



## INTERNATIONAL MOUNTED GAMES ASSOCIATION

**Annual Meeting 2017**

**Final version 1.0 (January 20 2018)**

**Held at Copthorne Hotel, Cardiff, Wales**

**Saturday December 2 and Sunday December 3 2017**

*This record of the meeting has been compiled from notes made at the time by Frie Martin, Carol Jones, Keith Martin and Nikki Carter.*

*The sequence in which agenda items were discussed was not the same as published in the original agenda. This record, however, follows the original agenda sequence.*

**Meeting opened:** Saturday November 12 at 09:30

### **Attendance List**

#### *IMGA Officers:*

Keith Martin	Chairman
Nikki Carter	Vice Chairman
Marilyn Hackman	Honorary President
Jens Martin	Administration & Finance
Alun Whitney	Chief Referee

#### *International Representatives:*

Michelle Cruikshanks	Canada	REMOTE
Phil Logue	Australia	
Signe Sehested	Denmark	
Maggie Gorvett	England	
Elise Gapaillard	France	
Mark Devitt	Ireland	
Alžběta Mašková	Czech Republic	
Rory Prime	Northern Ireland	
Volker Baasch	Germany	
Annika Labruier	Luxembourg	REMOTE
Simon Watson	New Zealand	REMOTE
Eivind Kjuus	Norway	
Iain Hopkins	Wales	
Paul Greiling	USA	

*Unable to attend, but represented by proxy:*

Rachel Lechner	Austria	Mark Devitt
Florence Hennuy	Belgium	Didrik Lasanow REMOTE
Quentin Voeltzel	Burkina Faso	Nikki Carter
Jacques Cave	Italy	Valentina Mauriello REMOTE
Steven Chorley	Scotland	Jane Mclean
Kersley Vinay	South Africa	Jens Martin
Gunilla Adolfsson	Sweden	Keith Martin
Philippe Gargallo	Switzerland	Valentin Vielledent

*Unable to attend, no proxy received:*

Mehdi Khatibi	Iran
Ok Kyung Park	South Korea

*Others present but not representing a member country:*

Tara Jones	Video & communications	
Frie Martin	Notes of meeting	
Chris Wheeler	Interpreter	
Widukind Moorman	Germany	
Jerome O'Connor	Ireland	
Jean Bengé	New Zealand	REMOTE
Karen Foell	Canada	REMOTE
Astrid Schneider	Switzerland	
Urs Schneider	Switzerland	
Liz Englert	USA	
Carol Jones	USA	
Clive Jones	USA	

*Apologies received:*

Murren Addison	Communication Officer Candidate
Sean Bource	Communications Officer
Pierre-Luc Portron	Development Officer Candidate
Davy Quinn	Chief Referee Candidate
Quentin Voeltzel	Development Officer

## 1. Introduction

The attendance list is shown above, with information on proxies, submitted in writing and recorded, from those members unable to attend.

The meeting opened with guidelines for the meeting and voting procedures, and the allocation of costs between IMGGA, MGA Wales, and the individuals present.

MGA Wales kindly offered to provide lunch for participants on both days of the meeting as well as covering the meeting room costs.

It was noted that there is no official definition for the quorum of an AGM within IMGGA's constitution or articles. This will need to be reviewed

**Action: Nikki Carter to propose an official quorum for an Annual General Meeting of IMGGA for agreement by International Representatives.**

## 2. Looking Back at 2017

### 2.1 Review of IMGA's year

Keith Martin reported on activities during 2017.

All routine matters were undertaken including:

- Following up on all decisions and actions
- Monitoring IMGA sanctioned competitions
- Maintaining contact with all members and officials
- Accounting, tax, company returns
- Website maintenance and updates
- Preparation for this AGM

In addition other subjects were worked on during the year including:

- The introduction of an entry management system for the European Individual Championships and the World Pairs Championships
- Special requirements for U17 World Team Championships in New Zealand
- Referee Training
- The development of a contract between IMGA and organisers of IMGA-sanctioned events
- A review of Height/Weight rulings
- Welcoming a new member: Czech Republic
- Investigation of complaints about the late decision to run 'tremis' at the European Championships 2016

At the 2016 AGM there were 20 recorded decisions of which 19 had been completed since discussions on the contract with competition organisers had not been conclusive.

Keith Martin welcomed Nikki Carter as the new Chairman of IMGA.

Keith Martin looked back at 2003, when he had first become Chairman of IMGA. In that year the draft constitution of IMGA was approved and IMGA was registered as a legal entity in the UK with elected officials. The official IMGA website was launched and e-mail accepted as the "normal" means of communication.

- There were 10 member nations
- The AGM was the first to be held outside the UK.
- The minutes of meeting were 9 pages long
- The affiliation fee was £100
- Rules and the Rule Book (64 pages) controlled by MGAGB

Now, in 2017,

- There are 24 member countries
- AGMs are held all over world, with 3 outside Europe and remote participation is easy
- The minutes of the 2016 meeting were 42 pages long
- The IMGA website now comprises 280 HTML pages
- The affiliation fee is £315
- The current Rule Book (128 pages) is controlled by an independent elected Rules Committee

Keith Martin stated that he believes the greatest highlights during his chairmanship have been:

- The development of a Constitution and Limited Company
- Management of the organisation by elected officials
- The establishment of an independent Rules Committee

- The start-up of the European Championship and Nations Team Championship
- The appointment of a Chief Referee and the development of referee certification

Marilyn Hackman expressed the thanks of everyone present to Keith Martin for his hard work and achievements as Chairman of IMGA for so many years.

## 2.2 Rules Committee Report

Jens Martin reported on behalf of the Rule Committee that, since the last AGM, 21 Rule Change requests had been processed. Of these, 18 had been accepted, 2 rejected, 1 suspended, and 1 was still under consideration.

258 rulebooks had been sold for £1,290 (printing cost €1,662, giving a loss of £195 or €220), whilst 4,403 had been downloaded from the website.

It was agreed that the number of changes warranted a new Rule Book for 2018.

***Action: The Rules Committee to finalise both the on-line and printed versions of the Rule Book for 2018***

## 2.3 Financial Report

Jens Martin presented the current financial situation, which is shown in Attachment for 2.3 This is a “snapshot” of the current situation showing all payments and receipts since the last AGM.

It was proposed, and agreed that there should be no rise in Affiliation Fees for 2018.

***Decision: 17.01 The automatic percentage rise in Affiliation Fees for 2018 is set at zero.***

There was considerable discussion about who should be responsible for the payment of expenses to referees at sanctioned competitions. Comments included:

- Many competition organisers believe that IMGA should pay expenses for the referees they appoint
- Currently countries state how much they are willing and/or able to pay towards referees’ expenses and very few cover all expenses
- Referees should be paid expenses. IMGA expects them to have no personal agenda within the competition, so cannot expect them to be self-funding
- Should organisers of large competitions give some of their profits to help cover the referee costs of smaller events like the Nations Championship?
- Regardless of whether expenses are paid by organisers (and collected by entry fees) or by IMGA and funded through the rider levy, it is the competitors that pay them
- If IMGA pays referees’ expenses there would need to be large increase in affiliation fees and/or riders’ levies
- More qualified referees are needed so that it will be less necessary for them to travel great distances to events
- Referees should be told of what expenses would be given before they are put their names forward for events

It was agreed that this required further investigation. Jens Martin would contact all referees appointed for 2018 events obtaining information about their actual expenditure and what expenses they receive. It was suggested that a standardised form would enable a uniform basis for analysis,

which would be used to determine protocols for 2019 onwards.

**Action: Jens Martin to collect data of referees' expenses in 2018 to report to the 2018 AGM.**

**Action: Nikki Carter to forewarn 2019 sanctioned event organisers to budget for realistic payment of referee expenses.**

Jens Martin emphasised that event organisers collect riders' levies on behalf of IMGA and should not include their value in their budgets. They could not expect to be allowed to keep the money if they made a loss on the event. Countries that failed to pass the riders' levies would be indebted to IMGA and lose their membership rights.

Two specific cases were discussed with the following agreement:

1. South Africa would be offered a payment plan to pay the riders' levies they had collected (£250) if unable to pay it immediately.
2. England MGA agreed to pay the outstanding riders' levies from the 2017 European Championships.

## **2.4 Report by Chief Referee**

Alun Whitney presented his Chief Referee's report, which is shown in Attachment for 2.4.

There was discussion about the use of borrowed ponies in the Nations Championship.

- Pooling all ponies, so all teams were on borrowed ponies, provides a more even competition and also encouraged riders to put forward better ponies for the pool
- However, countries hosting the Nations Championship never get a chance to ride their own ponies in international competition in front of their home audience or otherwise

The consensus was that host nations could use their own ponies, but that nations bidding to hold a competition must make it clear during the bidding process what the policy will be on the use of pool ponies and self-sourced ponies. The full costs of borrowing ponies must be given before the entries for the competition close.

**Action: Members bidding to host the Nations Championship must specify at the time of bidding what the competition policy will be on the use of borrowed ponies, whether from a pool or self-sourced.**

**Action: Nations Championship hosts must provide full details of all costs of borrowing ponies before the close of entries for the event.**

**Action: Keith Martin to update "How to Organise a Sanctioned Event" document.**

It was noted that although IMGA rules state how many games a pony may compete in during a day or a week, this does not include practice sessions. Teams using borrowed ponies will practice every game several times as riders try to get used to their ponies in a short time. The condition and possible over use of ponies must be monitored.

It was noted that in Denmark ponies are only allowed to compete in at most two consecutive weekends.

Alun Whitney also showed a video system which provides frame-by frame coverage of the whole arena, particularly the four corners, and which has proved easy to use in competition. Videos checking of possible line faults or other rule infringements show that no offence has taken place in c40% of checks.

## **2.5 Report on IMGGA Communications**

Jens Martin reported that many have filled this post but all have found it difficult. Although everyone wants to read or see IMGGA news, few are willing to contribute it. Murren Addison is taking over this role and is very excited to be taking over from Mappy (Sean Bource). She has extensive knowledge of social media, running Mounted Games World on Facebook.

Please would everyone support her and, initially, provide her with a calendar of events planned for 2018.

***Action: Nations to provide Murren Addison with details of events being hosted in 2018 plus any Mounted Games news.***

## **2.6 Report on Country Development**

Jens Martin reported that Pierre-Luc Portron would be taking over as Development Officer from Quentin Voeltzel.

Jens Martin reported on the current situation with potential members:

- The Netherlands Equestrian Federation showed considerable interest at the beginning of 2017 and is hoping to attend the European Championships in 2018 to watch our sport
- Pakistan is expected to make an official application for membership by the end of this year
- Iran has been offered many opportunities to progress their membership, but have failed to take up any of them. Karen Houge offered to travel to Iran and organise training camps. They have yet to pay their affiliation fee. It was unanimously agreed that Iran's membership be cancelled
- South Korea has paid their membership and want to carry on as members, but it is unlikely they will pass their criteria check
- Burkina Faso is also likely to fail their criteria check

## **2.7 Reviews of 2017 IMGGA sanctioned competitions**

The following reports from 2017 competitions have been received and form attachment to 2.7

- World Team Championship Open (South Africa) Report from Pat Reece (MGASA)
- World Pairs Championship (France) Reports from Nikki Carter (IMGGA rep and Chief Ref)
- World Individual Championship (England) Reports from MGAGB (Organiser), Nikki Carter (IMGGA Rep), Davy Quinn (Chief Ref), and Financial Report
- European Team and Individual Championship (England) Reports from Maggie Gorvett (Organiser), Nikki Carter (IMGGA Rep), Financial Report, and Medical and Security Report
- Nations Championship (USA) Reports from Carol Jones (Organiser), Davy Quinn (Chief Ref) and Finance Report
- World Team Championship U-17 (NZ) Reports from Jan Christensen (Organiser) and Warwick Slade (Chief Ref)

### ***Open WTC South Africa***

It was reported by competitors that this had been an amazing event and that help was always

available when requested. The organisers were very proud and honoured to have hosted the event.

***WPC, France (hosted by Burkina Faso)***

Concern was expressed that pairs were identified only by different coloured hatbands on the second rider, which made judging and refereeing difficult. It was agreed that a requirement to use pairs of hat silks should form part of the How to Organise a Sanctioned Event document.

***Action: Keith Martin to update "How to Organise a Sanctioned Event" document***

***WIC, England (hosted by MGAGB)***

Riders were promised there would be a Champion's Party after the finals but this did not take place, being replaced by a Gala Party the night before the finals. This left the Champions no opportunity to celebrate their success.

***ETC and EIC, England***

The weather was terrible with rain for much of the week. Organisation was good and everyone worked together to sort problems.

The initial arena lighting set up was inadequate but was improved by the introduction of extra lights.

Denmark considered that the team championships should be the main event and that teams had to run their finals on ground that had been cut up by Individual finals

***Nations Championship (USA)***

This had been a well-run event enjoyed by all participants.

***U17 WTC New Zealand***

There was discussion about the change of format to the U17 WTC after agreement had been negotiated with the organisers allowing two mixed-nationality teams, so long as they were never in the same heat and would be competing in a separate competition. This had been allowed only because, on the request of the organisers, the competition was not an IMGA-sanctioned event.

IMGA is giving event organisers the right to host a World or International Championship and by taking up that right organisers must meet minimum standards for it to be genuine world event.

Lessons had been learnt from this and it was agreed that in all future competitions there would be a contract, to be signed by all of the host nation's committee and the event organisers, agreeing that the event would follow IMGA guidelines as stated in the "How to Organise an IMGA-sanctioned event" document. Elements of the document could be specifically excluded from the contract if agreed at the time of signing.

There should be sanctions included within the contract for any breach of the contract, with the host nation and any sub-contracted organising committee held joint and severally responsible for non-compliance (see 4.3).

Australia asked why an Australian rider was a member of one of the mixed-nationality teams without the knowledge of Australia MGA who had already selected a rider to participate. Simon Watson agreed to investigate this.

***Action: Simon Watson to investigate the allocation of spaces to Australian riders in the mixed-nationality teams and report to Australia MGA.***

## **2.8 Review of first implementation of entries management for 2017 EIC and WPC**

Nikki Carter presented her report on the implementation of the new entry management system as she had used for the European Individual Championships and the European U17 Masters, which is shown in Attachment for 2.8.

Whilst the system worked in principle, late entries, failure to meet deadlines, failure to pay entry fees and late withdrawals had made the system very time consuming.

Suggestions were made on ways to solve these problems including:

- Late payments should result in surcharges to encourage prompt payment
- It was suggested that there should be a return to the old first come, first served entry system, although it was also pointed out that a lot of work had gone into developing a system that was fair to all
- There should be no refund of entry fees without a vet or doctor's certificate and no refunds after a set date
- There should be a standardised system for determining whether refunds would be made and how much refund was paid
- Rory Prime believed that the system could be computerised which would prevent people entering late. He volunteered to develop the system with the assistance of Keith Martin

***Action: Compliance Sub-Committee to develop a standardised system for the size and requirements for refunds of entry fees.***

***Action: Rory Prime and Keith Martin to develop a computerised entry system to administer entries and refunds.***

## **2.9 IMGA Sub-Committees**

Nikki Carter informed the meeting that many of the existing sub-committees were currently inactive. She would review the committees and their duties, and invite interested and qualified people to apply to serve on sub-committees.

The current official sub-committees are:

- Compliance
- Risk Management and Health and Safety
- Development
- Sponsorship and Promotions
- Strategic Planning
- Technology and Social Media
- Training and Qualifications

Nikki Carter had a particular interest in developing a strategic plan for the medium to short term aims and objectives of IMGA.

There is also a sub-committee, led by Signe Sehested, which is looking at Doping within Mounted Games and working towards developing a procedure for drug testing.

It was suggested that the use of live chat rather than email would make sub-committees faster acting.

