International Carriage Drivers Association

COMMITTEE MEETING (online)

Minutes

Date : **June 21, 2023 (20:00 – 21:00 h.)**

Present

Four-in-hand horses	:	Boyd Exell (BE – president), Koos de Ronde (KdR), & René Poensgen (RP)
Pair horses	:	Jacob Arnold (JA)
Single horses	:	Kelly Houtappels-Bruder (KHB)
Ponies	:	Rosanna Walters-Symons (RWS), Lea Schmidlin (LS) & Maria Buchwald (MB)
FEI Athletes Rep.	:	Franz Schiltz (FS)
Special Advisor	:	Hugh Scott-Barrett (HSB)
General Secretary	:	Marie de Ronde-Oudemans (MdRO - minutes)
Not present	:	Franck Grimonprez (FG), Maria Henriksson (MHe), Jacques Poppen (JP), Bartlomej Kwiatek (BK), Glenn Geerts (GG), Martin Hölle (MHö)

Action

1. Welcome - Introduction of Committee Members

Boyd Exell, president of ICDA welcomes the present members for the 2nd committee meeting.

2. Minutes online meeting March 21, 2023

There are no comments and/or adjustments regarding the minutes of the meeting of March 21, 2023.

3. FEI Sports Forum 2023 – Kronenberg (NED)

It was good that several committee members present.
The general impression was that this first FEI forum for driving was a good meeting with fruitful discussions.

FEI Driven Dressage Test Modification Policy
The new policy was discussed during the forum of which the outcome then was:

- Majority of attendees was in favor of 40x100 arena for teams and pairs.
- The present CAI3*2-4po is very bad and will replaced in 2024.

The four in hand drivers are particularly disappointed that the policy has been put on line with a commitment to introduce a test for a 80x40 arena only months after the NFs voted to retain a 40x100 arena. Application deadline is for July 5 for athletes wishing to help design tests for P4 and H4. Drivers should apply but ICDA will send in a recommendation - all committee members are asked who to recommend to the office (please reply before June 26). — all

FS explained the ideas of the driving committee. The FEI is still planning to cut everything to 40x80 meters, despite the discussions of the four-in-hand drivers with the FEI.

- The general opinion is that is it disappointing that the pairs are not getting a new test in January 2024, as promised at the forum. The solution could be that this group will switch back to the previous test. ICDA will send in this request to the FEI. — ICDA
- Action has to be taken to request for not changing to 40x80 meters. We have to address this to all drivers -> a meeting will be set up in Aachen. — ICDA
- The feeling is that the FEI Driving Committee is not listening to the athletes.

Pony World Championship

This topic has been discussed at the previous ICDA meeting and there is a proposal of the Danish NF about participation of individuals at Pony WDC.

FS explained that the FEI is not in a full revision year regarding rules – only corrections in the rules are regarding inconsistencies, horse welfare etc. If so, this cannot be implemented before 2027. This will be on the agenda at the next ICDA meeting as this is so obviously not in the interests of the growth of the sport — Agenda July 2023

4. FEI MOU

ICDA has approached the FEI with regard to the establishment of a MOU. The updated membership numbers by class, together with the revised statutes have been provided, which include the enlarged committee membership. The FEI has asked for details of all members (but not supporters).The FEI has been asked whether this is normal practice for potential MOU stakeholder groups and whether such a request is compatible with the General Data Protection Regulation as ICDA is incorporated under European Law. Committee members expressed concern about the risks of data transfer and are looking for a response to the questions tabled by ICDA. FS commented that the FEI attached importance to this information. Members of the committee are concerned that this may ~~which seems to be~~ reflect FEI concerns about the (unjustified) influence of the horse teams on ICDA. The response from the FEI is awaited. — FEI

5. Membership

HSB presented an overview of membership numbers which show a healthy increase since March to approximately 400 members and supporters of which 195 active drivers as members(compared to 110 in March).

Single horse drivers are the largest individual group represented with over 60 members. Gaps do remain. Membership from Switzerland and The Netherlands is lower than expected whilst pony team driver representation needs attention.

Committee members are asked to continue to promote ICDA. — all

Website

The member zone on the ICDA website will be set up differently so all correspondence (minutes of the ICDA committee are already uploaded) etc. will be published. This will give members a transparent overview in what ICDA is doing (actions regarding dressage tests, U25 etc.) and achieving. The aim is to have this all set up next month. — ICDA

6. Request representation U25 in ICDA

The request for representation of the U25 is welcomed to the ICDA.

The suggestion from the committee is to have 2 athletes joining for the next committee meeting, 18-20 years old, needs an active driver in the youth classes. We should aim for youth competing in the youth classes.

Everyone of the committee will think of suggestions and send names to the office (before July 1, 2023). — all

7. Other items to be discussed

Ranking singles

Ranking rules have been amended for the singles: last year young horses were included – changed back this year. KHB will send a draft letter on behalf of the singles to the office of ICDA to put forward to the FEI. KHB/ICDA

FEI Calendar
KHB shares her worries that the FEI calendar for singles is not filled in August and September. It is difficult to get OCs interested in opening up their event for singles (Pau / Baborowko). Suggestions are given (September 1-3: German Championship, September 23-24: Bugac (HUN), CAI 3*).

8. Next Meeting

Wednesday July 18, 2023 – 20.00 h. – **ONLINE**
An invitation link will be sent prior to the meeting to each committee member.

Team meeting: during Aachen (all ICDA committee members are invited as well – date/time tbc)

June 27, 2023 / MdRO – revised July 25, 2023