

Within the International Federations



Bruce Davidson, 1978 three-day event world champion, received a standing ovation on his mount, Might Tango, at the recent championships in Lexington, Kentucky (USA).



**General Assembly, Paris,
12th and 13th December 1978**

*by Fritz O. Widmer,
Secretary General of the FEI*

**President : HRH Prince Philip,
Duke of Edinburgh**



Fifty-six of the 67 currently affiliated national federations were represented at the General Assembly organised in Paris by the French Equestrian Federation under the leadership of its President, Mr. Christian Legrez.

One of the most important points to be discussed was the study on the conclusions reached by the Veterinary Sub-Commission, created at the 1977 General Assembly, under the chairmanship of Professor Dr. H. Gerber (SUI).

The major tasks of this sub-commission were :

1. to establish regulations concerning the use of anti-inflammatory drugs without steroids and the practice of neurectomy.
2. to determine a standard procedure in checking for medicines at international meetings as well as instructions regarding material to be used for these checks.

As regards the first point, the unanimous approval of the General Assembly was obtained on the text of a moratorium aimed

at prohibiting, as of 1st January 1981, the use of phenylbutazone and other anti-inflammatory products without steroids as well as all formes of neurectomy, intended to remove all sensitivity from the horse's hoof.

The elections confirmed the mandates of Mr. Fritz O. Widmer's (SUI) office as Secretary General—Treasurer of the FEI, of Colonel Donald Thackeray (USA) as official in charge of driving events and of Mr. Paolino Rivera-Torres (MEX).

Two new national federations were admitted, representing Hong Kong and the Bahamas, while the Dominican Republic federation was granted provisional affiliation. The General Assembly also devoted its attention to the alterations to be made to the regulations for Olympic disciplines : jumping, dressage, and the three-day event, alterations to be made to regulations governing equestrian events at the Olympic Games as well as the final determination of regulations for juniors and ponies.

Two new initiatives by the FEI received the approval of the General Assembly :

1. the creation of the *World Cup for Jumping Riders* which was inaugurated in October 1978.
2. the staging of an *FEI Jumping Event* in 1979 intended to prepare, on a lower international level, competitors with little experience in high-level international competitions.

A detailed report on progress achieved in preparatory work for the equestrian events at the 1980 Olympic Games was presented by the delegates from the OCOG and was given approval by the General Assembly.

The 1979 calendar of championships and international competitions was approved, the awarding of the championships being as follows :

Senior Championships

- European jumping championships in Rotterdam (HOL), 16 to 19.8.
- European three-day event championships in Lumuhlen (GER), 30.8 to 2.9.
- European dressage championships in Aarhus (DEN), 31.5 to 4.6.
- European driving championships at Haras du Pin (FRA), 13 to 16.9.

Junior Championships

- European jumping championships in Gijon (ESP), 23 to 26.8.
- European three-day event championships in Puncchestown (IRL), 24 to 27.8.
- European dressage championships in Stromsholm (SWE), 10 to 12.8.
- American jumping championships in Brazil, 23 to 26.8.

Pony Championships

- European jumping and dressage championships in Lincoln (GBR), 27 to 29.7.
- European three-day event championships in Mjoelby (SWE), 23 to 26.8.

In addition, the following calendar of seminars, courses for judges, candidate judges and stewards as well as for instructional tours was established :

Courses and Seminars

- Course for jumping course stewards in Caracas (VEN), 5 to 9.2.
- Course for judges of jumping events in Bern (SUI), May.

- Seminar for dressage judges in Warendorf (GER), 15 to 17.5.
- Course for three-day event stewards and technical delegates in the Netherlands, dates to be determined.
- Course for instructors of jumping in Buenos Aires (ARG), Sept.-Oct.
- Course for driving track judges and stewards in Szilsvasvarad (HUN), dates to be determined.

Instructional Tours

- Dressage in AUS, COL, MEX, NZL, VEN.
- Three-day event in Eastern European countries.

The General Assembly was held in a very friendly atmosphere, marked by a spirit of sport and of respect for the many, often divergent interests of the affiliated federations. The next General Assembly will take place in Dusseldorf (GER) during the week of 9th to 15th December 1979.

F.O.W.