**Action: Nikki Carter to review IMGA sub-committees to reflect the needs of IMGA.**

Signe Sehested expressed an interest in taking over the management of the website, but Keith Martin stated that he would like to continue in this role.

Members of sub-committees need not be IMGA International Representatives but should be people who were interested and who had skill sets that would be useful and relevant to each committee. Members of sub-committees would be expected to be active and to respond promptly to email discussions.

All conclusions made by sub-committees need to be voted on by member nations by email or at an AGM before being accepted. When an email was sent out it would give a date by which responses should be received. Anyone who did not respond before the set date would be assumed to be in agreement with the proposal within that email.

#### **Report on IMGA Assistant Referee and Referee Training and Qualification**

Alun Whitney presented the report of the Qualifications sub-committee (attachment 2.9).

It was agreed that the trainer training meeting should be held and that it would be open to both nationally proposed delegates as well as for self-proposed individuals.

**Decision 17.02: The Assistant Referee and Referee Training Proposals are adopted.**

**Decision 17.03: The venue costs and expenses of the Chief Referee and costs of the Assistant Referee and Referee Training meeting are covered by IMGA. Nations should pay the travel and accommodation expenses of their nominated delegates and self-proposed delegates should cover their own costs.**

### **3. Looking Forward to 2018 and Beyond**

#### **3.1 Election of IMGA Officials for the next two year period**

Chairman:	Nikki Carter elected unopposed
Vice-Chairman (1 year only)	Keith Martin elected unopposed
Officer for Communication (1 year only):	Murren Addison elected unopposed
Officer for Development:	Pierre-Luc Portron elected unopposed
Chief Referee:	There were two candidates (Davy Quinn and Alun Whitney) following presentations by each, Davy Quinn was elected by 10 votes to 9

#### **3.2 Selection of referees for 2018 IMGA sanctioned competitions**

Voting took place for the referees to officiate at the IMGA sanctioned competitions in 2018

Requirements	Selected
IMGA World Team Championship Open and U17 (Belgium) 2 referees required	Pierre-Luc Portron and Alun Whitney (reserve Fabien Pigeolet)
IMGA World Pairs Championship (Denmark) 4 referees required	Nikki Carter, Eivind Kjuus, Davy Quinn and Alun Whitney (reserve Dieter Birreck)

IMGA World Individual Championship (La Bonde) 6 referees required	Nikki Carter, Mark Crowe, Christine Mazière, Anthony Rowles-Jones, Alun Whitney and Davyd Wright (reserve Warwick Slade)
IMGA European Team and Individual Championship (La Bonde) 6 referees required	Nikki Carter, Fabien Pigeolet, Pierre-Luc Portron, Davy Quinn, Andrew Rodaughan and Alun Whitney (reserve Mark Crowe)
IMGA Nations Team Championship (USA) 1 referee required	Davy Quinn

### 3.3 Selection of hosts for 2019/2020 IMGA sanctioned competitions

It was requested that hosts provide dates of competitions as soon as possible since this allowed clashes of dates to be avoided and allowed member countries to plan their own national competitions.

France proposed that the competition calendar was overcrowded and that consequently many ponies were overworked. Holding the World Team Championships and World Individual Championships in alternate years could alleviate this.

It was pointed out that this would have a serious impact on younger riders, many of whom would not be able to compete in the U12 and U14 WIC when they were in the 'top' year.

It was suggested that riders should plan their season and make informed judgements about the fitness of their ponies and that no one should expect to compete in every event held.

***Decision 17.04: The World Team Championships and World Individual championships would continue to be held annually.***

2019 IMGA Nations Team Championship

Candidates (alphabetically): New Zealand, USA (withdrew).

***New Zealand will host the 2019 Nations Team Championship.***

2020 IMGA World Team Championship Open and U17

Candidates (alphabetically): La Bonde, Scotland

***Decision 17.05: The 2020 World Team Championships (Open and u17) to be hosted by Scotland.***

2020 IMGA World Pairs Championship

Candidates (alphabetically): Germany, MGAGB, Wales

***Decision 17.06: The 2020 World Pairs Championships to be hosted by Germany.***

2020 IMGA World Individual Championship

Candidates (alphabetically): Italy, MGAGB, Wales

***Decision 17.07: The 2020 World Individual Championships (Open and u17) to be hosted by Wales.***

2020 IMGA European Team and Individual Championship

Candidates (alphabetically): Denmark, Italy

***Decision 17.08: The 2020 European Team and Individual Championships to be hosted by Denmark.***

2020 IMGA Nations Team Championship

Candidates (alphabetically): USA

***USA will host the 2020 Nations Team Championship.***

### 3.4 Decision on host and date for 2018 Annual General Meeting

Signe Sehested on behalf of Denmark MGA volunteered Copenhagen as the venue for the 2019 AGM, and the offer was gratefully accepted, The AGM will be held on 17-18 November.

### 3.5 Presentation of details for 2018 IMGA sanctioned competitions

#### IMGA World Team Championship Open and U17 (Belgium)

- 10-26 August 2018. The venue is not accessible before 20 August.
- Teams wishing to borrow ponies must notify Belgium before 1 January.
- The Belgian presentation is shown in attachment 3.5

#### IMGA World Pairs Championship

- 9-15 July 2018 at Vallensbæk Ridecenter
- The Danish presentation was based on the website for the World Pairs at [www.worldpairs2018.com](http://www.worldpairs2018.com)
- Entries will be unrestricted

#### IMGA World Individual Championship (La Bonde)

#### IMGA European Team and Individual Championship (La Bonde)

- Quentin Voeltzel had written that a 6-lane second sand arena (115m x 65m) would be ready for qualifiers in U12 and U14. It will also be used for the lower finals to keep the famous 12,000m<sup>2</sup> arena for the finals and semi-final of all age group and Teams.
- Based on the costs for the WPC, entry fees next year the organisers hope to provide food for participants as part of the entry fee
- Because Intercounties (MGAGB) is running on the Monday of the WIC, the WIC will run from Wednesday to Saturday.
- There will be no entry restrictions for the WIC or the Europeans Individuals
- The web site will be live by 1 January

Various concerns were raised relating to facilities at La Bonde at the WPC, including toilets, showers, live streaming, food, elsan toilets being emptied into the river, dirty stables, muck being piled by end stables and the use of wristbands/tokens for purchases with no refund.

**Action: Nikki Carter to discuss these matters with La Bonde.**

#### IMGA Nations Championship (USA)

- Organisation is well underway and the hosts plan to repeat the successful format used in 2017.

There was considerable discussion about arena sizes

- The current minimum arena size for 8 lanes is 126m x 85.5m. Belgium wish to run 8 lanes for the WTC in an arena, which is 160m x 80m. If this is permitted Denmark also wish to run 8 lanes in their arena (125m x 81m) as they have done so without accident before.
- Riders present agreed that the lane width (distance between poles) should not be reduced below 9m
- This discussion occurs annually. IMGA rules state the minimum arena size and this should be abided by, since, if an accident happened, everyone would be morally and legally responsible for failing to abide by our own rules.

**Decision 17.09: Exceptions to the minimum arena size stated in the rulebook for IMGA sanctioned events can be granted at the IMGA AGM when application is made by the hosts prior to the event.**

***Decision 17.10: 8 lanes can be used at the 2018 WPC at Vallensbæk Ridecenter, Denmark.***

***Decision 17.11: 8 lanes can be used at the 2018 WTC at Hippodrome de Wallonie, Belgium.***

It was noted that the amount of run out at the start line end at La Bonde is less than the rules state. It was suggested that this could be improved by moving equipment out of the arena and moving lanes to the left, giving more space on the right side of the arena. An alternative suggestion was to reduce the distance from the start line to the first pole.

It was agreed that a sub-committee should be set up to consider the minimum dimensions of arenas based on the type of competition and the surface of the arena. They should also work with Quentin Voeltzel to minimise the effect of the short run out at La Bonde. The members of the sub-committee would be Davy Quinn (Chair), Mark Devitt, Eivind Kjuus, Widukind Moorman, Signe Sehested, and Alun Whitney

***Action: A sub-committee comprising Davy Quinn (Chair), Mark Devitt, Eivind Kjuus, Widukind Moorman, Signe Sehested, and Alun Whitney to consider the minimum dimensions of arenas based on the type of competition and the surface of the arena. They should also work with Quentin Voeltzel to minimise the effect of the short run out at La Bonde***

## **4. Important Discussions and Decisions**

### **4.1 Election of Rules Committee members – review of 2016 decision**

Jens Martin reported that at the last IMGA AGM three decisions had been made affecting the IMGA Rules Committee:

*[Decision: 16./03] It was decided that there should be no reserved places on the Rules Committee for England, Scotland, and Wales.*

*[Decision: 16./04] It was decided that no country should have more than one place.*

*[Decision: 16./05] It was decided that in the case where any member of the Rules Committee does not participate actively, then that member may be replaced. The replacement to be nominated by the other 5 members of the committee.*

He expressed concern about the necessity of decisions 16.03 and 16.05 and the difficulty of democratically implementing 16.05. The matter was discussed with various points raised including:

- Different countries have different perceptions of the rules and how they should be implemented.
- It is better to have a committee made up of truly interested and involved people.
- National Representatives at the AGM vote for those they know and believe will do a good job.
- We could restrict applications to join the committee to people nominated by their national organisation.
- Alternatively candidates should state their nationality before any election.
- It was noted that the committee elect their Chairman from amongst the members.

***Decision 17.12: Decision 16.04 be overturned and that all members of the Rules Committee, regardless of nationality, be elected by the International Representatives.***

***Action: Jens Martin to update the Rules Committee on the procedural changes resulting from these decisions.***

## 4.2 Trophies

Nikki Carter had found most trophies and her presentation of their current state is shown in attachment 4.2.

MGAGB own all the World Pairs and World Individual trophies but have agreed that IMGA can have them on permanent loan so long as they maintain them.

**Action: Nikki Carter to research the cost of repairing and refurbishing all trophies.**

A new trophy in honour of Keith Martin would be presented for the best individual rider, as chosen by all team trainers, at the Open WTC.

## 4.3 Organisation of IMGA sanctioned competitions document and enforcement procedures

Keith Martin presented the draft document, which requires member input on some key points.

**Pre-competition Inspections** do not always need to be held when the venue and organiser is known. Decisions on the need for inspections should be made at the AGM in the year prior to the competition.

For 2018 competitions:

- WPC, Denmark – Davy Quinn is refereeing at the venue in April, so could undertake the check
- WTC, Belgium – an inspection should be made and a suitable inspector found
- EIC, ETC and WIC, La Bonde – the Arena sub-committee established in item 3.5 would undertake inspections. Signe Sehested will be there at the start of April and Mark Devitt and Widukind Moorman at the end of April
- Nations Championship, USA – no inspection required

Reports should be sent to Nikki Carter and the Compliance Sub-committee

**Post-competition reports** including Accounts must be submitted after each event.

**Accounts.** Organisers can make a profit from running an IMGA-sanctioned event, since they also take the risk of making a loss. Any organiser found to have made too great a profit from entry fees would be watched in future to make sure they are providing value for money. The paragraph relating to “accidental profit” is to be removed, but IMGA have the right to reduce entry fees if they are thought to be too high.

It is proposed that in future hosts of competitions must sign a contract to state that they will follow all guidelines within the “How to organise an IMGA Sanctioned Competition” document, unless they have the agreement of members that one or more items can be changed. There was discussion about sanctions for failing to abide by the contract and it was believed that financial penalties could be imposed.

**Action: Keith Martin and Officers to complete the “How to Organise an IMGA Sanctioned Competition” document and to draft a contract for hosting organisations for approval by members.**

## 4.4 Proposal for WHS/OHS Register / Risk Management

Nikki Carter asked the meeting to officially adopt the Risk Register presented by David Harris at last year’s AGM (attachment 4.4). It is a useful document in that it provides a framework for competition organisers to determine the risks involved at a competition. By being aware of the risks we are better able to control them and ensure the safety of ponies and riders.

Each country should have their own risk management process and David Harris had generously said that the document could be adopted by any country wishing to do so, hence it will be available for download from the IMGA website. It was agreed that each country should have a risk management process, demonstrating a commitment to the safety and welfare of riders and ponies during training and competitions.

The next stage in the process is to develop best practice and safety guidance, and this would be done through the Health and Safety and Risk Management sub-committee, so interested volunteers would be recruited. Liz Englert said she would join the committee

***Decision 17.13: IMGA to formally adopt the Risk Register in attachment 4.4***

***Decision 17.14: All IMGA member nations must adopt a risk management process and that doing so should be one of the membership criteria.***

#### **4.5 Height/weight graphs**

Alun Whitney and Nikki Carter had undertaken research throughout 2017 into ways to make it simpler to determine if a rider is too big for their pony. The results are shown in attachment 4.5.

The current method of judging whether a rider is right for their pony involve subjective decisions about the build of the pony and the rider's experience, which makes it hard to decide what is appropriate and what is not.

Peer-reviewed research has shown that ponies carrying 25% of their body weight suffer measurable levels of physical stress, which is not evident when they only carry 20%. This is also the weight limit used in old cavalry manuals.

Further peer-reviewed research shows that the weight of a fit pony can be accurately calculated using measurements of the pony's length and heart girth, providing an easy way of calculating weight, which could be done using an app, to be developed by Widukind Moorman's brother-in-law. If a pony is over or under ideal weight then the weight they can carry is reduced. A pony is considered fit if the ribs can be easily felt but not obviously seen when they are standing straight.

The weight of the rider is far more important than their height, but as a guideline, ponies should not come more than 10cm below the rider's armpit

Denmark felt that the limit should be 15% and whether they could continue to use the current graphs. It was stated that they can use whatever guidelines they wish for national competitions but, if adopted, the 20% limit would be used for IMGA-sanctioned events.

Referees would use their discretion about the appropriateness of riders for ponies and would only measure them if in doubt.

***Decision 17.15: That the rules be changed to state that a pony can only carry a rider who weighs no more than 20% of the pony's fit body weight***

#### **4.6 Changes to Allocation of Hosting for IMGA Sanctioned Competitions Procedure**

Jens Martin stated that the current rules relating to the hosting of IMGA-sanctioned events were not being adhered to. In particular, the rules refer to hosts being "member countries" and independent bodies including MGAGB and La Bonde have hosted events.

After discussion it was agreed that competitions would only be awarded to a legitimate member country and that the competition must be held in the country to which it was awarded.

It would be possible for member countries to sub-contract the organisation of the competition to another organisation, but if this was the case then both the hosting country and the sub-contracted organisers must both sign the contract to run the competition to IMGA requirements.

***Decision 17.16: IMGA-sanctioned events can only be hosted by member countries, although they can sub-contract the organisation to another body. Events must be held in the country hosting the event.***

***Action: Jens Martin to update the list of IMGA-sanctioned events in the procedure document.***

#### **4.7 Changes to Checking Compliance with Membership Criteria Procedure**

Jens Martin stated that the current procedure document for the checking of membership criteria (details in attachment 4.7) states that checking should be done by the Development Officer, although the role is currently carried out by the Compliance Sub-committee.

The procedure document also is imprecise in the penalties for failing to adhere to membership criteria or for failing to complete compliance checks. He proposed that the documentation be changed to specify penalties and requirements:

***In order for riders to compete at IMGA-sanctioned events they must be a member of a national organisation that:***

- *Is fully compliant with all membership criteria with the possible exception of criteria 2.5 and/or 2.6 OR, in the case of national organisations in their first two years of membership, is fully compliant with criteria 1.1 – 1.7, and*
- *Has satisfactorily submitted all compliance checking paperwork, and*
- *Is not indebted to IMGA*

***In order for a national organisation to have full voting rights within IMGA, it must:***

- *Be fully compliant with all membership criteria, and*
- *Have satisfactorily submitted all compliance checking paperwork, and*
- *Not be indebted to IMGA*

***A national organisation will no longer be a member of IMGA if either:***

- *It fails to produce satisfactory compliance checking paperwork within six months of the due date, or*
- *It remains indebted to IMGA for a period of twelve months*

***Decision 17.17: Changes be made to the procedures for membership criteria and their checking be made as detailed in attachment 4.7***

Nikki Carter pointed out that member countries could become non-compliant between the biennial checks and that there needs to be a process to investigate this before the next check is due. When a complaint of compliance is received it must be dealt with fairly and promptly. She proposed that if a complaint is received the accused member must respond within four weeks providing evidence that they are compliant. The IMGA Compliance Sub-committee then have four weeks in which to determine the situation and impose penalties accordingly.

