The FEI Veterinary System And Collaboration With Government Authorities

Graeme Cooke
Overview

1. The FEI International Equestrian Event

2. The International High Performance Horse

3. FEI Veterinary System

4. Collaboration with Government and Intergovernmental bodies
Role of FEI in Equestrian sport

Protect the image and develop Equestrian Sport

Provide Rules, Regulations & Standards:
  • approving all events for equestrian competitions including Championships, Regional & Olympic Games

Control the technical organisation for all FEI events
  • INCLUDING VETERINARY MATTERS
FEI Code of Conduct

You are expected to adhere to the FEI’s Code of Conduct

You are also expected to acknowledge and accept that at all times the welfare of the horse must be paramount and must never be subordinated to competitive or commercial influences.

CODEX FOR ALL
VETERINARIANS - INCLUDING BIOSECURITY
The Unique Partnership with the Horse Requires

- Doping and Medication Controls
- Welfare Codes and Legislation
- Rules of the Sport
- Officials
- Safety and injuries
- DISEASE CONTROL AND BIOSECURITY
- Equine Identification methods
- International Trade and Movement of horses
- Education & Communication
- REGULATIONS
Regional Groups
FEI Headquarters
FEI Unique Communication Capability For An Animal Related Body

- FEI Website - FEI.org
- Calendar of Events
- Annual Report
- FEI Press News (Weekly - FAX & email)
- Direct memos to National Federations
- Guidance notes

- FEI Focus
- Digital Media
- Social media
- NF Updates
- Direct mailing
- Training and Development Programmes
- Courses

- REGULATIONS

- Guidance notes from Vet Dept to FEI Vets
- FEI Veterinary.org
- FEI Veterinary Meetings at major events- Reports
- FEI Veterinary Seminars & Courses
- Direct memos to National Federations
- FEI Directory
- National Head Vets
- FEIvet.com (planned)
THE FEI EVENT
Number of FEI Events
Be part of the glory, book your packages now!

ALLTECH FEI WORLD EQUESTRIAN GAMES™
2014 IN NORMANDY-FRANCE
8 DISCIPLINES . 15 DAYS . 60 NATIONS . 1000 CHAMPIONS

FROM 23 AUGUST TO 7 SEPTEMBER
MONT SAINT-MICHEL . SAINT-LÔ . CAEN . LE PIN NATIONAL STUD . DEAUVILLE

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# A World Equestrian Games

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<td>Nations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Horses</td>
<td>1000 plus</td>
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<td>500'000</td>
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The Equine Economic Effect

Germany, Aachen WEG – 160 Million Euro locally for one event

Pan American Games 2011, Mexico - 100 millions of Pesos

UK equestrian sector is the largest sporting employer in the UK
- Indirect employment 220 – 270 000
- Greater now than UK farming

France - World Equestrian Games 2014 – 100 Million Euro Investment

USA World Equestrian Games 2010
- Generated over 200 million USD to local economy

EVERY 5 HORSES CREATES ONE JOB
THE FEI HORSE

An International High Performance Horse

“AN INTERNATIONAL ATHLETE”
Obtaining an FEI Passport
THE FEI VETERINARY SYSTEM
The Unique Partnership with the Horse Requires

| Doping and Medication Controls |
| Welfare Codes and Legislation |
| Rules of the Sport |
| Officials |
| Safety and injuries Monitoring |
| DISEASE CONTROL AND BIOSECURITY |
| Indentification methods |
| International Trade and Movement of horses |
| Education & Communication |
| REGULATIONS |
FEI Veterinary Services Manager (VSM) at every event

- Appointed by the Organising Committee at every event
- Works with Organisers to ensure provision of veterinary services, facilities and biosecurity
- Specific requirements for the VSM for Major Games: i.e. WEG/ Olympics and appointed 2 years in advance
- The FEI Veterinary Delegate reports back to the FEI, on services & enforces standards
Horse Examinations & Inspections

- Essential part of FEI Competition
- Passport Control
  - infectious disease checks
  - checking horse identity
- Veterinary Examinations
  - clinical examinations
  - check for possible disease
- Horse Inspections
  - ensuring horses are fit to compete
Control of FEI Passports
Passport Control - ID Check

ALL NEW HORSES REGISTERED WITH THE FEI ARE NOW MICROCHIPPED
Equine Influenza Rules

ALL HORSES COMPETING IN FEI COMPETITIONS REQUIRE AN INFLUENZA VACCINATION WITHIN SIX MONTHS + 21 DAYS OF THE COMPETITION

- Recorded in passport
- Primary course of two vaccinations,
- Third dose (the first booster) must be given within 6 months and 21 days
- Annual boosters at least given subsequently (i.e. by 365 days of last dose)

ACCEPTED BY OIE AS THE IDEAL STANDARD
### Vaccination Record: Equine Influenza Only

Details of every equine influenza vaccination which the horse undergoes must be entered clearly and in detail, and certified with the name, signature and stamp of the veterinarian.

