

1. Why did you decide to stand for election as an FEI Athlete Representative?

Over the past 28 years, driving has given me countless special moments, and having competed in nine World Championships, I know the sporting and organizational challenges of our discipline firsthand. I am standing for election because I firmly believe that the voice of the athletes must be heard within the FEI. I want to give something back to the sport and use my experience as an active driver, trainer, judge, and legal professional to represent our interests with dedication, transparency, and strength

2. What is the most important job of an FEI Athlete Representative?

The most important job is to listen, connect, and act as a reliable bridge between the active drivers and the FEI. I need to pick up the concerns and daily challenges of athletes from the field and ensure they are systematically integrated into all regulatory and strategic decisions made by the FEI.

3. What would you like to achieve for driving athletes if you are elected?

If elected, I will focus on five key priorities:

■ Be a strong voice for every driving athlete

I will listen, communicate openly and represent the interests of all driving athletes—single, pair and four-in-hand drivers, horse and pony drivers, para drivers and youth athletes.

■ Promote fair and practical FEI rules

I will work to ensure that FEI rules are clear, transparent and based on the realities of our sport, making competitions fair for everyone.

■ Put horse welfare into practice

Horse welfare must be reflected in sensible, practical and enforceable rules that protect our horses while remaining realistic for athletes and organisers.

■ Protect the identity and traditions of driving

Driving is a unique discipline. Safety is essential, but new regulations should respect our traditions and should not simply copy rules from the riding disciplines.

■ Build cooperation instead of confrontation

I will encourage constructive dialogue between athletes, officials and the FEI so that together we can shape the future of driving

4. What are the biggest challenges for driving world at the moment?

One major challenge is the FEI's tendency to organize all equestrian disciplines under a one-size-fits-all approach. Driving is not riding—rule adaptations copied from riding disciplines often work to the disadvantage of driving. Furthermore, we must balance rising costs with performance and youth development, make better use of our marketing potential, and preserve our tradition and elegance while implementing necessary safety measures

5. What would you like to improve in the sport of driving?

I want to systematically bring the active drivers' perspective into rule development. Horse welfare must be lived practical reality rather than just words on paper. Additionally, I want to improve media marketing and the overall financial frame to ensure our sport remains sustainable for everyone.

6. How would you make sure athletes from all levels are heard?

By representing **all** driving athletes: single, pair, and four-in-hand drivers, horse and pony drivers, para-drivers, and youth drivers—from international newcomers to top superstars. My experience as a trainer and judge up to medium level helps me understand the grassroots and developing levels just as well as elite international competition

7. How would you stay in touch with athletes and listen to their ideas and concerns?

I will establish open, transparent, and direct communication channels and remain personally approachable at competitions. I prioritize a respectful dialogue on equal footing—regardless of an athlete's nation or discipline—so every concern gets heard.

8. Why should athletes vote for you?

Because I bring a unique combination of practical sport experience and professional expertise: 28 years of active driving, 9 World Championship appearances, experience as a trainer and judge, plus 15 years of legal experience as a public prosecutor and FN arbitration court member. This enables me to analyze complex issues objectively, make balanced decisions, and advocate effectively and forcefully on your behalf within the FEI

9. What is one thing you would like to improve in driving?

Rulemaking: I want to ensure that rules are not created at a desk, but developed together with active athletes in a way that is practical, fair, and puts horse welfare first.

10. What is your message to the athletes who will be voting?

Driving connects people, nations, and generations. As an active international driver, I know our challenges firsthand. I want to listen, connect, and bring your concerns to the FEI with a strong and reliable voice. Let's shape the future of our sport together—for the drivers, for our horses and ponies, and for the future of international driving. Your vote counts!