***Decision 17.18: Any country accused of non-compliance with the membership criteria must respond to the allegations within four weeks.***

#### 4.8 Changes to selection procedure for referees

Jens Martin proposed that Procedure 8, for the selection of referees at IMGA-sanctioned competitions be extended to cover the situation where a selected referee is unable to attend an event by adding point:

*8.6. In the event that a selected referee is subsequently no longer able to attend the event for which they have been selected, they must inform the IMGA Chief Referee as soon as possible. The IMGA Chief Referee will then inform the next highest placed referee from the original vote at the AGM who is able to attend that their services are required. If there is no available referee from the original list, the IMGA Chief Referee will appoint one at their discretion. The IMGA Chief Referee will then inform the host country, all IMGA Officers, as well as all international Representatives whose countries are eligible to take part in the competition of the change of referee.*

**Decision 17.19: Point 8.6 about the replacement of referees be added to the procedure document for the selection of referees.**

There was discussion about making sure that referees were seen to have no potential conflict of interest. It was agreed that this could be done using the travel insurance of family member in a further point:

*8.7. A referee should never officiate at an IMGA sanctioned competition when it may cause a conflict of interest with a possible benefit to the referee, or in which an immediate family member is competing. If such a situation arises then the referee must withdraw with a replacement being found as per 8.6. "Immediate Family is your Partner, and: parents, children, stepchildren, fostered or adopted children, brothers, sisters, aunts, uncles, cousins, nephews, nieces, grandchildren, or grandparents, of either you or your Partner, who live in your Home Country." and "Partner is your spouse or someone of either sex with whom you have a permanent relationship, and who also lives with you at your Home."*

**Decision 17.20: Point 8.7 about possible conflict of interests for referees be added to the procedure document for the selection of referees.**

#### 4.9 Membership and National Representation

The current rules regarding riding for your country are unclear. They state:

You can represent a country in mounted games if you satisfy one of the following:

- You hold a valid passport in your name issued by that country.
- You have been a full time resident at a registered address in that country for a period of at least 2 years.
- Your birth certificate shows you were born in that country.
- At least one of your parents held a valid passport in their name for that country at the time of your birth.
- Your spouse held a valid passport in their name for that country at the time of your marriage.

What happens when a person who has been riding under the residency clause moves? After discussion it was agreed that they could continue to ride for the country for the remainder of that calendar year only.

Individual and Pairs competitions allow riders to enter for themselves without their national organisation's approval. Additional rules are required to ensure that individual or pairs riders must be members of an IMGA member organisation but that they are deemed to be wild card entries (with no nationality) unless they meet certain criteria.

The proposed rules are:

- All riders wishing to represent a country at an IMGA-sanctioned event must be members of that country's IMGA-affiliated organisation and must meet the relevant nationality criteria as specified in the IMGA Rule Book
- All riders entering Stages 1, 3, and 4 of the new entry management procedures or self-entering must be members of an IMGA-affiliated organisation.
- These riders are considered to be "wildcard" entries (no national representation) with no country detailed
- UNLESS they are a member of that country's IMGA-affiliated organisation
- AND meet the relevant nationality criteria as specified in the IMGA Rule Book
- AND have the written approval of their national IMGA-affiliated organisation to represent their country

**Decision 17.21: A rider who is not selected by their nation to ride at an IMGA-sanctioned event must be deemed a wild card entry unless they are a member of a country's IMGA-affiliated organisation AND meet the relevant nationality criteria as specified in the IMGA Rule Book AND have the written approval of their national IMGA-affiliated organisation to represent their country.**

All IMGA officials must be members of an IMGA member organisation

**Decision 17.22: Any person acting as an official at an IMGA-sanctioned event or listed as available to officiate (e.g. referees listed as IMGA certified) must be a member of an IMGA member organisation.**

#### **4.10 Drinking Culture**

New Zealand raised the subject of underage and excessive drinking by some riders. This is a problem in many countries and there was discussion about how it is dealt with.

Wales breathalyse every rider each morning at international competitions

There should be a breathalyser on site to enable trainers, if they wish, to test their riders before they start riding

Several countries have codes of conduct signed by riders and parents, which state that riders may be breathalysed, and give penalties for being over some level.

Each country has different legal ages for the use of alcohol and different limits for permissible alcohol when driving. It is the responsibility for the host nation to state what the levels are for any competition, but underage riders who test positive should be eliminated from the entire competition. Riders over the legal age can ride when they test below the specified level.

**Decision 17.23: Nikki Carter to source and purchase an IMGA breathalyser, to be held by the Chief Referee, for use at IMGA-sanctioned events.**

**Decision 17.24: A rider under the legal drinking age who tests positive for alcohol is banned from that competition. A rider over the legal drinking age who tests positive for alcohol cannot ride until they test below the legal limit.**

## Attachment 1 Detailed voting results

Decision	Agenda Item	Proposal	Australia	Austria	Belgium	Burkina Faso	Canada	Czech Republic	Denmark	England	France	Germany	Ireland	Italy	Luxembourg	New Zealand	Northern Ireland	Norway	Scotland	South Africa	Sweden	Switzerland	U.S.A.	Wales	RESULT
17.01	2.3	The automatic percentage rise in Affiliation Fees for 2018 is set at zero	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓22
17.04	3.3	The World Team Championships and World Individual championships would continue to be held annually	x	o	☐	x	x	✓	x	x	✓	x	x	x	x	x	x	✓	x	o	x	✓	x	x	✓5 x15
17.02	2.9	The Assistant Referee and Referee Training Proposals are adopted	☐	☐	☐	☐	o	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	o	o	o	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓18
17.03	2.9	The venue costs and expenses of the Chief Referee and costs of the Assistant Referee and Referee Trading meeting are covered by IMGA. Nations should pay the travel and accommodation expenses of their nominated delegates and self-proposed delegates should cover their own costs	✓	✓	✓	✓	o	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	o	o	o	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓18
17.09	3.5	Exceptions to the minimum arena size stated in the rulebook for IMGA sanctioned events can be granted at the IMGA AGM when application is made by the hosts prior to the event	✓	✓	✓	✓	o	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	o	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓20
17.10	3.5	8 lanes can be used at the 2018 WPC at Vallensbæk Ridecenter, Denmark	✓	✓	✓	x	o	✓	✓	x	✓	✓	✓	o	✓	o	✓	x	✓	✓	x	✓	✓	✓	✓15 x4
17.11	3.5	8 lanes can be used at the 2018 WTC at Hippodrome de Wallonie, Belgium	✓	✓	✓	x	o	✓	✓	x	✓	✓	✓	o	✓	o	x	x	✓	✓	x	✓	✓	✓	✓14 x5

17.12	4.1	Decision 16.04 be overturned and that all members of the Rules Committee, regardless of nationality, be elected by the International Representatives	✓	✓	✓	✓	o	x	✓	✓	x	✓	✓	o	o	✓	o	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	✓	✓	✓ <sup>15</sup> x <sup>3</sup>	
17.13	4.4	IMGA to formally adopt the Risk Register in attachment 4.4	✓	✓	✓	✓	o	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	o	o	o	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓ 18
17.14	4.4	All IMGA member nations must adopt a risk management process and that doing so should be one of the membership criteria	✓	✓	✓	✓	o	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	o	o	o	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓ 18
17.15	4.5	That the rules be changed to state that a pony can only carry a rider who weighs no more than 20% of the pony's fit body weight	✓	✓	✓	✓	o	✓	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	o	o	o	✓	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓ <sup>16</sup> x <sup>2</sup>	
17.16	4.6	IMGA-sanctioned events can only be hosted by member countries, although they can sub-contract the organisation to another body. Events must be held in the country hosting the event	✓	✓	✓	✓	o	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	o	o	o	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓ 18	
17.17	4.7	Changes be made to the procedures for membership criteria and their checking be made as detailed in attachment 4.7	✓	✓	✓	✓	o	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	o	o	o	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓ 18	
17.18	4.7	Any country accused of non-compliance with the membership criteria must respond to the allegations within four weeks	✓	✓	✓	✓	o	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	o	o	o	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓ 18	
17.19	4.8	Point 8.6 about the replacement of referees is to be added to the procedure document for the selection of referees	✓	✓	✓	✓	o	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	o	o	o	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓ 18	
17.20	4.8	Point 8.7 about possible conflicts of interest for referees be added to the procedure document for the selection of referees	✓	✓	✓	✓	o	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	o	o	o	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓ 18	



## Attachment for 2.3 Financial Report



### International Mounted Games Association Financial Summary for the period 12/11/16 - 01/12/17

#### Income

2017 Affiliation Fees	GBP	6,457.50
2016 Rule Book Sales	GBP	29.97
2017 Rule Book Sales	GBP	1,797.11
Late Payment Penalties	GBP	75.00
Equipment Manufacturer Licencing	GBP	250.00
2016 IMGA Rider Fees	GBP	1,595.00
2017 IMGA Rider Fees	GBP	2,583.00
Recovered Bank charges	GBP	90.28

Total: GBP 12,857.86

#### Expenditure

Admin Expenses (Postage, Phone costs, Web Site etc.)	GBP	696.37
2017 IMGA Rule Book Printing	GBP	1,443.71
2016 IMGA Meeting Expenses	GBP	1,646.66
Bank & Paypal Charges	GBP	351.60
IMGA Officer Travel Expenses	GBP	1,403.82

Total: GBP 5,542.16

Opening Balance:	GBP	30,095.30
Plus Income:	GBP	12,857.86
Less Expenditure	GBP	5,542.16
Closing Balance:	GBP	37,411.00



## International Mounted Games Association Transactions for the period 12/11/16 - 01/12/17

Opening Balance :       GBP   30,095.30

Transactions	Expenditure	Income
29/11/2016   IMGA 2016 WTC Rider Fees - RE		400.00
09/12/2016   IMGA 2016 Rule Books - Paypal		10.32
09/12/2016   Payment to Sean Bourne for 2016 IMGA AGM travel expenses	186.73	
09/12/2016   Payment to Ligue Equestre Wallonie Bruxelles for 2015 IMGA AGM expenses	1,661.66	
09/12/2016   Payment to Keith Martin for 2016 Postage and Admin Expenses	278.27	
09/12/2016   Payment to Keith Martin for 2016 IMGA AGM travel expenses	802.09	
16/12/2016   IMGA 2016 WTC Rider Fees - WAL		1,195.00
22/12/2016   Payment to Alun Whitney for 2015 & 2016 IMGA AGM travel expenses	445.00	
04/01/2017   IMGA 2016 Rule Books - Paypal		17.84
10/01/2017   Equipment Manufacturer Licencing - Pony Materials		243.00
11/01/2017   IMGA 2017 Affiliation Fee - WAL		315.00
26/01/2017   IMGA 2017 Affiliation Fee - FRA		315.00
30/01/2017   Payment to Keith Martin for 2017 IMGA Rule Book Printing	1,458.71	
01/02/2017   IMGA 2017 Rule Books - Paypal		52.18
01/02/2017   IMGA 2017 Affiliation Fee - SWE + IMGA 2015 Affiliation Fee - SWE (Bank Charges)		321.00
01/02/2017   IMGA 2017 Rule Books - Paypal		9.58
02/02/2017   IMGA 2017 Rule Books - Paypal		64.15
04/02/2017   IMGA 2017 Affiliation Fee - LUX		151.16
08/02/2017   IMGA 2017 Affiliation Fee - ENG		304.09
08/02/2017   IMGA 2017 Affiliation Fee - CAN		300.94
10/02/2017   IMGA 2017 Affiliation Fee - NZL + IMGA 2016 Affiliation Fee - NZL (Bank Charges)		327.00
12/02/2017   IMGA 2017 Affiliation Fee - NIR		304.09
15/02/2017   IMGA 2017 Rule Books - Paypal		73.79
15/02/2017   IMGA 2017 Rule Books - Paypal		212.64
15/02/2017   IMGA 2017 Affiliation Fee - IRE + IMGA 2015 Affiliation Fee - IRE (Bank Charges) + IMGA 2016 Affiliation Fee - IRE (Bank Charges)		329.00
18/02/2017   IMGA 2017 Affiliation Fee - RSA		298.42
18/02/2017   IMGA 2017 Rule Books - Paypal		13.98
20/02/2017   IMGA 2017 Affiliation Fee - SCO		304.09
23/02/2017   IMGA 2017 Affiliation Fee - DEN		302.83
24/02/2017   IMGA 2017 Affiliation Fee - SUI		304.00
25/02/2017   IMGA 2017 Rule Books - Paypal		63.86
27/02/2017   IMGA 2017 Affiliation Fee - ITA		315.00
28/02/2017   IMGA 2017 Rule Books - Paypal		21.93
28/02/2017   IMGA 2017 Affiliation Fee - NOR		302.83
28/02/2017   IMGA 2017 Affiliation Fee - BFA		151.16
28/02/2017   IMGA 2017 Affiliation Fee - USA		300.94
02/03/2017   IMGA 2017 Affiliation Fee - AUS		322.12
06/03/2017   IMGA 2017 Affiliation Fee - BEL		326.54
10/03/2017   IMGA 2017 Affiliation Fee - GER + IMGA 2016 EIC and ETC Rider Fees - GER (Bank Charges)		358.52



## **Attachment for 2.4 Chief Referee's Report**

### **CHIEF REFEREE'S REPORT 2016-2017**

I've been in the Role of Chief Referee now for two years,  
A very busy eventful two years.

### **NATIONS CUP**

In December 2016 I travelled to South Africa to officiate at Nations Cup Championships . I travelled the week before so that I could also referee the South African Individuals which riders from Australia and New Zealand also competed.

It was obvious the South Africa MGA had a very laid back attitude to running competitions but they were keen to learn and it was beneficial in their preparation for World Team Championships.

### **World Team Championships**

I returned to Pietermaritzburg for World Team Championships in July 2017 (unfortunately I pick up a virus somewhere on the way and suffered for most of the week)

I was a bit concerned about the running World Team Championships due to the lack of information coming out beforehand but after a few minor teething issues were sorted everything ran fine .This was helped by the fact that they arranged for an experience group of volunteers from competing countries for areas where they lacked experience. Concerns were raised about the condition of some of the pool ponies .

The Ponies where allocated via a revised draw process that was designed to prevent unfair advantage being gained as in previous years .Trainers felt that the system worked well and suggestions on refinement were made.

The competition ran well with no major issues. Home Nation looked favourites to win the title but the experience of other teams came through in final aided by the fact that South Africa lost one of their key riders to injury early in final.

South Africa learned a lot from organising this competition but the riders and supporters of teams who attended learned and gained a lot more!

### **Referee and Assistant Referees Courses**

Between the two trips to South Africa we organised training courses in Canada, England, Scotland and Wales.

Resulting in 30 newly Trained referees and over 70 qualified Assistant Referees.

Course have been well received and we are getting good feed back from attendees about new found confidence in carrying out their role.

### **World Individuals Championships**

Returning from South Africa and traveling directly to Royal Welsh Show. ( Still one of the best show for displaying our sport to wider public with its large viewing crowd and vast audience on TV and internet.)

Unfortunately not recovered from my Virus and feeling fatigued at Royal Welsh I decided it was unsafe for me to under take the journey to France on my own to officiate at World Individuals and would like to thank Nikki and the other referees for picking up on my work load.

