dollinger, SUI**

When you read the proposals for the Rules Revision you will realise that Ian Williams and the Endurance Committee made a real good job.

Nevertheless some items need to be looked at more closely. So, when you make your comments, please don't forget, what has been discussed, promised and what we've asked for:

To remember:

Motion of "Endurance Intercontinental Group", Paris, 6 February 2003

1) Distance of Championships:

The Senior Championships must take place during a CEI** with a distance of 160 kms in only one day.**

➤ **in accordance with Article 824.1.4 of proposed new Rules?**

2) Division of the Event/ Course Designer:

We agreed that the number of vet gates/ stages should not be determined in a strict way for all CEI*** rides. On one hand there are a lot of CEI*** rides (160 km/ 1 day) all over the world which work perfectly with 4 vet gates, have an excellent completion rate and functioned like that for many years without any problems. On the other hand the special demands of a trail and/ or climatic circumstances and/ or local requests/ national traditions can request 5, 6 or – in very exceptional cases - even more gates.

From this discussion resulted point 2 of the motion with an unanimous vote:

We request the FEI Endurance Committee appoints/ endorses a sub-committee to develop recommendations for standards on endurance.

1) Course Design (er)

2) Vet Gates: Stages

3) Hold Times

5-6 members, geographically diverse, recommended by Endurance Intercontinental Group.

➤ **in accordance with Article 800.2 of proposed new Rules?**

5) Schedules of Championships:

Final Schedules of Championships including the layout of the course, must be forwarded to the NF's 4 months at the latest before the Championship.

After we presented the motion to the Open FEI Forum on Friday, we agreed **that 3 months** could be enough.

➤ **Punchestown???**

To remember also:

Some items from the Fax written by Mr. Michael Stone to the Presidents of "Toulouse Motion NF's", 22 July 2002, after Paris Meeting

Distance of 2003 European Open Endurance Championships

It was confirmed by the 1st Vice-President that there was no intention by the FEI of either reducing the distance of Championship rides or continuing with 2 x 100 km after the trial at the European Championship ride in 2003. The meeting agreed that Michael Stone would ask the President of the Punchestown OC if it would be possible to change the distance of the ride from 2 x 100 to 160 km.

➤ **in accordance with Article 824.1.4 of proposed new Rules?**

Number of Vet-Gates

It was agreed that according to the rules that 4 vet gates was unacceptable but that 4 vet gates and a trot by was acceptable for 160 km rides and in particular for the World Games in Jerez.

➤ **in accordance with Article 800.2 of proposed new Rules?**

Schedule of Championships

It was agreed that 16 weeks before the Championship was sufficient providing the schedules were distributed and that no major changes were made without keeping all parties informed.

➤ ???

And another item to consider (which could solve all the problems concerning number of Vet Gates, distance of Championships in hot/ humid countries etc:

Message from Pierre Cazes, FRA, 03/05/02:

Concept of "the time of effort"

It is possible to imagine the international Championships in other terms than that of "distance":

We could say: A Championship takes about 8 hours for the first competitors to arrive (without compulsory halts) and the phases take about 1.30 to 2 hours (with the exception of the last one). With this idea it could get quite easy to manage a championship for the horses, the media and the timing for the organisation (i.e. prizegiving ceremonies).

- If the course is very fast (i.e. Dubai, Jerez) the first arrivals will be expected at about 19 or 20 km/h. So: 20 km/h x 8 hours = 160 km distance with phases of 30 to 40 km.
- If the course is more demanding (hilly, climate etc.) the first arrivals will be expected at about 16 km/h. So: 16 km/h x 8 hours = 130 km distance with phases of 25 to 30 km.

These "times of effort" would be

1. in absolute harmony with the biological rhythms of the horse (protection of the horse)
2. in harmony with the management of "timing and media"

We have to admit that in future there will be a "classic endurance" where the distance to go means a geographic traverse and an adventure (Florac, Tevis) and a "championship's endurance" which has to be adapted to the event in a format of time.