



NEWS & MESSAGES

04/04

In this letter you'll find

- Simulation: Team/ individual Qualification for Championships
- Qualification Criteria changed (?)

▪ **Simulation: Team/ Individual Qualification for Championships**

Let's suppose the FEI Endurance Committee decided to follow the example of the Olympic Games and put a restriction on the number of starters at World Championships. This would mean that not only the individual "basic" qualification criteria for riders and horses had to be fulfilled but that additionally the best teams and the best individuals would have to be selected. Let's suppose the FEI Endurance Committee would choose similar qualification/ selection criteria like the Olympic Qualification Procedure 2004. Which of our National Endurance Teams/ Individuals could participate at i.e. the World Championship Dubai 2005?

The rules (+/- according to FEI- 2004 Olympic Qualification Procedures/ Eventing and/ or Jumping)

Events: Team Competition
Individual Competition

Athlete quota: 75 riders and 75 horses (no reserve horses)

Maximum per NF: For NFs qualified in team competition, the maximum per NF shall be 5 riders per nation, with the 3 best results to count. For nations qualified in individual competition only, the maximum per NF shall be 2 riders.

Endurance Team – Qualification System (simulation!)

12 NFs will be qualified to take part with a team consisting of a minimum of 3 riders and 3 horses and a maximum of 5 riders and 5 horses as follows:

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. The host nation | UAE |
| 2. The 4 best placed teams from the WEG 2002 | FRA
ITA
AUS
ESP |
| 3. The 3 best placed teams from the 2003 European Endurance Championship excluding teams qualified as above | POR
NED
GER |
| 4. The 2 best placed teams from the 2003 Pan American Championship excluding teams qualified as above | USA
CAN |
| 5. The 2 best placed teams from Africa, Asia, Middle East, Oceania at a FEI approved event (i.e. Punctestown 2003) excluding teams qualified as above | MAL
--- |

Note:

Should all team places not be allocated through the above process, the available places will be filled according to the rankings at the WEG 2002

ARG

Endurance Individuals – Qualification System (simulation!)

15 spaces will be reserved for NFs not represented by teams, each competitor with 1 horse.

1. The NFs of the 2 best placed individuals in the FEI Endurance World Wide Rankings 2003 will be allocated 2 competitors each. BEL
NZL
2. The NFs of the 3rd to 15th best placed individuals in the FEI Endurance World Wide Rankings 2003 will be allocated 1 competitor each. CHI
AUT
BAH
BRA
GBR
POL
IND
DEN
SUI
CZE
IRL
3. The completion of the quota, either to fill up the spaces available or following the cancellation of team or individual entries by a nation, will be achieved by taking the NFs of the riders in their order of classification in the FEI Endurance World Wide Rankings 2003 to reach a total of 75 riders.

▪ **Qualification Criteria changed (?)**

The FEI Endurance Committee got a request from two National Federations (names not communicated) to confirm that the qualification for a Senior Championship (160 km/ 1 day) could be achieved at a CEI ride of 160 km/ 2 days. From a legal point of view the FEI EC had to confirm, that a 160 km ride held over two days fully meets the criteria as defined, because (unfortunately) there is no mention of the **time frame** within the published qualification criteria.

3. Qualification Procedure

3.1. To be qualified to participate in any Senior Championship or any other CEI**** ride, a rider/horse as a combination has to have completed a CEI *** (or above) ride over the same distance as the championship/CEI**** ride within 24 months prior to the closing date for nominated entry.

3.2. If the rider/horse has not qualified as a combination per 3.1 above, to be qualified to participate in any Senior Championship or any other CEI****, a horse has to have completed a CEI*** ride over the same distance as the championship/CEI**** ride within 24 months prior to the closing date for nominated entry and the rider has to have completed 3 endurance rides (at least one of them a CEI*** or above ride) over the same distance as the Championship/CEI**** ride within the current or preceding 3 years before the event.

But we all know that the undoubted (and therefore unfortunately not specially mentioned) intention of an overwhelming number of National Federations was, that a rider/ horse has to qualify over the same distance within the same number of days as the Championship where he represents his country. Whoever wants to effeminate the qualification criteria with the help of a legal backdoor just proves to be probably not endurance competent and/ or an endurance greenhorn. It seems to be quite a difference to have a rest time of about 12 hours during a 2 day competition or only 1 hour during a one day competition after having completed 80 km and have to go on for another 80. Nobody can predict how the digestive system/ the metabolism of a horse will react before the one and the other time frame has

ENDURANCE INTERCONTINENTAL

been tried out (and this better without the whole world having a close look at the trial during a Championship...).

Those two National Federations which have put in the request don't seem to be aware of the FEI Code for the Welfare of the Horses. Let's hope that they will find enough self-esteem to withdraw their prove of irresponsibility and disregard towards their horses, the other National Federations and the endurance sport.