### **Europeans Teams & Individuals Championships**

Once again back on the road . Not so far this time European Championships in Shepton Mallet.

The running of team event and individuals together makes the event a logistical nightmare with unfortunately the team event taking lower priority until individuals have finished. Whilst organisers made every effort to provide enough lighting. The running of Individuals under flood light whilst it might provide good atmosphere and was considered safe. It did leave a lot to be desired in clarity of

view for Referee , Assistant Referees and Judges with Ipads and video system struggling in low light and probably riders and spectators too.

### **Issues of Concern**

Constant issue raised by my fellow referees was the standard of assistant refereeing , despite constant reminders for assistant referees to remain vigilant time and time again incidents were missed often spotted by officials in judges box .

**The standard of assistant referee's must be improved !**

### **Issues of Concern :Overfull Programme**

Several events this year have had a time table that was full to capacity with no contingency for any major delay in the event due to accidents or bad weather. There should be allowances made in time tables to allow for any such events.

Some events require more referees to spread the workload particularly Individuals, Pairs and Europeans due to volume of competitors

### **Areas for Improvement**

#### **Pool Ponies Allocation**

Currently there is no rigid method providing or allocating Pool Ponies and therefore tends to change dependant on host country and therefore as we have seen in the past it is open to abuse and major advantages can and have be gained.

Currently it's a Free for All !

We go to great lengths make sure completion are run fairly but this variable method of allocation makes the competition completely unfair

Competitions on Pool Ponies Questions to be asked! Decisions to be made!

- Should all teams only source ponies from the pool ?
- Should all teams other than host nation only source ponies from the pool ?
- Should all teams other than host nation and countries who can travel their own ponies, source ponies from the pool ?
- What percentage of teams not on their own ponies before Pool process kicks in ? Currently we see some countries deliberately targeting individuals to befriend, in soon to be host countries in order to gain supply of best ponies or get inside information on pool ponies.

The same reliable Information on pool ponies should be made available to everyone

Part of the Grading process should involve scoring method for levels of Speed, Control, Brakes etc for each pony. So all trainers have same details.

I personally have found information given by owners inaccurate ( They all think their ponies are perfect) and also sometimes other sources of information is often unreliable at best.

Riders spend a lot of money to attend these events the least they should have is a level playing field for all.

### **Referee's Video System**

A new update video system has been used at several events this year. The new system is more user friendly with faster access to locate point of interest on video. The system has proven to be very successful and allows referees and riders to make sure the correct result is achieved. I'd like to thank MGA Wales for providing funds to enhance the performance of the system.

## **Attachments for 2.7 Competition Reports**

### **Report: World Team Championship Open (South Africa)**

#### WORLD TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS SOUTH AFRICA 2017

##### Sunday 9 July 2017

All the teams trickled in throughout the day and the majority used our local transport company Sisonke that we used to get everyone safely from the airport to the Voortrekker boarding establishment. Our visitors were greeted by me, our Chairman Kersley Vinay and our Treasurer Robyn Vinay handed over the welcome packs with meal tickets etc. Each team was allocated a floor in the dormitory so that the teams could stay together. Our KZN chairman Russell Reece then assisted the teams by carrying their bags and showing them to their rooms. At 16h00 there was a tour of the grounds led by Danni Vinay and the other team hosts. The welcome dinner commenced at 19h00. There was a little confusion with the venue as the first night was originally going to be a cocktail evening. They had set up for cocktail tables with no chairs. All the round tables and chairs were just outside that were going to be used for the rest of the week so we just quickly carried them in. A few informal announcements, house rules and safety tips. The pony draw followed. A lovely finger meal of different South African finger treats and then a very good evening was had with some dancing the DJ supplied some music for all teams to feel at home.

##### Monday 10 July 2017

All the visitors were spoilt with an amazing breakfast from Catering and Hire Centre to start their day. There had been an optional outing arranged for interested visitors to go on a hot air balloon ride over a local game ranch by the name of Tala Valley. Unfortunately this had to be moved due to weather conditions not suitable for the balloon ride. The teams were then introduced to their ponies and went through a pony/tack + feed briefing headed up by Megan Frost and the team hosts. Each team had two practice sessions. Unfortunately the venue had decided to do work on the practice arena and left the conditions a bit unpleasant so we split the main arena up to accommodate for that. A fabulous dinner was served by CnHC. Then a WTC with a difference. Beer pong team Ireland won!

##### Tuesday 11 July 2017

After breakfast some teams went off to Karkloof Canopy tours and the others had their team practice. After lunch the teams that practiced went off to the canopy tours zip line and the returning teams went on to have their team practices. All our visitors said this was the most amazing outing and had a fabulous time. A superb dinner was served. This was a quiz night but it ended up in a spontaneous karaoke evening.

##### Wednesday 12 July 2017

The visitors that booked the balloon ride had a very early start. Sisonke also assisted with transport for this outing. The flight was early apparently a bit misty but the visitors were spoilt with a lovely breakfast at Tala Game ranch as a part of the package. At the venue another massive breakfast was served. I think a few people packed on a few kilograms after these amazing meals. Fiona and Trish O'Conner from Ireland assisted with getting the scoring system up and ready on Games Pro etc. Pat Devitt and some assistant referee's got the field marking done. Tension was starting to build up. Our live stream camera man got a lovely opening clip to start the day. The opening ceremony was unmounted and seeing those flags and hearing the anthems got the emotions going for me. An overwhelming yet fantastic feeling that the moment we have worked so hard for has finally arrived. The first two sessions went off really well. Communication was great with the mobile radios between the head referee Alun Whitney and the scorers. The assistant referees were extremely efficient and all the helping hands on the field running with equipment made the changes between races run very

smoothly. Scoring was done by Carol Jones, Fiona and Trish O' Connor, Kay Whitney and I and another trainee committee member from another province. Our announcer Michelle Mackenzie from Gauteng Province did a sterling job!

#### Thursday 13 July 2017

Breakfast was served as usual with a long day ahead. There was a mini market set up selling some local treats and art. Lunches were served every day by the Rotary club. Team hosts introduced some of the riders to our traditional meal called a "bunny chow". A fabulous curry. Some riders also did some shopping at the local tack shop that sponsored some vouchers. Bombers specialize in customized bits. The two competition sessions went off really well and it was amazing to see the visitors settling down on their ponies. Team SA were holding their own pretty well. A fabulous dinner was served. Followed by a beer tasting special.

#### Friday 14 July 2017

Friday was an incredible day. Two sessions with some fantastic riding by the Ireland and Wales teams. Team SA starting to take strain as the pressure increases. We also had the 6<sup>th</sup> rider final in the evening under flood lights. Huge excitement with Huw Whitney as the commentator. Our SA rider Jayme Tegg was in the lead until she had to leave the 6<sup>th</sup> rider competition to take her place in the team when Megan Marr was injured. So the winner was Aussie Andrew Rodaughan. Ending off the evening with wine tasting and a super dinner. A rather early night had by all to rest up for the finals the next day.

#### Saturday 15 July 2017 – Finals

B finals such excitement as Denmark takes the win! Beautiful riding from all these ladies. The A final was excruciating to watch. I was very pleased not to be in the scoring office as I would probably not have been able to focus at all. Setting up the prize giving table was hard enough. A very well deserved win for the Irish what an incredible team! Unfortunately the winners never got their trophy as it was not sent on from last year's winners. None the less they did not go home empty handed. The final dinner was incredible. A meal to die for. Everyone had a fabulous time dancing to the local band Calamity Jam and taking photos in the photo booth. We even had some singing from our USA men. I tried to convince Carol Jones that her husband Clive had to remain in SA because he sang the most stunning cover of Eric Clapton! The evening went on till the morning hours.

Sunday a breakfast was served. Our guests were bid farewell by our Chairman Kersley and our Treasurer Robyn and team hosts. The rest of us had to vacate ponies etc. We had an amazing time even though it was extremely stressful to start with. We are very excited to host another WTC competition and hopefully we will have more support from the other IMGA associations after they get to hear what fabulous hosts the South Africans are. We believe we had the perfect venue with the accommodation within walking distance. We would most definitely use this venue again. Our biggest downfall was the lack of spectators. We did not have enough funds to properly advertise this competition. Also with only a handful of helpers this was a profile we had the least assistance in.

Some special thanks to the committee members that gave us their all to assist with this competition: I would like to make special mention of an incredible lady who not only was our most consistent and strongest rider but she managed the stables and pool ponies for the entire competition and months before. Megan Frost. Chris Kritzinger our team coach but also completely hands on with operations and ponies, hay such a support to our committee. Robyn Vinay our treasurer who not only had sleepless nights trying to keep the finances in order but also ran at every little short fall that someone couldn't get to or neglected to do. Robyn also organized the transport for all our guests and welcome packs. Kersley Vinay our Chairman for the catering (best ever) for being our strength and guiding us into running the most amazing competition SA has ever seen. Kerry Tegg for arranging the mini market, meal tickets and stunning rosettes and sashes. Russell Reece for the accommodation referee's

and arena party. Nothing was ever too much for him. Running around during working hours arranging bits and pieces for WTC. Michelle Mackenzie our fabulous commentator who was the first person a 5 hour drive away to say I will be taking leave and be there to help. She brought a team of young ladies down who assisted with ponies from the Gauteng province. Lesley Roos for designing incredible promotional items. Ros Chapman our Secretary for tirelessly going through the team selections programme. Danni Vinay for planning and putting together the itinerary and all the entertainment for each night. Without these people we would have been completely lost.

Pat Reece  
Vice Chair MGASA

## **World Pairs Championship (France)**

### **IMGA Representative and Chief Referee's Report**

#### REPORT ON WORLD PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIPS 2017

Venue: Centre Équestre de la Bonde, France  
Organisers: Officially Burkina Faso MGA, but actually members of La Bonde  
Date: 24-30 July 2017

#### Competition

The competition was run in two parts with U12 and U14 competing on Monday 24 and Tuesday 25 July and U17 and Open on Thursday 26 to Saturday 29 July.

The changes of dates (which were announced relatively late) caused problems for several people who had to rearrange travel dates/times.

Timings throughout the event were 'vague' with first sessions starting late leading to each heat starting later and later.

#### Site

The venue is generally excellent, however the official lorry area was filled with tents and supporter vehicles at the beginning of the week was not cleared sufficiently to allow U17 and Open riders to park there, which meant that, for the remainder of the week, lorries were parked where they could find spaces. This caused discontent for many:

- Several were parked in a field used normally for grazing which had post and rail and electric fencing (which was left switched on for the whole week)
- Others were directed to the supporters parking area, access to which was far too tight for larger vehicles.

Several people expressed concern about the toilets on site, These were composting style and it appeared that many users did not understand about using shavings after use, which meant some of the smaller cubicles became unpleasant before their daily emptying. Others were over deep holes and were disconcerting to use, especially when it was windy!

*For future events held in two parts with restricted parking space it is essential that parking is monitored throughout the event so that riders are parked in a specified area that is big enough to hold all of them. Instructions on how to use composting toilets need to be provided in several languages at future events*

#### Arena

The Arena was excellent and was well maintained throughout the competition so that it rode well at all times. The addition of fibre to the surface means that it is no longer deep. Regular watering plus harrowing and rolling every 3 or so sessions provided excellent going for the ponies. Frequent remarking of the arena was undertaken with clear lines.

#### Equipment

The equipment was good and the arena party generally excellent.

The only problem was with the hi-lo/bank stands, which were not able to stand up in a stiff breeze.

This was overcome by having them held by arena party members. I do not think this is a safe system even though, as chief referee for the event I insisted that those holding the stands had to be dressed in proper helmets and footwear (as required for the postmen in Pony Express)

Equipment was in the arena but separated from the playing area by jump poles and stands that provided a safe barrier

*For future events the bank/hi-lo stands need better bases to ensure that they can be used unsupported by people*

#### Administration

Administration was chaotic at times. Entering proved difficult for many who found it difficult to pay through the dedicated webpage and took many attempts to transfer money by PayPal or bank transfer.

Communication with competitors prior to, and post event was poor. I am aware of at least one pair who entered under Stage 1 of the entry process who finally managed to pay and enter under stage 3.

In addition, at least one person is still waiting for a promised refund of entry fee.

There was no proper declaration system, particularly in the U12 and U14 groups, which meant that the draw took place with several riders who were not actually attending the event.

*For future events communication over entries needs to be more prompt, errors on the entry website need to be corrected more rapidly and payment methods made easier*

#### Refereeing

Four referees were appointed by IMGA for this competition, but Alun Whitney pulled out due to illness.

It was stated that only one referee was needed for the first two days (U12 and U14) and I did this. I feel that this was too much for one person (but probably not enough for two!

For the open and U17 groups there were three of us and we split the workload between us, taking care that Rob Lockyer did not referee U17 (as his daughter was competing in this group) and Pierre-Luc Portron did not referee Open heats (as he had a relative competing). Assistant referees were provided by competitors for all heats, with selected independent assistant referees being used for semi-finals and finals. Despite this the standard of assistant refereeing was not good with many mistakes missed.

There was little time for formal tack checks, so I did these by standing and watching pairs enter the ring. There were several ponies being ridden in treeless saddles, especially in the younger age groups. All entrants must be reminded that IMGA sanctioned competitions are held under IMGA, not national, rules. Next year treeless saddles of a specific design are allowed and the rules must be fully enforced. For the semi-finals and finals we ran with two referees on the referee's platform as that allowed the second one to act as an assistant referee with an elevated view of the arena. Referees were provided with walkie-talkies to the judges box, but these often failed to work over the commentary system and, if they did, language barriers meant they were less than useful meaning that referee had to get off the stand and climb up to the judges' box.

The referee's platform was formed from scaffolding and was at least 2m tall. Access was by a stepladder, which meant that referees had to climb up and down the ladder to talk to any assistant referee raising a query. This was tiring and, when audience were around the base of the ladder, unsafe. In addition people liked to sit under the platform during rain showers and rocked the platform, which was unnerving to say the least!

The speakers were located close to the platform which meant that it was impossible for the referee to hear anything over the music and commentary, which led to a delay in stopping the litter race when cartons blew away (even though there were two of us on the stand when this happened)

*For future events the audience should be separated from the referees  
Speakers should be placed so that the referee can hear what is happening in the arena. There should also be a more effective communication system between the referee and the judges' box for explaining eliminations etc.*

#### Judges Box

Some judges issued different coloured hatbands to each pair and attempted to judge positions from these. This proved very unsatisfactory for two main reasons:

- The judges could not determine the hatbands used in the far lanes (over 70m away) and the iPad used to check results certainly couldn't. This slowed the judging considerably as shirt colours and ponies were then used and checked against the coloured hatbands
- The first rider in each pair had no marking indicating which pair they were – if they made a mistake or committed an offence the referee/assistant referee had to wait to check who their partner was to identify who to penalise

Despite the fact that pairs of hat silks were found to enable each pair to be issued with matching hat silks these were often not used

A whiteboard was put up on the balcony of the judge's box for semi-finals and finals with scores being updated game by game. This was popular with riders and trainers as it allowed them to see the scores at all times even when they had language problems with the commentary

*In future pairs events, matching hat silks must be provided, particularly when there are two or more pairs wearing the same shirts.*

*A means of displaying on-going scores to riders in the arena should be encouraged*

#### Communication/Live Streaming

Live streaming was undertaken using an iPhone taped to the side of the judge's box. This was not satisfactory for those trying to watch the event.

Scores were only provided to the world using photos of the scoresheets posted on Facebook

*For future events better live streaming and score dissemination is required*

#### Social

Particular concern was expressed by many over the fact that cash was not accepted by food vendors or the bar. People had to buy sheets of tickets, each valued at €1 in order to purchase food, but could not get a refund for 'unspent' tickets. This either meant that they lost their money or that they were effectively being encouraged to drink more at the end of event bar.

