



NEWS & MESSAGES

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- **What is a CEIO and where will CEIOs be organised?**

A CEIO is an Official International Endurance Event with individual and team competition. It is more or less organised like a Championship and therefore a perfect occasion for National Teams, their Grooms, Chef's d'Equipe, Team Vets and Organisers to get some routine before the start at an International Championship.

In 2004 France will organise a CEIO at La Baule on 8 May. Other nations like Great Britain (Newmarket, end of May 2004), Belgium (August 2004) and Italy (September 2004) also plan to organise CEIOs but this is not yet confirmed. And it could be that next year Germany will organise a CEIO for Juniors and Young Riders in Kreuth over 120 km.

FEI General Regulations, 20th edition, Article 107 describes a C(E)IO as follows:

“1. An Official International Event (CIO) is an event to which NF's are invited to send selected representative teams and individuals, and must be organised under the FEI Statutes, Rules, Regulations and VRs. The dates and location must be approved by the Bureau and published in the Official Calendar. Once published in the Official Calendar the date and/ or location of a CIO may only be changed in very exceptional circumstances with the approval of the Secretary General and the Chairman of the relevant Technical Committee. Changes of dates or location must be published as soon as possible.”

2. CIOs must include the official competition for teams and individuals according to the Rules of the relevant discipline.
3. In Europe, each NF may only organise one CIO for Seniors in each discipline in any calendar year.
4. For other age groups and for Seniors outside Europe, the number of CIOs must be specifically approved by the relevant Technical Committee.
5. CIOs must use the official emblem of the FEI on all posters and on the front page of all schedules and programmes.”

▪ **Message from Joao Picao Abreu, Portugal**

I would like to tell you, also, that we have a riders association, and we think that we should have more communication between all associations in Europe and in the world. Could you help us?

I believe that the riders should express their opinion, and we must be stronger, more than we are now.

FEI,NF,VETS,JURIS, we need everybody,...but we can't forget this is our sport

I hope to get news from you soon.

Your friend, Joao Picao Abreu

▪ **email Conversation: Paul Jeffrey, NZL / Suzanne Dollinger, SUI**

Hi Suzanne

As always I enjoy seeing your reports and considerations however I suspect the latest statistical graphs from Punchestown maybe flawed. Statistical information can vary greatly with the numbers inputted and any bias or shift from normal will have a strong effect on the final figures. In this case I think we are seeing an unusual bias from the 3 UAE riders. These riders have a unique opportunity that very few others have. The ability for them to ride at any event anywhere in the world on different horses strongly influences the results of a small input sampling such as seen in your graph. It would be interesting to repeat the graph without these 3 riders and then see the

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results. Its somewhat like taking 30 human beings and comparing their best efforts at being helpful citizens and then putting SuperMan into the results with them. In the Punchestown results it makes the difference between the top 10 finishers look more than normal when compared with the non-finishers. Statistics is based upon mathematics and at times can be misleading by producing "mathe-magics". I would expect to still see some differences but not nearly as significant as to suggest lack of experience between the top 10 and everyone else.

While on the subject of Punchestown I believe the organisers and officials need congratulations. The event was well handled by lots of calm and collected people. It was great.

Hi Paul,

Thank you for your comment. I am very well aware of what you mean and of course there is a lot of truth in it. I will present later on an overview by nations and compare the Punchestown results with those of the Young Riders World Championships (where the UAE didn't come in first).

Nevertheless - fact is, that some of the UAE riders win (or are at least placed in front) wherever they go and whatever horse they ride. I believe that this has to do with talent (because some other riders from the UAE with similar possibilities don't do so well) but also, and very much, with the possibility to make a lot of experiences (the good and the bad ones). It seems that nowadays it will be very difficult for any "normal" rider to be placed in the Top Five of an international Championship who owns "only" one or two horses, competes over "only" 2 - 3 big rides/ year in fields where there are mostly few participants and where the speed is often "slow" because of very rough terrain and/ or not enough competition.

That's what I wanted to demonstrate. The UAE will be competing at the next Championships - so it's no use to ignore them.

As a "small" nation you can react with frustration, because you'll never have the possibilities/ money or you can do everything possible to give your riders as much of experience as ever possible by i.e. choosing rides (i.e. CEIOs) with a lot of participants, optimise training on good terrain to get better used to speed etc.

Hi Suzanne

Yes, its right you cant ignore the UAE riders, that's for sure. And they will certainly be there at the next Championships. I guess the thing is that the number of rides you compete in changes your ability to compete well and that may be what is showing up when you couple the French riders in with the UAE: there is a lot of experience arising from opportunity that a lot of other riders around the world don't get. All very interesting.....keep up the good work.

Paul

- **Message from Monika Smith, Canada**

Were there any vet complications at Punchestown? It seems that even with greater numbers of FEI events, seasoned riders, we don't seem to have improved our ability to take care of our horses, or ride successfully at these elite levels convincingly.

I strongly believe that eliminations are not a positive aspect of our sport. That should only be happening to beginners who don't know enough about the science of the equine athlete--exercise physiologically. It's the equivalent of a thoroughbred race, where horses falter and stop at the 1/4, 1/2 and 3/4 mile mark.

Although horses were pulled -- 42 out of 77 starters, were there any horse deaths? PAC had one (died off site).

It would be a great idea if someone would do the results of the Pan Americans, as part of the compilation of data of elite horses and riders.

Cheers, Monika