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## FAX

## **Open Letter**

To: **NFs Involved in Eventing** 

From: FEI Chairman, Mr Wayne Roycroft and Members of the Eventing Committee

**FEI Bureau** Copy: 2

Pages:

Date: 17 November 2003

## **Re: Future Format of Eventing**

Dear Madam. Dear Sir,

Following correspondence received from the USA and GBR NF, the Eventing Committee wishes to provide some additional information on the recommendations made at their recent meeting in Punchestown referred to Press News 32/03, 2 October 2003.

The implementation of the Eventing Committee's recommendations consisting of:

- redefinition of Eventing formats to maintain the CCI long format as the current one -
- introduction of a short format event category (same as traditional CCI without roads and tracks and steeplechase)
- Maintaining the current CIC format for lower level events, -
- Adapting all FEI championships to CCI short format (Senior Continental, Young rider, Juniors and regional championships)

These modifications can only be effectively carried out in 2005 as no change to gualification systems or introduction of new format can be made before the 2004 Olympic Games.

The Qualification procedure and the criteria for obtaining minimum standards for competing in the Olympic Games will remain unchanged as per the FEI 2004 Olympic Regulations for Eventing.

All issues in regard to gualification and the technical conditions are currently under consideration and proposal shall be made to the Bureau beginning December 2003. The final proposal will then be sent out to the NFs for review before approval at the General Assembly in April 2004, as per normal procedure. The Committee felt that more time was needed to examine the gualification criteria to ensure that they reflected a logical progression for both the existing long and the new available short format.

In the light of the experience this year, the number of CCIs have decreased and several NFs specifically in Europe and USA have experienced difficulties to qualify their riders for higher level events and the Olympic Games. The Committee will need to take into account these different factors when developing the new qualifying procedures.

After review of the answers received by NFs involved in Eventing Championships, it became clear that it would be difficult to sustain a parallel track of different format championships for

team classification for the moment as many NFs did not have enough riders. It was also felt that too many championships at different levels would dilute the existing championships and the merit of the medal winners. The Committee preferred therefore to concentrate on the short format championship track for the next years. The Committee hopes that in future a 4 star long format championship could be created should there be a strong demand.

The Committee also wishes to study the possibility with the existing 4- star CCI Organisers of creating a Masters/Super League series for 4-star long format level for individual classification.

The Eventing Committee wishes to add that during this whole thinking process the input of all parties have been very important as well as maintain the tradition and integrity of this sport. It also strongly believes that this is a great opportunity for the sport to develop, with a greater hope of universality and viability that will better secure our place in the Olympic movement.

Yours sincerely,

Chairman, Mr Wayne Roycroft & Members of the FEI Eventing Committee