There were two gala balls – one for the U12 and U14s and one for the Open and U17 competitors. These were held in the indoor school, which had a wooden floor fitted and had been well decorated. These started late due to the late running of finals but also ran late meaning that many people left before receiving all their food.

## **World Individual Championship (England)**

### **Report 1: Organiser's Report**

REPORT ON 32nd WORLD INDIVIDUALS

HELD AT NEWARK SHOWGROUND  
MONDAY 7TH AUGUST TO THURSDAY 10TH AUGUST 2017

The timetable was planned so that we could accept unlimited entries, thus avoiding the panic to enter. If necessary some finals could have been run on Friday.

Due to the proximity of the European Championships being held the following week, numbers were down, final entries as follows:

Open – 53 (31 less than 2016)  
Under 17 – 49 (36 less than 2016)  
Under 14 – 40 (2 less than 2016)  
Under 12 – 40 (12 more than 2016)

We had 89 withdrawals before the competition.

Two arenas were used – the Horse Ring and the Newark Ring. The use of the Runway Ring was cancelled due problems with the ground (Newark have been working on the ground and all the issues previously found will be resolved).

The weather on Tuesday was horrendous with torrential rain from early morning to late at night, but all riders carried on regardless. This led to some discussions the following day over the state of the ground, and the lanes were moved so avoid the two lanes which were affected the worst, and the ground ran well for the rest of the week. If the competition had not been run at Newark, any other venue with grass arenas would have led to cancellation.

The livestream was excellent and we were able to provide live scores for the semi-finals and finals.

Online scores were available throughout the competition, and heat results were also posted on the commentary boxes.

Camel racing had been organised for Tuesday evening, but they were delayed and have agreed to reschedule for another competition.

The gala dinner was excellent with a live band, with Newark excelling themselves with the quality of the food, and Jodie Frost organised some great entertainment, so it was enjoyed by all.

The World Champions were:  
Under 12 – Sam Hopkins (Wales)  
Under 14 – Amelia Swann (England)

Under 17 – Dione Walters (Wales)  
Open – Widukind Moorman (Germany)

The Horse Ring ran very late on Thursday due to a slight error in timetabling, but nobody seemed to mind.

The ponies' names and the competitors' countries were available on the scoring and this went down well.

#### PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED

##### The Draw

Doing it on the morning of the competition was not ideal and the problems encountered were having to produce a number of different draws to accommodate the number of competitors declaring on the day (as we produced a copy of each draw for each competitor this meant a huge amount of wasted paper). The second problem with this was that we could not print the numbers or riders in the programmes so that these had to be completed by each rider themselves. Once each draw was done it was then intensive work allocating the numbers to the competitors on the master programmes and printing them off for the commentary boxes.

##### Entries from overseas riders

Receiving payment from overseas riders was fraught with problems, many not understanding that they had to pay bank charges, and payments received were often much less than they should have been, leading to requests for further payment. Some used Transferwise and on the whole this proved to be more successful with the correct amount being received, although not on every occasion, and some countries did not seem to be able to use it. The second problem was that they did not always use the competitors name as a reference so it was sometimes difficult to work out who it came from.

##### Lower Finals

Again this caused a great deal of work. We requested that all competitors brought their "declaration to ride" to the commentary box after they had ridden in their third heat. This had to be done by a certain time. This did not happen in many cases and we had to put out several calls to riders. Once again many riders did not want to ride in their finals and we had two less finals in the open, and 1 less final in the under 17, under 14 and under 12. . Working out the finals is very time consuming.

There was a happy atmosphere and the majority of people thought it was a great competition.

It is a shame that the IMGA competitions are run so close to each other so that competitors often have to choose between one.

## **Report 2: IMGA Representative's Report**

### REPORT ON WORLD INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIPS 2017

Venue: Newark and Nottinghamshire Showground,  
England Organisers: MGAGB  
Date: 7-11 August 2017

#### Competition

The competition was run in two rings with U12 and U17 competing in the Newark Ring and U14 and Open in the Horse Ring.

Both rings rode well although there was a period of heavy rainfall, which meant that competition had to be delayed for a while.

Pairs of heats were run in parallel (game 1 played by heat 1 and then heat 2, game 2 played by heat 1 and then heat 2...). When not in a game, the opposite heat stood in a small area cordoned off from the playing field. This generally did not cause concern, although the area was not large enough for people to keep their ponies moving especially when it was wet, and the cordoned off area became very muddy

#### Site

There was ample parking, much of it on hard standing. Some people complained that their designated parking and electric hook up was a long way from the rings and other facilities. Most ponies were corralled but temporary stables could be hired. There were complaints that despite being on hard standing several stables flooded during heavy rain. The organisers provided additional bedding for those so affected.

#### Arena

Both rings rode well although there was a period of heavy rainfall, which meant that competition had to be delayed for a while.

The arena in the Horse Ring was run the opposite way round to normal, causing consternation to some riders and ponies

#### Equipment

The equipment was good and the arena party generally excellent.

Administration Administration was efficient.

Briefings and draws were thorough.

#### Refereeing

Five referees were appointed by IMGGA for this competition, with Davy Quinn acting as Chief Referee plus Christine Mazière, Rob Flint, Rob Lockyer and me.

The main problems encountered were that three referees had children competing in the competition, which made drawing up rotas complicated. Further problems arose when the rings ran out of sync, so referees found themselves supposed to be in two rings at the same time. This was generally overcome well, although I did find that I ended up refereeing part of a heat in which my daughter was riding. All competitors in that heat (except my daughter) agreed with this.

Assistant referees were provided by competitors for all heats, with selected independent assistant referees being used for semi-finals and finals. Despite this the standard of assistant refereeing was not good with many mistakes missed.

At the briefing it was announced that five points would be deducted from any rider who failed to provide an assistant referee or an arena party member in the pair of heats they were competing in. This appears to have been applied differently in the two rings, with one ring accepting that officials (judges, referees, writers and commentators) being excused whilst the other ring only excused those on active official duties at the time of competing.

#### Judges Box

Judging was efficient

#### Social

A gala ball was held on the Thursday night prior to the finals with a served meal and live band.

Nikki Carter  
IMGA Representative for WIC

### **Report 3 : Referee's Report**

Two arenas were used – the Horse Ring and the Newark Ring. The Horse Ring was run the opposite way round to normal to avoid patches in the ground from previous MGAGB competitions. This did work well but not all riders and ponies were happy with this initially. The weather on Tuesday was awful with torrential rain from early morning to late at night. This led to me making the decision to delay the start of the first session the following day to assess how well the ground drained. Following discussions the arena was then split to avoid the two flooded lanes - 2 lanes, 2 lane gap, 6 lanes. This worked fairly well and the remaining ground ran reasonably well for the rest of the week. However, from a referee's point of view this meant a wider arena view than normal, essentially over 10 lanes, which was at times was challenging, both at the start and throughout the race.

Pairs of heats were run in parallel. When not competing, the opposite heat stood in a small area cordoned off from the playing field. This area became very muddy and with little room for riders and ponies to move. This was not ideal for either rider or pony to stand in the cold and rain.

We did run into some difficulties when the two rings ran out of sync and referees found themselves required to be in 2 rings at the same time. Most of the time we could work round this ourselves but there were problems when referees were needed to do equipment for their own children

Assistant referees were provided by competitors for all heats, with selected independent assistant referees being used for semi-finals and finals. The standard of assistant refereeing still needs to be improved as a number of mistakes were still being missed

Although all were notified at the briefing that five points would be deducted from any rider who failed to provide an assistant referee or an arena party member in the pair of heats they were competing in, this was not adhered to consistently between the 2 rings which did result in some decisions being disputed and lost points being appealed

Davy Quinn

### **Report 4: Financial Report**

#### **WORLD INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIPS 2017**

40 U12, 40 U14, 49 U17, 53 OPEN @ £225 per rider Gala dinner £65, Stable £130, Hook up £50

<b>INCOME</b>		
TRADE STAND	200.00	
ENTRY FEES	40950.00	
GALA, HOOK UP, STABLES & REFUND CHARGES	17963.04	
COMMISSION ON HOODY SALES	445.00	
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>59558.04</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
SHOWGROUND HIRE	11777.40	
GALA DINNER	8347.00	
STABLES	4477.44	
FIRST AID	5460.00	
P.A	2652.00	
LIVE STREAM	1959.55	
HORSE AMBULANCE	1152.00	
ROSETTES	831.23	
TROPHIES	543.43	
CAMELS	2640.00	
GRANDSTAND	1794.00	
CLEANER	630.00	
SHIRTS FOR SEMIS & FINALS	540.84	
ELECTRICS FOR HOOK UP	940.80	
DT SET UP	380.00	
DT ARENA MANAGER	750.00	
DT MILEAGE	150.00	
MW MILEAGE	88.00	
RT MILEAGE	257.40	
REFEREES EXPENSES	230.00	
OFFICIALS LUNCHES	137.00	
IMGA RIDER FEES	910.00	
COMMENTARY BOX	116.95	
BAND FOR GALA	875.00	
DISCOS X 2	400.00	
JACKETS FOR WINNERS	540.00	
EXTRA STABLE BEDDING	180.00	
TOTAL		<b>48760.04</b>
<b>SHOW PROFIT</b>		<b>10838.00</b>

## European Team and Individual Championship (England)

### Report 1: Organiser's Report

#### Report of IMGA European Championships 2017

The 12th IMGA European Championships were hosted in 2017 by England MGA and held at the Royal Bath and West Showground, Somerset, from August 14th – 19th.

Competitions

2 IMGA competitions were run-the European Individual Championship and the European Team Championships..

Arrivals were on Monday 14th August, the arrival procedures of veterinary inspection, stabling and parking were efficient and went well.

The opening ceremony was held in the main arena on Tuesday evening and was well attended and supported. The competition was officially opened by Marilyn Hackman, Nikki Carter (IMGA) and Dave Ridler (England MGA)

#### European Individual Championship

Monday 14th August- equipment was provided in a separate warm up arena from 1500-1830 Tuesday 15th August- 14 heats of 8 lanes were run in the Open Individual grass arena. The surface ran well, no equipment problems, some minor delays.

Wednesday 16th August -13 heats of 8 lanes, again no major problems.

The semi-finals and finals were run in the main arena under floodlights.

There was a "trial run" on Tuesday night where the reserve riders from the Teams took part in a friendly individual session to establish if there were any issues with the lighting and arena. All the lights were situated at the periphery of the arena and some central dark spots were identified.

Meetings were held with the riders, referees, organisers and risk assessors following which a further 6 lighting towers were erected. There were now a total of 6 400W electric and 12 1000W diesel towers. One tower was placed in the warm-up arena.

The Open Individual riders were invited to ride in the arena on Wednesday night and there were no concerns from riders, trainers, referees or officials following the addition of the extra lights.

Risk assessments were written and agreed.

Thursday 17th August 2 semi-finals of 8 lanes under lights at

9pm Friday 18th August 8 lane final under lights at 10pm.

No complaints from riders, no serious incidents or injuries. Well received by supporters. Unfortunately the weather was inclement for the final.

Judging proved to be challenging especially in the rain, as the start/finish line was not clearly visible with iPads from the commentary box due to glare from the floodlights. So iPads were used for judging outside the commentary box from both sides of the ring-communication was via radios.

Results: 1<sup>st</sup> Jake O'Connor

2<sup>nd</sup> Bradley Stamp

3<sup>rd</sup> Rory Capel

#### European Team Championship

44 teams from 16 European countries entered the competition

Open - 14 teams

Under17 – 13 teams

Under 14 – 11 teams

Under 12 – 6 teams

All heats were run in the main grass arena from Wednesday 16th August to Friday 18th August.

Following the first U12 session where a number of bending poles broke exposing sharp edges, the chief referee deemed they were not suitable for the competition and other poles from the individual rings were used, and new poles purchased. Following this there were no further equipment issues.

Part 1 finals in all age groups ran on Friday 18th August

Part 2 finals were run Saturday 19th August – there was very heavy rain overnight on Friday and into Saturday morning and it was decided by Alun Whitney and the organisers to delay the competition to

allow some recovery of the ground prior to the A finals. This was an excellent decision and in the circumstances the ground ran well.

#### Results

Open	1st	England
	2nd	Ireland
	3rd	Belgium
U17	1st	Wales
	2nd	England
	3rd	Ireland
U14	1st	England
	2nd	Italy
	3rd	Wales
U12	1st	Wales
	2nd	England
	3rd	Italy

#### Venue

##### Showground

The Showground provided excellent facilities.

Plentiful well serviced showers and toilets throughout the Showground.

On site indoor restaurant and bar providing meals for teams, supporters and spectators open every day. Large balcony overlooking the main arena. Fast food outlets for coffees, burgers, noodles, ice cream available during the day.

Hard standing and flat grass for Lorry and caravan parking. On site shop open daily.

There were some minor issues with hook up provision on arrivals day but these were all addressed efficiently.

On site accommodation in "bunkabins" was very popular and feedback from this well received.

##### Stables

Stabling was all on hardstanding.

Corralling was permitted with vets certificate only.

During the heavy rain some stables were wet so shavings, plastic sheets and sand were provided to overcome this.

Stable managers office near the stables was staffed from 7am to 6pm and there was an onsite, on call vet 24 hours a day.

##### Arenas

The 2 individual grass rings ran well.

The main arena also ran well, but became muddy, due to the weather, for the Individual finals and the Team finals.

##### Security

Emergency Response Systems Ltd provided 24/7 security and medical cover for the duration of the event.

Risk assessments conformed to Showground, local council, police and fire regulations. Any incident reported during the event was documented and appropriate action taken.

There were 3 incidents of inappropriate behaviour outside the ring documented and these were discussed by the England MGA committee and action taken.

See attached report from ERS.

## Entertainment and Social Events

The Opening Ceremony on Tuesday night was in the main arena with a carnival theme. It was well attended by all countries teams and individuals and spectators.

All teams had been asked to bring a mascot and after the official opening there was a mascot race which was well received particularly by the younger riders.

There was a themed evening on Wednesday with a live band, and a live band and disco after the individual semi-finals on Thursday.

The Gala Dinner on Saturday night was spectacular with presentations along the red carpet to all competition winners. There was also a presentation to the winning World Team – Ireland.

The catering throughout the week was of a very high standard and meal tickets for riders and Gold Packages were also able to be used at the catering outlets.

## Complaints and problems

### 1. Arrival

Despite widely advertising arrival must be after 10am on Monday 14th August, around 25% of attendees arrived between 6am and 10am, some teams arriving the day before! This caused some problems as we did not have access to Showground facilities before 10am, our vet was not due to arrive until 9am, and final preparation of the site was not complete. The England MGA organising team, in particular the stable managers team, were fantastic in managing the situation – mucking out every Lorry and trailer, offering free bottles of water and escorting every pony to the stables. A particular mention for Alasdair Ryder, our vet, who worked tirelessly and cheerfully all day. He was also available on site 24/7 immediately on hand for any equine illness or injury.

### 2. Lighting

This has been discussed under Individual competition. Despite taking advice prior to the event that the lighting would be adequate, the hire of considerable extra lighting towers to ensure safety for the floodlit riding, incurred significant extra cost.

### 3. Local Council Event Licence

Due to some incidents at previous equestrian events at the Bath and West Showground, health and safety regulations required that horse areas were strictly separated from spectator and vehicle areas. Horse walks from stables to arenas and grazing areas were designated with clear signage and post and rope fencing, but despite this there was constant violation of these rules. Ponies were taken back to lorries and tied up there to tack up and allowed to graze unrestrained around the Showground. Unsupervised children, particularly riding bikes, was also an issue. This was time consuming and difficult to police. It was mainly the Italian and Welsh teams who persistently offended. There were 2 complaints from local residents about the noise levels. This resulted in noise level monitoring having to be carried out at intervals during the day and the commentary volume regulated.