### Enregistrement des vaccinations: Grippe Équine Seulement

Toute vaccination subie par le cheval doit être portée dans le cadre ci-dessous de façon lisible et précise et certifiée avec le nom, la signature et le cachet du vétérinaire.

### Registro de Vacunas: Gripe Equina Solamente

Todas las vacunas recibidas por el caballo, así como el nombre y la firma del veterinario, deben figurar de manera clara y detallada en el cuadro siguiente.

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FEI
First Veterinary Examination

BIOSECURITY – AN FIRST CHECK

• Before entry to the stables: overall health check is done particularly for infectious diseases (Temps etc), **often in the presence of Government officials**

• Checking for obvious injury

• **If infectious disease** suspected ➔ **isolate horse & report** to FEI Officials system/technical Delegate or authorities if required
Horse Inspections at any time
“Fitness to compete”

- common sense approach to fitness and safety
- absolute soundness not required
- meet between the GJ and Vet Com or Delegate to discuss procedure and set level of “fitness” for competition. TD usually present
- Holding Box for doubtful cases
- ultimate objective for horses to compete safely
Veterinary Preparation for the Event

Veterinary Team

140 HORSES

125 VETS, 100 SUPPORT STAFF
Veterinary Preparation for the Event

A Focus on the health of the horse
Veterinary Preparation for the Event

- FEI Biosecurity Requirements
- Isolation Boxes at event for use at any time
- Contingency Planning a requirement
- Liaison with Government Authorities
CLOSE
COLLABORATION WITH GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES
Areas of Collaboration

• Equine Identification Passports and Microchipping Standards
• Understanding Welfare Standards
• Coordinating Large International Events
• Assisting expert groups on International Health Standards
• Unilateral negotiations with governments
European Union

- FEI Horses are « Registered horses »
  - agreed to be lower risk
    - because of the care they are under
    - the higher transport standards
    - their higher welfare standards
- FEI Passport is a benchmark of the EU equine passport system
- Regular meetings and consultations with EU authorities
Working with World Animal Health Organisation (OIE)

- Safeguarding fair world trade by publishing standards for international trade of animals under SPT agreement
- Assisting National Veterinary Services
- Simple transparency in the global disease situation and prevention
- Protecting animal welfare
- Wants international solidarity in animal health
- Obtaining and distributing the best knowledge

ALL FEI VALUES AS WELL
FEI National Head Veterinarians

• One for each National Federation
  - for dissemination of information
  - has a strong network and with national authorities
  - part of FEI consultation processes
  - assists with monitoring FEI Vets

• Very well placed to have an effective liaison role in working with governments
Equine International Movements and Governments

• **International Equestrian Events are unique gatherings of unique animals**

• Governments have the key role to play in this trade and in this sport

• FEI is working with various bodies for improvement
  - Inter-governamental level (EU, OIE, WHO etc)
  - Governmental Level (Major events etc)
  - Major NGOs
Equine International Movements and Governments

- International Equestrian Events are unique gatherings of unique animals
- Governments have a special role to play in this trade and this sport
- FEI works at
  - Inter- governmental level (EU, OIE, WHO etc)
  - Governmental Level (Major events
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Equine International Movements and Governments

• International Equestrian Events are unique gatherings of unique animals
• Governments have a special role to play in this trade and in this sport
• FEI works at
  - Inter-governmental level (EU, OIE, WHO etc)
  - Governmental Level (Major events)
  - State Level
  - Major NGOs
Equine International Movements and Governments

- Many countries do not require quarantine
- EU recognises a lower risk “Registered » horse approach
- But a major lack of a harmonised approach to requirements by many countries
- Sometimes country requirements
  - are not risk based and are confusing
  - ignore high performance horse standards and needs of an athlete
  - late official decisions - so planning hard
- Different perspectives taken to testing, zoning etc
FACILITATION OF INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION HORSE MOVEMENT

HONG KONG, 18 - 20 FEBRUARY 2014
THANK YOU