

International Vaulting Club

Annual Report 2005

In 2005, 24 nations from 4 continents were represented within the International Vaulting Club:

Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Mexico, New Zealand, Italy, Finland, France, Denmark, Germany, Great Britain, Hungary, Netherlands, Slovakia, Sweden, Switzerland, Poland, USA and Uruguay.

Following the General Assembly 2004 in Stadl Paura (AUT), the proposal worked out for the *Guidelines for Judges* concerning the dress of the vaulters was presented to the FEI Vaulting Committee and accepted with two minor changes. We would like to thank everybody who helped working out these guidelines and supported the project. The solution that was found is certainly "vaulter friendly" and opens interesting perspectives for the further development of vaulting.

Open International Vaulting Forum Saumur 2005

In March 2005, we held the first Open International Vaulting Forum in the presence of Jean-Michel Pinel, president of the FEI Vaulting Committee, at the CVI of Saumur (FRA). Seven countries were represented : Austria, France, Germany, Great Britain, Sweden, Switzerland, United States.

The following subjects were brought forward by the participants (in chronological order) :

- **Technical Test:**

The optimal execution of the roll-up mount was discussed. The different criteria mentioned in the *Guidelines for Vaulting Judges* were recalled, but no final definition about the optimal height of the exercise could be given, considering that the focus is on the correct "roll"-movement.

- **Music:**

Concerning the possibility of using vocal music was, that there is no restriction as to the music that may be used at the moment. However several judges expressed their personal dislike for music with vocals all the way through the performance.

- **Use of a whip at the veterinary inspection:**

The answer to the question, whether it was allowed to use a whip when presenting a horse during the veterinary inspection, was that this should be stated in the schedule, as there is no written rule concerning the subject at present.

It was recalled that, unlike dressage or jumping, the vaulting horses wear their number on the left side.

- **Remarks on the score sheets :**

Participants expressed the wish for the judges to make use of the box for "remarks" on the score sheets, when judging according to the new system (consisting in splitting up the scores between the judges), considering they should have more time to comment their scores.

Open International Vaulting Forum Stadl Paura 2005

At the CVI in Stadl Paura, twelve nations were represented at the Open International Vaulting Forum: Austria, Czech Republic, Finland, France, Germany, Great Britain, Hungary, Italy, Netherlands, Slovakia, Switzerland, United States.

The following subjects were brought up :

- **Procedure for veterinary inspection:**

The procedure for the veterinary inspection was clarified according to the rules, after a question from M. Dalibor Blazek from Czech Republic. It was pointed out that the participants can not ask for re-inspection of a horse having failed the veterinary inspection.

- **Horse-score:**

The participants discussed the kind of the canter required for vaulting. Among others Devon Maitozo (USA) pointed out that the quality of canter should not only refer to the biomechanics of the horse but also to the possibility of executing vaulting exercises in harmony with the canter-movement. This opinion was approved by part of the participants.

The scoring of the horse prescribed in the *Guidelines for Vaulting Judges* was also discussed. For some participants, the four categories currently described in the Guidelines do not give precise enough directions for the scoring. Also the scores defined for the different categories were questioned. The possibility of giving scores of "up to 5.0" for the category currently scored with "up to 4.0" and scores of "up to 6.0" for the category currently scored with "up to 5.0" was mentioned.

Many participants expressed the wish for a way of scoring which would express the reasons for the score more precisely.

A working document (see our Latest News section), based on the training scale for horses, was presented in order to show up possible solutions to some of the raised questions. But this document was considered by most participants as being too complicated for being used in competition. Nevertheless different perceptions of the scoring according to the Guidelines were voiced following the international judges seminar held in Stutt-

gart (Ger) in February 2005 and further clarifications appeared as a possible constructive contribution.

The participants again expressed the wish that the judges should use the full range of scores at their disposal and increase communication concerning the scoring of the horses by providing the lungers with more information, for example by using the possibility of putting down comments in the box for "remarks" on the score sheet.

- **Judging system:**

Concerning the judging systems experienced in 2005 in Saumur and Stadl Paura, and which consists of splitting up the different scores on the different judges, Frank Spadinger (Aut), organiser of the CVI 2*/1* of Stadl Paura, brought forward the following proposal for next years edition of this competition, in order to maintain the financial viability of CVI's: 3 judges for the compulsory test and 6 judges for the technical and free tests.

- **Scores for compulsory exercises during which the horse trots :**

The current way of scoring those exercises (score of 0 if not repeated) was felt as being too hard a sanction compared to a fall off the horse, which is scored the same. The participants expressed the wish that the FEI Vaulting Committee should reconsider this paragraph of Article 737 of the *Rules for Vaulting Events* in order to try to find a more appropriate way to deal with this issue.

- **Stable Security on CVIs:**

The standard currently prescribed for CVIs seems to go far beyond the actual needs during such competitions. The fence around the stable with only one entrance seems essential, combined with a sign indicating that only people authorized by the organiser have access. In case of problems, these can be dealt with as they occur, but a 24 hour security service does not seem necessary for CVI 2* and 1* and should only be maintained for Championships.

The following subjects were put on the agenda of the next Open International Vaulting Forum:

- a request from Roland Böhlen (SUI), in favour of allowing Pas-de-Deux competitions with teams including two female or two male vaulters, due to the lack of "mixed" Pas-de-Deux teams.
- suggestions from Katalin Hecsey (HUN) for further discussions concerning the horse score

All these subjects were summed up, put on the website for general information and sent to the FEI vaulting department and the FEI vaulting committee members.

Development

Concerning the development of vaulting, Anita Flamand-Prochaska had a very productive meeting with the Development Manager of the FEI, Mrs Jac-

queline Braissant, on the perspectives of vaulting and the FEI Coaching System.

Mrs Braissant encouraged the countries wanting to develop vaulting activities to participate in Coaching System Level 1 courses organised by their Regional Groups. Persons wishing to do so, should contact their Group President through their NF, to show their interest.

On top of this, the Development Department will continue to support specific development initiatives (courses, etc...).

IVC Board

Meetings of the IVC Board were held at the CVIs of Stadl Paura and Verolanuova. The board discussed the summaries of the Open International Vaulting Forums, options for the horse score, and the rules for a future World Cup and World Ranking.