### 4. Equipment

As mentioned under Team Competition, a number of bending poles snapped during the first team heat and this was judged to be excessive by the Chief Referee so the competition was stopped briefly while the poles were replaced. The equipment being used was new and hired as IMGA compliant. New poles were bought from the trade stands present – this incurred cost to England MGA. Some equipment was also taken from the practice arena – again incurring cost.

## 5. Weather

Prior to the start of the competition, there had been a lot of rain and the previous event at the Showground had damaged the areas designated for our stables and individual arenas making them unsuitable for our purpose.

The England MGA organising committee had to change the location for the stables and individual arenas within the Showground to a more suitable area at very short notice. This meant a significant reorganisation of the site with new signage, water and electricity supply to the new areas. Again significant extra cost.

## 6. Rubbish

Despite adequate provision of bins for rubbish and muck disposal, there was a lot of rubbish left at the end of the event particularly around the stables area. Again extra cost for site clearance.

## Lessons learnt and advice for the future

### 1. Budget

IMGA events are intended to offer the riders and spectators good value for money and to be non-profit making. England MGA decided to hold a premium event with gold standard facilities which, from all our feedback, we achieved. Hiring a permanent Showground with onsite facilities will always be more expensive than a green field site.

Most organising committees will have little or no experience of organising European Championships and our advice would be to anticipate and budget for significant extra cost incurred at the time of the competition.

Our budget was originally based on maximum uptake of individual places- 150 - however despite having a reserve list, our numbers for the Open and U17 competition were only 132, many riders withdrawing at short notice due to illness or lameness.

This reduced our anticipated income by £8100. See attached accounts.

### 2. Organisation

Pre-event planning is essential. Arrivals day is chaotic with hundreds of vehicles arriving simultaneously – in our case many hours before anticipated - there must be enough people helping and a rota defining everyone's role. Also allow for breaks and supply of meals and drinks for the volunteers.

Office equipment needs to be on site from the first morning of the event - a printer, laminator, stationery, credit card machine, till and receipts, safe for storing money and arrangements for banking money. We took large amounts of cash and card sales from sales of tickets, hay, shavings, merchandising particularly on the first morning. If the system is not set up prior to arrival then it will be chaotic.

We employed 2 professional event organisers for the week. They were fantastic and invaluable and we would thoroughly recommend this. The cost for this was discussed at length prior to the event but we could not have managed without them. Any problem – such as drains, water supply, hook-up, lighting, deliveries, moving equipment and supplies happened immediately and efficiently. They had equipment

to facilitate any repair on site and were available 24/7. They set up all our PA for our entertainment and arenas including start line PA.

### 3. Security and Medical Cover

Essential that this is adequate on a large showground.

We used ERS, who are familiar with MGA events and the riders. They understand our sport and are able to anticipate any adverse incidents and act before they escalate.

All our rider and equine injuries were dealt with extremely well.

## **Report 2 : IMGGA Representative's Report**

Venue: Royal Bath and West Showground,

England Organisers: England MGA

Date: 14-19 August 2017

### Competition

The competition was run in conjunction with a European U17 Individual Masters competition. Three rings were used, one for each individual competition plus one (the main ring) for the team championships and the semi-finals and main finals of the individual competitions. Timetabling meant that in the first session the final individual heats ran concurrently with the first team sessions.

### Site

Severe rain in the week before the event plus misuse by previous users of the site meant that the original layout was changed just before the event.

- Lorry parking was spread over a wider area than originally planned, but this gave more space to everyone. Hook ups.
- The individual rings were moved to fresh land several hundred metres from the main area, with generators and toilets brought in to cover that area.
- The stables were moved on to hard standing closer to the main arena but further from the lorries

There was ample parking, and numerous toilet and shower blocks across the whole site. There was a large restaurant and bar and a magnificent large area for the gala ball with space for everyone to sit together for the meal

The provision of on-site accommodation in the form of two bed bunkabins with shower and bathroom was popular and much appreciated by all who used them.

### Arena

All rings rode well although there was a period of heavy rainfall, which meant that the main arena became very muddy. Competition was delayed for a couple of hours to enable the arena to dry out.

### Equipment

The equipment was new and most of it had been trialled at the Southern Championships a month earlier where unsuitable equipment (particularly bending poles, jousts and Windsor Castle turrets) was returned as unsuitable.

A knock out individual competition was held on the Tuesday evening to trial the arena lighting, which was upgraded with additional lights before the individual semi-final and finals. The final lighting set up was adequate, and better in the arena than from the edges – however a hammer was found in the arena after the Toolbox race, meaning that someone cheated and was not seen!

### Administration

Administration was efficient. The main office was staffed at least 12 hours a day Briefings and draws were efficient and held in a cinema behind the administration office. This meant that people were sat comfortably in rows so background chat was kept to a minimum. Multi-lingual volunteers meant that information was given in English, French and German. The use of GamesPro (and the skills of Lynn Prime) meant that people were provided with printed copies of the draws and heat lists at the end of each briefing. GamesPro did not manage well with the allocation of riders to minor finals, being unable to cope with run-offs or riders who wished to withdraw before their final. This meant that the minor finals had to be determined by hand, not GamesPro.

#### Refereeing

Five referees were appointed by IMGA for this competition, Alun Whitney acting as Chief Referee plus Davy Quinn, Rob Lockyer, Elvind Kjuus and Pierre-Luc Portron.

The U17 individual heats were refereed by two recently qualified referees appointed by the organisers: Tony Rowles Jones and Andrew Rodaughan.

All team members plus random individual competitors had their tack inspected (by me) and the standard was generally good, although several treeless saddles were being used. On the decision of the Chief Referee they were still used in the competition

Prior to the event, all riders/trainers were asked to provide details of:

- Pony height
- Rider height/weight. Rider/pony combinations were checked on the basis of the information provided and notification sent if they fell outside the guidelines. This led to a few pony changes but despite this there were still some ponies that were too small for their riders, particularly in the youngest age groups. They were allowed to compete but monitored for signs of stress
- Pony passport numbers and last vaccination date. This speeded up the vetting and checking of ponies on arrival
- Rider dietary requirement/allergies
- Corraling requirements (corraling was only allowed if a vet certificate was provided).

#### Judges Box

Judging was efficient but judging/scoring/commentating rotas were not adhered to and there appeared to be few reserves meaning that some people worked for long periods.

The commentary team were in the same areas as the judges, which meant that the boxes were often chaotic particularly during the individual finals and semi-finals

#### Arrivals

Despite many messages being sent, many people arrived before the stated time of 10.00am on Monday (some even came on Friday!). Lorries were held near the entrance and provided with water and information sheets before being sent to the vetting area to off load. At this point volunteers mucked out the boxes. This was very much appreciated.

#### Social

There were many catering vans as well as a dedicated restaurant and bar area. Food vouchers were accepted at all of the food outlets – but the food was excellent.

A well-attended social event with band (The Roosters) was held mid-week and the gala ball was held on the Saturday night. The use of efficient security meant that the common problem of people attending without tickets was avoided

Nikki Carter - IMGA Representative for European Championships

### Report 3 : Financial Report

#### Income

Entries	170,102.14
PDQ machine Thursday	1,574.00
PDQ machine Friday	1,360.90
PDQ machine Saturday	2,229.00
Cash from Intercounties	885.00
PAYPAL	47,877.56
BUNKABINS	9,640.32
TRADE STANDS	390.00
Sponsorship	320.00
	<b>234,378.92</b>

#### Cost of Sales

Site	35,000.00
Stables	35,652.00
Bunkabins	18,700.00
SECURITY/MEDICAL	25,740.00
INSURANCE	11,069.35
MERCHANDISE	15,040.67
AV Hire	15,840.00
	<b>157,042.02</b>

**Gross Profit 77,336.90**

#### Admin Costs

Cash prizes	3,000.00
Ref's travel	750.00
Wilson Porter - Live Streaming	2,850.00
Event Managers	5,575.00
Show Hire - Commentary boxes	2,934.00
Lite Alternative - Lighting equipment	8,052.00
L X Trix Limited - Extra Floodlights	1,224.00
L X Trix Limited - Generator to IND RING	810.00
L X Trix Limited - Trade stand power	300.00
L X Trix Limited - Hook Ups	6,105.00
Wigwam - PA System	4,354.32
SSS Pro - Remove staircase	295.00
SSS Pro - PA System	1,000.00
SSS Pro -Start line PA	777.20
PROGRAMMES	4,000.00
T SHIRTS	1,188.00
Sweeper	500.00
DJ - Len	500.00
DJ - Marcus Dove	750.00
Water and Champagne	235.36
Water and Electricity	6,682.69
Site Litter Pick	600.00
Cleaning	4,800.00
Drapes	1,125.50
Fire ex	475.00
Mike/Ear pieces	388.00
Consumables	709.91
Bath and West Refund	- 5,000.00
HAYES CATERING	30,000.00
	<b>84,980.98</b>

Net Profit

- 7,644.08

## **Report 4: Medical and Security**

### Medical Stats

Trauma 9  
Medical  
Cases 3  
Referred to Hospital 6 Fractures  
Conveyed to Hospital 2 Immobilised  
Fractures No Use of Local Services

### Medical and Security

As a legal provider of medical and security services ER Systems has historically provided both services to IMGA competitions with this event along with World Team Championships across Europe over 9 years.

The professionalism on this occasion started with England MGA who consulted with our services throughout, which fundamentally provided a stable and working platform to operate both strategically and operationally

UK has always in these matters a higher level of Health and Safety Legislation to adhere and therefore planning was meticulous which certainly we were able to cascade down through our planning and counter measures to support such a competition. The consultations, preparation, meetings, visits and legal documents took over 6 months leading up to the event, where rehearsals were run and challenges made even before we opened the gates.

The security team operated in my view in an open and friendly manner preventing any escalation early before conflict, being mindful we were operating in licensed premises outside the control of the competition. There is without doubt a strong drinking culture within the structure of the sport, and therefore adequate security and safety resources applied. No Police or Ambulance Services from the Public sector were required for the whole week.

The venue assisted the delivery and therefore was a super choice considering UK limitations now for this sport.

Finally I utterly value the support given from the England Committee for such a wonderful spectacle, but the event itself cannot run without such positive international membership across the IMGA.

The learning points from this event going forward would be control of pushbikes along with day/night time safeguarding in that the competition is not a creche for children or vulnerable adults when entering the gates..... Behaviours were managed effectively by my teams which resulted in a much happier closure with the finale of the England Ball on the Saturday night... Spectacular!!

Andrew Gibson  
Director Emergency Response Systems Ltd

## **Nations Championship (USA)**

## Report 1 : Organiser's Report

After a lot of stress and hard work by many, especially as the 450 by 250 feet sand arena had been built especially, the York Equestrian Centre was ready for the Nation's Team Champs. We had camper hook ups, tent city, showers and portaloos available.

SUNDAY 3rd September the teams arrived and after a meeting with Margaret Welsby the Stable Manager they met the ponies. We split the six teams into two heats of practice for safety. The teams had two practices one in the morning and again in the afternoon. Paramedics were present for all practises and competition. Ponies were stabled in permanent barns next to the arena. A welcome Mexican evening was held on Sunday evening in the purpose built event barn, everyone enjoyed the delicious food and Mexican entertainment. Davy and Maggie Quinn arrived also.

MONDAY 4th September another practice in the morning then everyone visited Churchill Downs the famous Kentucky Derby Race Track Museum then onto a very nice restaurant for dinner.

TUESDAY 5th September The last practice before the competition, everyone was happy with their ponies and the only change of pony was a privately sourced pony to be replaced by a pool pony so that was successful. Tuesday afternoon saw a trip to the Simpsonville Mall then on to USMGA member Leigh Crady's farm for games and a barbecue, the sun was shining and everyone had a great time. Mary Worth arrived late that evening also.

WEDNESDAY 6th September We held an invitational Individual competition as well as the Nation's Champs competition, all went well, Maggie Quinn and Hannah Rose Neuhauser were writers and I was Judge we had I pads positioned on all four corners of the arena. Davy Quinn was Chief Referee and Mary Worth was commentator. We had music and live stream filming on the far bank overlooking the arena. USA Stars won the first heat. Wednesday evening we served Pizza and salad for dinner.

THURSDAY 7th September Two heats of competition and all went well. USA Stars still in first place. Country Evening in Event Barn with Barbecue then line dancing instruction which all of the riders seemed to enjoy.

FRIDAY 8th September One heat in the morning then first Final in the afternoon. Nice meal at Event Barn in evening.

SATURDAY 9th Sept. The second final and the end of the competition. USA Stars won by a huge margin. Everyone then attended the Gala Cruise on the Ohio river with dinner to round off a wonderful week of competition, fun and not only revisiting old friends but making new ones.

1st USA Stars, Sash, Rosette, Gold Medal, Leather Head Collar, (No cup as Australia did not return it as broken and being repaired)

2nd USA Stripes, Sash, Rosette, Silver Medal, Saddle Pad.

3rd New Zealand, Rosette, Bronze Medal, Hay Net

4th Canada, Rosette, Lead Rope

5th Australia, Rosette, Welcome Plaque

6th South Africa, Rosette, Horse Brush

The winning team USA Stars were:- Mary P Camp (Mary P was also on winning World Team in 2015) Cassie Greiling, Kimi Fleming, Bella Pellet, Kaja Newell. Coach Clive Jones.

A lot of fun was had by all and we received lots of positive feedback.

Carol Jones

## Report 2 : Referee's Report

### Arena

The Arena was excellent. This is a new all weather arena and although the surface was still soft it was well maintained throughout the competition so that it rode well at all times. Regular watering plus harrowing and rolling between sessions provided an excellent surface for both riders and ponies. The arena was remarked between sessions and throughout as required. IPads were used on the lines and worked well.

### Equipment

The equipment was good and the arena party excellent. The only problem was with the Association tubs some of which were on the light side, but these were refilled, weighed and resealed before the start of the competition.

### Tack/Kit

All tack and kit was checked prior to the start of the sessions and although here were a few riders with hats that did not meet the required standard these were quickly changed and rechecked throughout the competition.

### Ponies

The fitness and standard of the pool ponies was excellent.

### Overall

A very well organised competition that ran to time with no incidents.

Davy Quinn

## Report 3 : Finance Report

### Income

Entries	\$	24,800.00
Camp sites	\$	2,100.00
Donations	\$	779.00
Packages + Gala	\$	9,700.00
TOTAL	\$	37,379.00

### Expenses

Arena	\$	2,100.00
Stalls	\$	6,860.00
Camp sites	\$	2,100.00
Medical	\$	1,822.50
Officials expenses - Chief Ref, commentary, stable manager	\$	4,550.08
Prizes & Ribbons	\$	929.50
Officials shirts	\$	693.24
Food + Entertainment	\$	9,037.67
Leigh	\$	1,080.00
City BBQ	\$	1,487.06
Breakfast + Misc food	\$	1,545.02
BBC	\$	2,575.59
Derby Museum	\$	550.00
Mexican	\$	1,800.00
Gala Cruise	\$	7,746.48
Showers + Toilets	\$	1,962.67
Showers	\$	312.67
Toilets	\$	1,650.00
TOTAL	\$	37,802.14

# World Team Championship U-17 (New Zealand)

## Report 1 : Organisers' Report



## U17 WTC organisers report

Created By: Jan Christensen

Date: 29<sup>th</sup> November 2017

Revision: 1.03

### Introduction

In July 2016 we were asked and accepted to host the 2017 Under 17 World Team Championship as South Africa could not accommodate both open and U17.

The horse event EQUITANA had was also having its first appearance in New Zealand at the ASB showgrounds, and NZMGA had been invited to hold a major event at the EQUITANA event.

### Preparation

With only 12 month to prepare for the U17 WTC we had a big task ahead of us, so it was decided from the beginning that we would need to break the task down into smaller tasks and have a wide committee. We ended up with a committee of 15 to 20 member team working well together.



