

EVENTING
EXPLANATION OF PROCEDURES FOR COLLECTING EVENTING
STATISTICS ON FALLS

For the Attention of:

- NFs involved in organising International FEI Eventing Competitions

Copy:

- FEI Technical Delegates officiating in FEI Eventing Competitions in 2008
- FEI Foreign Judges officiating in events where FEI TDs are not required

Following the FEI General Assembly 2001 and the worldwide consultation process, the Eventing Committee produced a final report on "The future of the Eventing" which has been accepted and endorsed by the FEI Bureau and National Federations. This report included the recognition of the necessity for the FEI to monitor and obtain reliable data and statistics. It was recognised that an International overall Safety program was required to obtain the data worldwide with the goal to ensure cooperation and allow spread and exchange of knowledge to all countries involved in the Sport of Eventing.

Research program

The first step of this Safety Program to be implemented has been to develop cooperation with the British based Transport Research Laboratories (TRL) already employed by the GBR NF. The choice of the specific Laboratory was based on the already important knowledge absorbed from the 2-year cooperation with the British Eventing Association.

The work planned in cooperation with TRL related to the prevention of accidents based on analysis of the data of ALL falls of horse and rider and to identify particular precipitation or contributory factors of fence types that are over-represented in the incident data to enable the safety performance of future safety initiatives within the sport to be measured.

Annual Eventing Safety report

The FEI will produce a report of the results of this study at the end of each year together with safety analysis to be distributed to all NFs.

Fall report form

To obtain consistent and credible data the FEI Eventing Committee has developed together with TRL a common incident form to be used at all International events as of 2002. These forms are to be returned to the FEI for analysis as the numbers and different climatic conditions are essential as basis of this research.

Technical Delegate Responsibility

FEI Technical Delegates will receive all the necessary forms to proceed with this collection of data with the normal TD form. These forms include:

1. Regular TD form on the organisation of event

2. FEI 2007 Eventing Fall form – to be distributed to fence judges after TD explanation on importance on filling in form for all falls even if rider remounts to finish the competition. All boxes of the fall report form need to be completed for valid data.
3. Fence Description forms - the TD will be requested to ensure that the Course Designer of the event completes a form specifying fence type, and in what order on the course the fence is situated and its relation to bends.

The TD will be responsible for ensuring that all the forms are completed and collected and sent back to the FEI as quickly as possible after the completion of the event.

National Federation contribution

It is the intention for the following years to request that all NFs involved in Eventing be requested to produce data for all national Eventing competitions in order to obtain the maximum of statistics on falls to validate the Safety Studies of the sport of Eventing. For this purpose, the FEI has developed with TRL a performance indicator base, which has been provided for the use of NFs so that all national data can correspond and be integrated in the general safety program. NFs had then a choice to use TRL or produce their own yearly data to be collected and integrated by the FEI for the use of all.

The collection of the Eventing fall data is only one part of the Eventing Committee Safety Program. In addition the FEI Eventing Database is currently being developed for the benefit of all NFs, Organiser and riders. Special training programs for Eventing Officials will be implemented.

The FEI realises that this program will demand much extra effort from all involved in the sport. However, Eventing is a wonderful sport with its own special requirements and if all actors can contribute to making it safer and more acceptable to the general public it will be a step in the right direction for the future.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation. Please do not hesitate to contact the FEI Eventing Department should you have any queries on the above procedures.

Yours sincerely,

On behalf of the Chairman and Members of the Eventing Committee

Catrin Norinder, Manager Eventing and Olympic Department

Attachments:

1. FEI TD/FJ Report on Events 2008 - Form
2. FEI 2008 – Eventing Fall Report Form (one form per fall to be filled in)
3. Annex A – Instructions for filling-in fence Description forms
4. Annex B - FEI Fence Description Form (1 per course)
5. Annex C – Fence Types, fence categories – (drawings for identification of fences)