

Annex E Organising Requirements for Eventing 4 star Level Events

Four star level Events are believed to be the pinnacle of the sport representing Eventing on the world stage and as such it is felt that there should be some guidelines for potential OCs to ensure that the image of the sport and the presentation of the Event are of the highest possible quality.

The FEI will only recognise a few Events at this level and this recognition will be subject to some strict criteria.

- a) Before being awarded an Event of four star level status the Organising Committee must have run, at the venue, a lower level international Eventing Competition of at least Three star level, and demonstrated the ability to stage an Event of the highest level.
- b) Application from the host National Federation to the FEI to stage a Four star level Event must be accompanied by a proposal including detailed information about the venue (access, facilities, etc) and the suitability of the footing, the Organising Committee, the financial viability (including proposed levels of sponsorship income), budget and cash-flow, local accommodation availability, and proposed level of prize money.
- c) The Organising Committee must have a proven track record of success. A business plan must be presented.
- d) Details in regard to the Organising Committees Broadcast strategy must be provided as well as expressions of interest in regard to Broadcast coverage.
- e) The venue needs to be approved by an FEI appointed Delegate, who will visit the proposed Event at the OC's/National Federation's expense
- f) The National Federation will be responsible for supporting the application and overseeing the success of the Event, and a representative of the National Federation must be included in the Board of the Organising Committee.
- g) Minimum level of prize money: € 100'000.
- h) Mandatory CCTV for public, Athletes, owners and the Ground Jury and for safety reasons.
- i) The proposal must include the proposed Course Designers that must be a 3&4 star Course Designer. The Course Designer in question must support the proposal and guarantee that the venue is suitable for the Four star level.
- j) An all weather dressage arena is strong recommended.
- k) Dates must fit in to overall Eventing calendar, not clash with any major Event and be consistent from year to year in order to allow the other Events to position themselves in consequence.
- l) Application shall be sent to the FEI by July the year preceding the Event applied for.
- m) The Event has to be approved by the FEI Eventing Committee who reserve the right to ask for as much information as is considered necessary. The FEI Eventing Committee also reserves all rights to not accept the Four star denomination request of any Organiser.
- n) A review committee composed of representatives of the FEI Eventing Committee, FEI Delegate and the FEI Secretary General will assess existing Four star level Events on a yearly basis. Should any Event not fulfil requirements it will be possible to re-evaluate the star level.

NOTE: 2012 Annex 9 "Directives For One & Two Star CCI/CIC with Several Sections for the Same level in Regard to Ground Juries" included in text under appointment of Officials

Annex F Consultation with Athletes

1 Appointment of Athlete Representative

Prior to the Athletes' first opportunity to inspect the Cross Country course every Organising Committee of an international Event must appoint an Athlete Representative from among the Athletes taking part in the Competition having first obtained that Athlete's consent.

This Athlete Representative has the task of acting as a channel of communication between the Athletes and the Officials on any matter directly connected with the Event without in any way removing the right of any Athlete to speak to the Organising Committee, Technical Delegate, Ground Jury, or Course Designer. The name of this Athlete must be notified to the Athletes at the briefing if one is held or posted prominently on the Event notice board if no briefing takes place.

2 Chairman of Arbitration and Investigation Panel

The Organising Committee will appoint prior to the start of the Competition the Chairman of an Arbitration and Investigation Panel (see point 9 below).

3 First meeting of Athletes called by the Athlete Representative - 1st Horse Inspection

At the end of the day on which the First Horse Inspection is held there will be a meeting of all Athletes should they so wish to be called by the Athlete Representative. The Technical Delegate and representative of the Organising Committee should attend although not the Ground Jury unless specifically requested by the Technical Delegate, Organising Committee or the Athlete Representative.

4 Second meeting of Athletes called by the Athlete Representative - after 1st day of Dressage Test

If the Event is a Long format Competition (CCI) with two days of Dressage the Athlete Representative has the right, if there are any concerns amongst the Athletes, to ask for an Athletes' meeting to take place at the end of the first day of Dressage to discuss major issues concerning the obstacles on the course and/or the distances of the course.

This meeting must be attended by the Ground Jury, Technical Delegate, Course Designer, and a senior representative from the Organising Committee (If there are no issues the Athlete Representative may advise the Technical Delegate who will contact the Organising Committee and the Ground Jury and cancel the meeting).

5 Meeting Minutes

At this meeting any such issues must be recorded in writing (the Technical Delegate & Athlete Representative have this responsibility) and the response of the Ground Jury also recorded in writing and signed by the President of the Ground Jury and the Athlete Representative.

6 Additional Athlete Representative

At this stage the Athletes may appoint two additional people (to join the already appointed Athlete Representative) as Athlete Representative's to continue the discussions with the Officials and the Organising Committee. These additional two people can be anyone that the Athletes choose and do not necessarily have to be competing at the Competition.

7 Final Athletes Meeting of the Athletes before the Cross Country

A further and final Athletes' meeting, attended, as before, by all the Officials and a representative from the Organising Committee, is now required.

Ahead of this meeting the written response by the Ground Jury to any written concerns of the Athletes raised the previous evening shall be given to the Athlete Representative's. At this meeting any final briefing of the Athletes will take place.

If the Athletes are still dissatisfied with the decisions of the Ground Jury a vote will be taken. This should be a secret vote and the Organising Committee should assist the Athletes in conduct of the meeting. The issue to be voted on is "Do you accept the responses of the Event Officials, or should they be referred to the Arbitration and Investigation Panel for final decision?"•

If a majority of the Athletes actually taking part in the Competition (50 percent plus one) so agree the outstanding issue(s) will be referred immediately to the Arbitration and Investigation Panel for a final decision against which there will be no appeal.

At this meeting any such issues must be recorded in writing (Technical Delegate & Athlete Representative responsibility) and the response of the Arbitration and Investigation Panel also recorded in writing and signed by the Chairman of the Arbitration and Investigation Panel and the Athlete Representative.

8 Athletes Briefing

The usual Athletes briefing on routine matters to do with last minute changes due to meteorological conditions, ground, etc must still take place on the evening before the Cross Country Test. In case of dispute on such issues, the procedure with the Arbitration and Investigation Panel is available for use.

9 Arbitration and Investigation Panel

The Arbitration and Investigation Panel will consist of three people appointed on the first day of the Event by the Organising Committee in conjunction with the Athlete Representative.

The Arbitration and Investigation Panel shall include: (a) a non-competing current or recent Athlete experienced at the level of the Event, (b) an FEI qualified Official, and an independent person experienced in the sport who is not involved in any way with the Event, e.g. an Organiser.

If such people are not available at the Event, after reasonable efforts to engage them, the Organising Committee, in consultation with the Technical Delegate and the President of the Ground Jury, must appoint an Arbitration and Investigation Panel of similarly experienced people likely to have the confidence of both the Athletes and Officials alike.

Any one of these three people can be appointed as President of the Arbitration and Investigation Panel. The President or a member of the Appeal Committee may be appointed to this Arbitration and Investigation Panel if suitably qualified.

10 Events with only 1 day of Dressage

At a Competition with only one day of Dressage it will be necessary to modify the above procedure. In these circumstances the above timetable may be compressed and/or certain steps omitted but the most important principles must be retained, i.e.:

- f) Concerns and responses recorded in writing.
- g) The opportunity for Athletes to vote if dissatisfied.
- h) Final decision by the Arbitration and Investigation Panel, provided a majority of starters so request.

The above procedure for consultation with Athletes will not apply for Championships, Team Events, Young Riders or Juniors Events (Athlete Representative replaced by Chef d'Equipe)