## Home base

Equitana was located at the ASB showgrounds where there were no room for accommodation of our visitors, so all competitors, manager, coaches and supporters were accommodated at Papatoetoe Pony Club situated approx 30km from the ASB showgrounds.

Papatoetoe pony club offers catering facilities, full size grass training pitch, sand arena as backup if weather required, and has vast other facilities on 110 acres.

The home base was fully equipped with 100++ yards for our 70 loan ponies, undercover area for feed storage and preparation.

Also portable loos and showers was provided for our 170++ guests and volunteers.



## Transport

Due to EQUITANA and our Homebase Papatoetoe Pony Club was located 30km apart and also the location of ASB showgrounds (EQUITANA) was located in the middle of Auckland (New Zealand's biggest city) was a logistic challenge.

All the competitors, supporters and volunteers were transported to and from the event by bus due to limited parking at the event.

All ponies were transported in horse trucks loaned to NZMGA by members and other supporters.



due  
to

All transport went without any issues.

## Equitana

The Equitana event was held at the ASB showgrounds and the event centre consist of 18.000 m<sup>2</sup> expeditions' halls and various outdoor parking.

The main outdoor arena was built on the main carpark in front of the grand stand creating very good viewing experience for spectators.

From EQUITANA point of view the mounted games was one of the main draw cards for the public, and therefore EQUITANA put in great effort to accommodate our requirements.



## Loan Ponies.

The quality of loan ponies was great many of NZMGA member's best ponies were put forward and this mainly due to allowing self-sourcing of loan ponies. Approx. 90% of ponies were self-sourced.

The management plan for self-sourcing was that the pony lender and the pony loaner created the initial contact and agreed the pony loan. When the pony arrived at home base all ponies was treated like loan ponies and all feed and health management was handled by the U17 WTS pony management team.



## Training.

The initial training was held at the home base on grass pitch. There were 3 training sessions on a grass pitch where all riders could get acquainted with their horse all games gear used for training was the same gear to be used for the WTC event at EQUITANA.

The last training day Tuesday the 21 November was held at EQUITANA on the sand arena that the competition was held to allow for all riders to get familiar with the arena and the environment.

There were no major incidents during the training and all visiting teams and riders were ready for competition start Wednesday the 22nd of November.

### The competition.

Originally only 8 teams had entered for the U17 WTC event and given that we were to hold this event at EQUITANA and needed to provide good spectator event we needed a minimum of 10 teams and the suggestion to allow countries to enter two teams was discussed with IMGA but not agreed however it was agreed to allow composite teams and worlds team and southern hemisphere team was created. Originally it was suggested by IMGA that the two composite teams should not be able to ride in the same heat and should be scored separately.

This would not create a good competition for spectators and was seen as a big risk as it would create confusion in regards to scores, and for none mounted games knowledge spectators to follow the game and the score thereof.

It was agreed to change the format on the basis that this was not IMGA sanctioned competition, and also with the full support of all teams at riders briefing and draw. The draw was held under the supervision of Chief Referee, Warwick Slade and there were no objections to draw or format from any teams attending.

### The Games pitch.

The quality of the games pitch was always going to be high risk, but with EQUITANA promising to build a good quality arena suitable for the purpose and we were convinced that we would be able to mitigate the risk.

The arena was to be ready for training session on Tuesday the 21st November at 12:00 noon, but due to miscommunication between EQUITANA and the arena builder the arena was not completed and we had to delay our training start by 4 hours. When we finally got onto the arena there were some issues found during our training and these were fixed prior to starting the competition.

The arena was watered and groomed several times daily to ensure maximum safety. On Friday the 24th at the end of the last heat it was discovered that due to extensive grooming over the past days the sand was wearing thin >100mm at a high spot of the arena at an area of 30-40 m<sup>2</sup>, the arena builder was brought onsite to rectify the issue. The arena builder worked overnight to move more sand onto the area and by the next morning we had a very good surface and were ready for the finals.



Additional

## information

Safety report prepared by David Harris

NZMGA U17 WTC Newsletter, see below link

<http://www.sporty.co.nz/asset/downloadasset?id=8f22f928-c4ec-42c7-81ae-8d3715d03438>

## Conclusion

All in all the completion ran well, and the general feedback from competitors was positive.

There will of course always be things that we would do different if we were to host another event with EQUITANA again.

Thanks to IMGA for the support and advice and for letting NZMGA host the Under 17 World Team Championship event in New Zealand.

Best regards

Jan Christensen, Event organiser

## Report 2 : Referee's Report

### U17 World Teams Championships 2017

Congratulations to the Organising Committee and Riders for a well-run and well ridden competition.

The competition was held over four days from the 22<sup>nd</sup> to the 26<sup>th</sup> of November. The competition was held at the showgrounds in Auckland in conjunction with Equitana (an all things equestrian show). The organisers of Equitana have put on this show in Australia for over ten years, however this was the first time that the show had been brought to Auckland. Home base was the Papatoetoe Pony Club, 30 minutes out of Auckland, and all teams were in camp on the 18<sup>th</sup>.

### Pony Selection

Nine of the ten teams self-sourced their own ponies, the exception being Canada. The team trainers used their contacts to find good ponies and a Facebook page was setup for owners to advertise their ponies. Teams then directly contacted the owners and provided details on the rider's abilities. This direct approach appeared to give owners a greater degree of comfort in the putting their pony into the competition, than just placing a pony into the pool to be taken by any rider.

Margaret Welsby and Brenda Cross managed the pony pool and the care of the ponies at both the home base and on during the competition. Canada was allocated the most appropriate 5 ponies from the pony pool when the team arrived on the Saturday.

Teams were advised via Facebook that registrations for self-sourced ponies had to be submitted by the 1<sup>st</sup> of August. This date was extended 2 weeks to allow teams involved in European competitions to complete their registrations. Teams were only allowed to nominate 5 ponies and that any replacement ponies would have to come from the pony pool. The organising committee felt that otherwise teams would hold onto as many ponies as they could and that these ponies would then not be available for the pool.

The procedures around registration of ponies, and the interchanging of ponies before and during the competition was documented, however this document was never distributed to the teams and only very limited information was provided via Facebook and the competition web site. This document appears to have also not been distributed within the committee.

The English team substituted a pony at the end of October and after providing a veterinary certificate nominated a replacement pony. This pony was accepted by the pony management team. This substitution was brought to my attention by two teams on the Saturday. The ground jury discussed that this substitution was in violation to the rule placed on Facebook, however since the documentation had been accepted by the organising committee it was deemed that the Team itself had done nothing wrong and that poor communication within the committee had resulted in the error.

### Pony Care

Ponies were yarded or penned at the pony club each night. The yards provided by the pony club were new and of an excellent standard. Teams were responsible for the feeding and care of their ponies. On competition days the ponies were transported to the venue by 12 trucks and the riders and others via three buses. The ponies were transported to the grounds on five occasions and the Transport coordinator ensured that it was a smooth operation. Steel yards were erected in the car park at the venue. The car park was a secure area that was away from the public, however it was bitumen sealed and considerable amount of wood shavings was placed in each yard. Whilst the temperature was warm each day 20-22C, a cool breeze kept the ponies comfortable.

The Pony Managers were pleased with the effort of the teams in caring for their ponies.

### Pre-Competition

A briefing for all teams was held on the Saturday night, where they informed on the activities for each day and the conditions under which the competition was to be run.

The teams were provided with two practice sessions on the Sunday, one on the Monday and one on the Tuesday at the venue. Each practice was one hour in duration. The pool ponies were exercised on the Saturday for the teams to view. At the end of first two practices, teams were allowed to nominate a pony for substitution and to request a replacement pony from the pool. If more than one pony was selected then a random draw was to be used to allocate the pony however this was never necessary. If a self-sourced pony was substituted then permission from the owner was required before they could be placed into the pool.

By the end of the second training session all teams were happy with their 5 ponies.

There was an Assistant Referee briefing on the night before the first day of competition and on the night before the second day. Each team provided two assistant referees. The assistant referees nominated were of varying degrees of experience with qualified referees, people with experience, people with no experience but horse riders and a couple who didn't ride. During the competition the assistant referees participated in the heat that their team was not riding in. For the A final the assistant referees were taken from the non-competing teams and with one assistant referee coming from each team.

### Arena

The Auckland showgrounds consisted of several large pavilions but no outdoor arena. A very large bitumen car park was converted into a Sand Arena by the Equitana organisers and their contractor. The arena was also used for other exhibitions on the Thursday, Friday and Saturday. The arena had space for 7 lanes and was only two metres short in regulation length (which was removed from the start end). The contractor laid over 10cm of sand onto the tarmac that was graded, watered and rolled. Before each session (and the other exhibitions), the arena was graded, watered and rolled.

The arena was expected to be finished by Tuesday morning, however the arena was only handed over late on Tuesday afternoon. Three ponies were selected to ride on the arena to observe how it would stand up before teams were allowed to practice on the arena. The pony managers, the event coordinator and myself inspected the surface and directed practice to commence. At the end of the practice there was a small concern by some teams about the surface and the contractor worked on the surface until the first session on the Wednesday. Rakes were purchased and provided for each lane to continually smooth the surface

Over the 64 races the arena stood up extremely well. In 3 to 4 races which predominately involved riders turning on the exact same spots the sand was pushed away to expose small sections of tarmac which did result in a few horses slipping. No horse sustained any injury, however in a close competition it may have affected the placings in the race.

### Competition

The qualifying rounds consisted of two heats of five. One session on Wednesday, Two sessions on Thursday, and the final qualifying session on Friday, with each session consisting of 10 games. Two 12 game final sessions were held on the Saturday.

Teams represented Australia, Canada, England, Ireland, New Zealand, Scotland, USA, and Wales. The organising committee had determined that only 7 lanes would be possible with the size of the arena. To enable a B final, two composite teams were added. The Rest of the World consisted of 2 reserve riders and 3 New Zealand riders. The Southern Hemisphere team consisted of 1 reserve rider, 3 New Zealand riders and 1 Australian rider.

With self-sourced ponies the standard of riding was very high, though riders made the expected mistakes in the opening session as they rode through their nerves. The riders provided a great spectacle for the Equitana crowd who watched from a terraced stadium.

The Pony Coordinators kept a close eye on all riders and it was not necessary to speak to any riders.

At the conclusion of the first day of competition an email was brought to my attention by the event secretary that had been forwarded on from the previous President of NZMGA. This email from IMGGA to the IMGGA representatives put forward a suggestion on how the event should be run with regard to how the two composite teams should be incorporated. I was not included in any discussions between IMGGA and the organising committee and the only explanation regarding the format was from the organising committee who outlined that IMGGA had specified that if a composite team was to obtain the most number of points then they would not be awarded the trophy and title of World Team Champions. This format had been explained to the teams at the Saturday trainers briefing and no issues were raised. The discrepancy between the email and what was organised by NZMGA was that race points were allocated to the composite teams and that they were placed in a random draw which resulted in two composite teams competing in the one heat in session two.

Upon receiving this email I contacted Nikki Carter for clarification. Nikki confirmed the original email, however her response left it open on how the event should continue. The ground jury of Richard Egging, Brenda Cross and myself discussed the issue and the alternatives on how the competition could continue. It was agreed that since the competition had started and that there had been no objections from the competing teams that the competition should continue as is.

The finals provided an excellent presentation of Mounted Games with a good crowd in the stand. With several races to go New Zealand had wrapped up the competition, however it was still a close competition for all the other placings down to the last race. The last race was filled with suspense with Australia and Wales finishing on the same points and assistant referee flags being raised for two teams, which after appeal, were both upheld. Australia won the run-off.

Final Placings

A Final – New Zealand, Australia, Wales, Ireland, England, USA, Rest of World

B Final – Scotland, Southern Hemisphere, Canada

## Rules

During the competition several situations arose where the rules did not clearly provide an answer.

- A rider during one session modified their Running Martingale to be used as a Standing Martingale. GR4.1 does not allow this, however there are no implications in GR4 on what should occur if a rider violates this rule.
- A self-source horse was presented by an owner with a Leather Bit. The horse is normally ridden in a bitless bridle, however since GR4.3 requires a bit, the leather bit was put forward as the “softest” bit. The owner made it clear that this was the only condition under which this horse could be used in the competition. The bit fully complied with GR4.1.

FEI 2017 Dressage rules – Appendix 4 P-19, states “Any of the above-mentioned bits may be covered with rubber, leather or plastic. See also Article 428 of the Dressage Rules. The snaffle bit must be made of metal and/or rigid plastic and may be covered with rubber. Rubber snaffles are allowed.”

The horse was permitted to practice in this bit and showed no control issues at all and was a very competent pony.

- GR5.3 requires a rider to wear a correctly fastened helmet whilst riding on the showgrounds. In between races, whilst in the arena but un-mounted, a rider took their helmet off. Several assistant referees expressed that this was not permitted in their country.
- CR10 discusses the rider being in contact with their pony at all times. An assistant referee observed an unmounted rider walking their pony with no contact in between races.

## Attachments for 2.8 Entry Management System

### European Individual Entries 2017

#### Proposed Entries

Open Championship  
80 places  
72 entries from 14 countries  
U17 Masters  
70 entries  
60 entries from 11 countries



#### Stage 1: Previous High Performers

Open Championship  
16 eligible riders  
11 entered  
8 rode  
U17 Masters  
8 eligible riders  
5 entered  
3 rode, including the winner, Eleanor Wheeler



#### Stage 2: Country Representatives

Countries were able to apply for up to 5 places

Open Championship  
14 countries requested a total of 64 places  
12 countries requested 5 places  
41 riders rode representing 14 countries  
Of the countries requesting 5 places, only 2 used all of them  
U17 Masters  
11 countries requested a total of 49 places  
9 countries requested 5 places  
32 riders rode representing 11 countries  
Of the countries requesting 5 places, only 1 used all of them

#### Stage 3: Internationally Selected Wildcard Entries

Selection Panel

16 countries were asked to put forward selectors for the panel.  
The panel was made up of 7 members

Open Championship

At the end of Stage 2 (31 March) there were 13 places left in stages 3 and 4 and 39 applicants  
Voting took place at the beginning of May when there were 18 places and 27 applicants  
The selectors chose 9 entrants  
7 of these rode, including the winner, Jake O'Connor

U17 Masters

At the end of Stage 2 (31 March) there were 31 places left in stages 3 and 4 and 25 applicants  
There was no selection, all 25 applicants were given places  
7 of these rode



#### Stage 4: Organiser Selected Wild Card Entries

As places became available due to riders dropping out and nations reducing their number of selected riders, more applications were called for  
All riders who wished to compete were given places  
Open Championship

There were 16 riders from Stage 4 and 8 unfilled places

U17 Masters

There were 19 riders from Stage 4 and 9 unfilled places

#### Summary

EUROPEAN INDIVIDUAL COMPETITORS 2017	OPEN ENTRIES (ALL)	U17 ENTRIES (ALL)	PLACES REQUESTED IN STAGE 2		ACTUAL OPEN ENTRIES BY STAGE				ACTUAL U17 ENTRIES BY STAGE			
			OPEN	U17	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
Austria	1	2	2	5		1				2		
Belgium	3	1	5	1		3				1		
Czech Republic												
Denmark	4	2	5	5		4				2		
England	25	15	5	5	4	5	4	12	1	3	3	8
France	2		2			2						
Germany	1	2	5			1				1		1
Ireland	7	6	5	5	2	2	1	2		4	1	1
Italy	7	9	5	5	1	4	1	1		4		5
Luxembourg												
N Ireland	7	4	5	5		5	1	1		4		
Norway	3	1	5			3					1	
Scotland	5	2	5	3	1	4			1	1		
Sweden	1	2	5	5		1				2		
Switzerland	3	7	5	5		3				5		2
Wales	3	8	5	5		3			1	3	2	2
<b>ALL</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>19</b>

#### Who Won?

##### European Open Championship

Entry Stage	1	2	3	4
No. of entrants	8	41	7	16
No. of semi-finalists	5	7	2	1
Proportion	63%	17%	29%	6%

##### U17 Masters

Entry Stage	1	2	3	4
No. of entrants	3	32	7	18
No. of semi-finalists	3	7	2	4
Proportion	100%	22%	29%	22%

## Problems

- Countries did not respect deadlines for entries or payments
- Countries took as many places as they could in Stage 2, even if they were not going to fill them, making allocation of places impossible
- Very few people paid their deposits
- Late withdrawals changed budgets and timetables

## Solutions

- Entries should not be accepted without a deposit.
- Entries should be cancelled if the entry fee is not received by the specified date – and the deposit forfeited
- There should be standard IMGA rules regarding the refund of entry fees and deposits
  - 100% refunds (less a nominal administration fee) should be given if a rider/pony is not able to compete up until 4 weeks before the competition. Refunds should only be made if the withdrawal accompanied by a vet or doctor's certificate or (for EIC) if the rider and pony have been selected for their national ETC team
  - Refunds after that date should only be made on production of a vet or doctor's certificate AND should be at a rate that reflects costs that have been incurred by the organisers for that entry for pre-booked items such as stabling, bedding and electric hook up

## Attachment for item 2.9 Assistant Referee and Referee Training Proposals

Currently we have 81 Referees listed on IMGA Website

43 of these are now over the 3 year period previously agreed that qualification lasted for.

