

International Carriage Drivers Association
Marie de Ronde-Oudemans

27 November 2024

Re. Measurement of carriage track widths

Dear Marie,

First and foremost, we are pleased that FEI Board earlier this month agreed to establish an MoU with the International Carriage Drivers Association and look forward to continued collaboration with your Association.

Regarding your letter, allow us to provide you with some context, specifically concerning the FEI Rules Revision process:

https://inside.fei.org/system/files/FEI%20Rules%20Revision%20Policy_2024_CLEAN_0.pdf

As per the process, on 1 March of every year the FEI receives comments from the NFs as well as Stakeholders (with whom we have an MoU) on Rules. This year a NF raised the need for clarification of Art. 937 - Weights and Dimensions and 939 – Tires. The FEI Driving Committee assessed the reasoning for the clarification and recommended revising the wording. These clarifications were shared with NFs on 26 June 2024.

On 21 August, (deadline for NFs to respond), the only NF to come back to the FEI was the same NF. This time the NF commented on the Annex 12 proposal, stating that one image was missing and commented that the other images included the memo, no comments were received regarding Annex 11.

Based on the feedback and assuming that the NFs had no concerns with the proposals, the Driving Committee shared the final proposals on 16 October which would be presented to FEI General Assembly adding that the implementation of Annex 12 would be for **1 July 2025** in order to allow Drivers some time to change tyres as needed.

In addition, during the Rules session which took place in Abu Dhabi the day before the FEI General Assembly. NFs were given the opportunity to share their concerns/ questions on any rule change/clarification, again none of the NFs present or on-line raised any question. Therefore, during the General Assembly the Driving Rules were approved.

As you may be aware, the General Assembly (GA) is the ultimate authority the FEI Board has no authority to modify decisions made by the FEI GA, unless these are deemed to be urgent due to welfare related issues or due to force majeure (i.e., pandemic).

We had a close look at your letter and arguments, due to the above there is not much that can be done at this stage to reverse/amend the decision of the General Assembly. The postponement of the implementation of Annex 12 from January to July reflects the concern of the FEI to give the Drivers enough time to update their tyres if needed.

In regard to Annex 11, the measuring just states where to measure, the tyres can be changed later on.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'M. Bandeira de Mello', written in a cursive style.

Manuel Bandeira de Mello
FEI Driving Director

CC. FEI Secretary General, Sabrina Ibáñez
Chair FEI Driving Committee, Joaquin Medina