



WBFSH

WORLD BREEDING FEDERATION  
FOR SPORT HORSES



## 2021 ANNUAL REPORT to the General Assembly

WBFSH DEPARTMENT OF External Cooperation

By Klaus Miesner

### Cooperation with FEI

The cooperation with the FEI continues in a positive constructive way. Necessary coordination takes place via digital meetings, so that there were no restrictions as a result of the Covid 19 pandemic. However, since April, it has not yet been possible to find a date for an FEI-WBFSH Council Meeting this year. On the one hand, this is due to the still unfinished status of the data exchange between the FEI and the NF GER or the BWP. On the other hand, the tightly packed schedule with this year's Olympic Games 2020, the Dressage World Breeding Championships for Young Horses and the two European Championships in show jumping and dressage, has not yet allowed for any further scheduling options.

The development of the interface as important part for the data exchange with FEI has made further progress. Although, the interface for the automated data exchange via API between the FEI and the NF GER or the BWP could not be finalised in a complete way until today. The delivery of horse data to the FEI is possible and seems to be running. However, the delivery of the sport data from FEI to NF GER and BWP with all desired information such as the prize money, does not work yet entirely as contractually agreed. This is regrettable. According to the intended schedule, the automatic data exchange via API should be working by now. The WBFSH has asked the FEI whether the IT Department can report on the timetable for final completion at the WBFSH General Assembly.

At last year's WBFSH General Assembly (October 2020), there was still hope that the FEI/WBFSH World Breeding Championships for Young Dressage Horses could be held indoor in Verden in December 2020. Shortly afterwards, it became clear that a cancellation was unavoidable due to the rising conditions and travel restrictions in December 2020. Thankfully, the organiser of Ermelo offered the FEI and WBFSH that the event in 2021 could still be held in Verden and that Ermelo as organiser would be prepared to hold the Championships for Young Dressage Horses in the following years, moved for one year. As a result, this year's FEI-WBFSH Dressage World Breeding Championships for Young Horses was successfully held from 25 to 29 August 2021 in a completely redesigned outdoor arena, with two main arenas and the proven spacious stable complexes. Unfortunately, the FEI plates did not arrive at the organisers in Verden in time for the prize giving ceremonies. There were problems at customs, so that the plates only arrived in Verden the week after the event. In the meantime, the plates have returned to Lausanne and have been sent directly to the riders by the FEI. The result lists can be found under <https://reitturniere-live.de/2021/verden/>.

The FEI/WBFSH World Breeding Championships for Young Jumping Horse will be held this year in Lanaken (Belgium) from 22 to 25 September 2021. Information will be available under <https://lanaken.zangersheide.com/en/home>.

The FEI/WBFSH World Breeding Championships for Young Eventing Horse will take place at Lion d'Angers (FRA) from 21 to 24 October 2021. Information will be available under <https://www.mondialdulion.com/en/>.



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## Cooperation with EEF – Working Group on EU-legislation

The EEF Working Group on EU-legislation has met several times since last November. Initially, the focus was on the exchange on the Commission's draft implementing regulations for the identification and registration of equidae as well as the models for the equine passport. The future possibilities for a digital equine passport were also pursued, on which the working group is currently exchanging information. Other topics were the future CAP within the EU and the upcoming revision of the EU VAT Directive.

## Cooperation with European Horse Network

One focus of the work in the EHN until the beginning of March was the preparation and coordination of comments in connection with the Commission's public consultation on the draft implementing regulation on the identification and registration of equidae and the model for the equine passport.

The main focus was on ensuring that the responsibility for issuing equine passports for foals registered by the horse breeding associations remains with the breeding associations. The large number of submissions and demands as well as the good cooperation with and the influence of important Members of the European Parliament, i.e. Hilde Vautmans as Chair of European Parliament's MEP Horse Group of EHN, ultimately led to the result that horse breeding associations remain in future responsible in the EU for issuing equine passports for foals registered by them. Whether the competent body in a Member State also delegate that the horse breeding associations are authorised to continue to deliver the equine passports directly to the operator, must be clarified and agreed in the respective Member State.

The Commission *Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/963* laying down rules for the application of *Regulations (EU) 2016/429, (EU) 2016/1012* and *(EU) 2019/6* of the European Parliament and of the Council with regard to the identification and registration of equine animals and establishing model identification documents for those animals, was adopted on 10 June 2021.

Furthermore, the EHN dealt with the future Common Agricultural Policy of the EU and the VAT Directive, which is currently being revised. More information is available on the EHN website under <http://www.europeanhorsenetwork.eu/>.

This year's EHN Equine Conference is planned for 16 November 2021. Mrs Hilde Vautmans and hopefully, Mrs Ursula von der Leyen, President of the European Commission, have confirmed the possibility to host the MEP Horse Group in the European Parliament (if EP opens to events).

## Contact to EU Commission

In February, March and April 2021 Department of External Cooperation had direct contact with DG SANTE several times, about EU legislation or the expected Delegated Acts arising from the 'Animal Health Law'. As already outlined above, the focus was on the draft Commission implementing regulation laying down rules for the identification and registration of equidae and establishing model documents for their identification. This also dealt with the possibility of using digital equine



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passports. The digital equine passport system would facilitate the movement of horses by providing EU countries' authorities with fail-safe information on the horse's identity and real-time monitoring of its movements and information on its owners. However, this also requires the interconnection of the central databases in the Member States.

After almost three decades, Dr Alf-Eckbert Füssel has left the Commission and retired. The WBFSH would like to thank him for his many efforts on behalf of horse breeding in Europe. It is important to keep up the good contact with his successor.

### **Cooperation with International Young Breeders**

WBFSH World Championships for Young Breeders were planned to be organized by Team of Jong KWPN in July 2021 at the National Hippic Centre, De Beek 125, Ermelo, The Netherlands. The event had to be postponed to 2022 due to the Covid-19 Pandemic. Further information about the activities of the International Young Breeders is published on the website <http://www.young-breeders.com>.

*Warendorf, 20 September 2021*