That leaves with 38 currently Certified Referees.

Also 59 on Assistant Referees most of whom are also on Referee list

Due To Expire	On IMGA Ref List	Country
15	21	England
0	9	New Zealand
8	8	Canada
7	7	Australia
3	6	Wales
0	5	Belgium
4	5	Northern Ireland

Due To Expire	On IMGA Ref List	Country
2	4	Scotland
2	4	U S A
0	3	France
2	3	Ireland
0	2	Luxembourg
0	2	Norway
0	1	Austria
0	1	Germany

12 of the Assistant referees qualifications have already expired or are due to expire

### Only 15 Countries that have Qualified Referees

Total 81 Referees                      38 Qualified Referees season 2018  
less 43 expired

### Referee Training Courses are currently run by the Chief Referee

This involves a lot of Travel, Time and Expense and even just re-training or re qualifying of lapsed qualifications would take several years.

With our rapidly expanding organization this is not practical

With this in Mind and following on from discussions at last year's AGM the Training Sub Committee are proposing a training program that will enable the training of Assistant Referees and Referees on a regional or National basis.

*Implementation of the Training Plan that will need to deliver :*

- Uniform , Consistent and Standardized training and qualification in whatever country or language it is presented.
- Currently the proposed Plan and Qualification is available in French and English

### Who will Present Courses

*It is envisaged that there will initially be 5 or 6 people who will be authorized to present courses and oversee qualification process.*

*In the longer term it is hoped that each country will have someone qualified to present the courses*

*Ideally we would need:*

- Experienced Referees.
- Experience of presentation of training programs.
- A Variety of languages

### In order to ensure that a Uniform , Consistent and Standardized training and qualification program is presented

*It is proposed that prior to roll out of program that there be a meeting of approved course presenters, Senior referees and members of rules committee to clarify any areas of concern and also so that all presenter will give consistent answers to the unusual circumstances and scenario questions that always asked during courses.*

**It has clearly proven that Face to Face meetings are far more productive than email trails . With more achieved in an hours meeting than several weeks or even months correspondence by email and that's not even taking into consideration language barriers**

That initial meeting will in the long term save on expenditure and more efficient use of time.

Remote participants could be fully involved via Internet

### WHO SHOULD PRESENT COURSES ?

We already have several Senior Referees who have said that they would be prepared to help with the role out of assistant Referee and Referee Training program but

Should we accept

Independent Candidates?

or

Country Nominated Candidates?

### **THE COURSE PAST ,PRESENT & FUTURE?**

The inaugural Course was held by Peter Dale in Belgium in Dec 2013 was a two day course. Most of the candidates already had experience as referees and the course was to enable the successful candidates to become Certified IMGAs qualified referees.

Peter then held a similar course in Wales June 2014

USA and Norway and New Zealand also had new referees certified

### **THE COURSE PAST, PRESENT & FUTURE?**

I held a course in Australia in November 2015 . As they also wished to have Assistant Referee training as well . I turned Peters course around putting Peters day 2 as assistant referees course with the then successfully candidates of assistant referees course eligible to take referees course on second day or at a later date.

Day 1 Focus on CR. Rules Competitions Rule

Day 2 Focus on GR. Rules – General Rules and wider repercussions of referees role.

Following on from course in Australia and inline with discussions at last years AGM . I have since held courses in Northern Ireland, England and Canada using the format that was used in Australia

Day 1 Assistant Referees

Day 2 Referees ( for candidates who must have passed an assistant referees course with pass rate of 85%)

Many of the candidates who initially only wished to take assistant referees course, but some of them actually then decided that they would also like to take referees course and were successfully in passing both

### **THE COURSE PAST, PRESENT & FUTURE?**

The Current course and the proposed future course is basically a restructured version of Peter and Keith's original course but the emphasis in training is now towards inexperienced and not experienced candidates.

**Assistant Referees** candidates will sit the same format of exam as the old referees course with a pass mark of 80% required

( To date there has been a successful pass rate of around 90% of candidates)

**Referees Course** for candidates who have passed assistant referees course with 85% pass rate.

The referees course covers wider aspects of the rules and officials duties and responsibilities.

Having already achieved the old referee qualifying level by sitting assistant referees exam and passing with over 85%

Also when ever possible a practical element is involved

Its has been determined that it requires a different skill set to be a Referee as apposed to being an Assistant Referee.

To access these we have added a further test element. A short written paper asking Candidates how they would deal with some unusual scenarios to.

### **Referee's Levels of Qualification**

In the past referees who have successfully passed referees course have immediately gone on to Official IMGAs certified referees list

It is proposed in the future that Referees that have qualified through exam process become qualified

#### ***1\*(Provisional)referees***

In order to be added to IMGAs certified referees list they need to achieve 2\* level ( Certified) they can achieve this by completing at least 10 sessions of refereeing that includes all age groups starting with younger age groups.

After completing their sessions they can then apply to be verified by appointed official Senior Referee or Senior Official

Some candidates who have passed old Referees exam with 100% would even by their own admission not make good referees. That is why it is important that practical experience with support and verification is achieved before being added to certified register.

The register of qualified referees should be kept by each individual nation.

A copy of those registers should be sent to IMGAs Chief Referee who will liaise with website coordinator to maintain up-to-date listing of qualified referees 2 Star\*\* and above on IMGAs website

#### ***2\*\* Star Referees ( Certified)***

For referees who are confident and capable of refereeing at local level at any age group without assistance. To progress to next level they must complete a minimum of 10 Sessions refereeing Sessions of which a minimum of 4 sessions must be at open level.

Upon completion of their minimum sessions they should then be assessed (over minimum 4 hours /Sessions) by two different senior referees or senior officials to approve progress to next level. The register of qualified referees should be kept by each individual nation. A copy of register should be sent to IMGA Chief Referee who will liaise with website coordinator to maintain up-to-date listing of qualified referees on IMGA website.

### **3\*\*\* Star (Championship level) Referee**

For referees who completed levels 1 and 2 and have been assessed to show that they have capabilities of working in the pressured environment of Championship Finals.

To participate at next level they need to referee on regular basis at National Final level and experience higher levels of competition in other countries if it is not available in one's own country.

### **4\*\*\*\* Star (International level) Referee**

Referees who regularly referee at National finals level in all age groups at the highest level.

To remain at their existing level of qualification referees must participate on a regular basis with a minimum of four competitions a year with at least one at their qualified level.

All referees may be open to continuous assessment and if their standard falls below what is expected they can be at any time re-evaluated and level of qualification dropped to standard that meets their abilities. In order to regain original qualification levels they must once again go through qualifying procedures

*It is appreciated that some countries will have less competitions and personnel than other larger more active countries.*

*Hopefully they can work together with neighbouring countries and even possibly arrange exchange visits to some of more active countries.*

*I'm sure countries I like France and GB would be very accommodating.*

*In the short-term there may need to be some flexibility but in the longer term these are the objectives we will be looking to achieve.*

Requalification for existing referees whose 3 years are running out .

It is suggested that anyone who has consistently ( Several times a season every year since they qualified) acted as referee at national competitions retain their qualification at level 2 but can apply to become level 3 and 4 by giving details of the refereeing they have been doing over previous three years.

Anyone who has not been consistently refereeing over previous three years would need to retake referees course and progress through new procedure.

*Referees whose 3 year period is elapsed should send details of their refereeing activity to IMGA Chief Referee in order to remain on IMGA official Referee list*

### **Assistant Referees Qualification**

Any Referee is only as good as their Assistant Referees .

It is essential that we encourage members to become qualified as Assistant Referees

Whilst currently it is required that all IMGA sanctioned have qualified Assistant Referees we are far off from achieving this.

IF we are to take our sport seriously we should set a time frame in which all IMGA affiliated countries National Events are only officiated by qualified Assistant Referees.

**Currently people who have never even seen a rule book let alone read one are officiating at IMGA Sanctioned Events**

**We can and will Improve !**

# Attachment for item 3.5 World Team Championships (Open and U17)



## World Team Championships Belgium 2018



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### 1. Introduction

Supported by the LEWB, the French-speaking wing of the Belgian National Federation (FRBSE), which is acknowledged by the BOIC and the FEI, the BEPOCLAS will organise the 2018 World Team Championships, for the Open and -17 age groups. We have chosen the Hippodrome de Wallonie at Mons-Ghlin to welcome this friendly family and sports event. Actually this location already hosts regular national and international competitions in many different equestrian disciplines. During the Championships, which will take place from **August, 20<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> 2018**, visitors will be able to go around the arena, in the exhibitors' village and the catering area. Beside the sports results, this event will enable all the participants to start new relationships and to simply have a good time together.

### 2. The Showground

After organising international competitions in the past years, which brought together over 40 teams, we were sure that the Hippodrome de Wallonie, located in the region of Mons, was the ideal location to organise the 2018 Mounted Games Team Championships. This choice is based on the numerous advantages that we will outline in this presentation.



The Hippodrome de Wallonie, located near the woods in the countryside, is known to be a location of competition of a high quality level. This lovely and secure location offers an environment that is pleasant for all the riders, ponies and supporters.

### 3. Geographical position

The Hippodrome de Wallonie is particularly well located because it is close to the highways linking Belgium to its neighbours. It is very close to the French border (50 km away) and Luxemburg is only 220 km away. There are many other ways of getting to the competition location: the close railway station of Mons, Charleroi – Brussels-South Airport (45 km), the capital city of Brussels (80 km) with its airport and its high-speed railway station. As far as the teams from across the Channel are concerned, the nearest harbours are Ostende (150 km) and Calais (187 km).

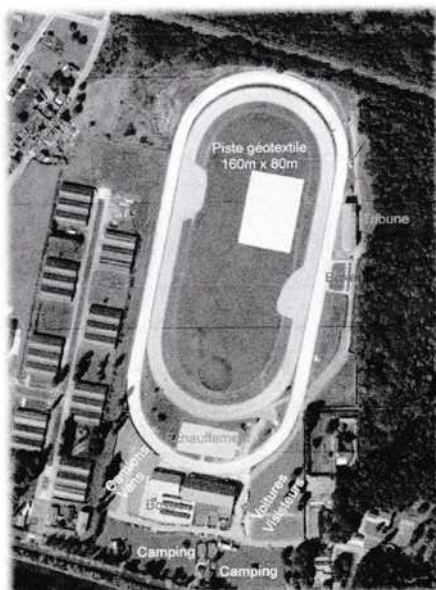


### 4. Event facilities

The initial location has been set up to host riders and has already got a lot of conveniences that may be upgraded according to the number of teams. From now on, we can already rely on the following infrastructure:

- A single entrance with a gate
- A geotextile arena (160 m x 80 m)
- Vehicles and accessories to maintain the arenas
- A visitors' carpark (100 vehicles)
- A closed stand to welcome people and evening entertainments
- Catering area
- A closed area for teams (trucks, horse trailers, stabling...)
- A camping area on grass
- Sanitary facilities for women and men
- An outside arena dedicated to the warming-up before the competition (50m x 25m)
- Technical accommodation: electricity, water and outdoor lighting

## 5. Showground Map



## 6. Internal security

The location is entirely fenced off and accessible over a single road closed by a metal gate. Some additional crowd control barriers will be placed on the competition location, in order to clearly define the areas open to the public, those restricted to camping and the competitors' areas.

## 7. Accommodation

### On site

The campers will set up their tents on the grass area. Lorries and campervans will be parked on a specific carpark. Each team will have an electrical connection type E, any additional electrical connection will be charged.

### Outside the showground

The region of Mons offers a variety of different forms of accommodation. Within 30 km, you will find 50 hotels, 30 rest houses and 20 campsites. A list of the addresses will be established and published on the competition's website.

## 8. Stabling

Temporary stabling will be added to the 99 existing stables, placed in a closed area, near the lorries, to host the ponies.



## 9. Borrowing Ponies

The organising committee will establish a list of pony providers and give it to teams who ask for it. We would like to ask the teams who need pool ponies, to inform the organising committee before January 1st, 2018. The foreign teams, helped by the organising committee, will make the arrangements for their pool of ponies.

## 10. Sanitary facilities

Temporary showers will be available near the camping area and the lorry park. In addition to the existing toilets, some temporary toilets will be placed near the arena. Showers for horses can already be found near the stables.

## 11. Office

The office will be established in the closed stand, where the management of the competition, the vouchers delivery and the information desk will be centralised. An "event" tent will be added alongside the arena, where riders and supporters will be able to purchase beverages and fast food catering. As far as the other meals (breakfast and dinner) are concerned, a catering area will house a self-service restaurant. A specialised catering company will be in charge of the whole catering management.



## 12. Staff

### Technical staff

Experienced technicians in electricity, plumbing and mechanics will be available during the whole of the event.

### Medical staff

A first-aid centre will be composed of :

- A first-aid doctor
- 2 specialised nurses
- 1 physiotherapist /osteopath
- 2 first-aid vehicles
- 1 adapted room

### Equine staff

The following specialists will be on duty in order to guarantee a high standing of ponies' welfare:

- A veterinary
- A horse ambulance
- A blacksmith
- An equine osteopath will be available on request

## 13. External security

We will ask the federal and local police services to regularly visit the event location in the daytime. At night, a security service will control the entry points and the exits and will patrol the premises (stabling, car parks and campsite).

## 14. Activities

The organisation of cultural and/or sports activities in the days before the competition will help riders and supporters meet and get acquainted. Here is a non-exhaustive list of the interesting sights to see and things to do in the region:

- Visit of the giant boat lift of Strépy-Thieu
- "Le Grand Large" pool complex
- Pairi Daiza Zoo



## 15. Entry fee

---

The budget has been defined, the entry fee is 3.600,00 € (excluding pony rental).

The entry fee includes :

- ↗ 6 stables
- ↗ 5 breakfast and 4 dinners for the 6 riders and the trainer (1 per team)
- ↗ The Gala Dinner for the 6 riders and the trainer
- ↗ Access to the sanitary facilities
- ↗ 1 electrical connexion
- ↗ Access to evening entertainment
- ↗ 7 entry tickets to the « Le Grand Large » aquatic complex.

## 16. Communication

---

The success of such an event also depends on the media at all levels, before, during and after the competition. We are considering using a lot of different communication channels to advertise Mounted Games to a wide audience:

- ↗ Local and national televisions
- ↗ Local and national radio stations
- ↗ A specific website dedicated to the event with livestream
- ↗ The LEWB (Wallonia Brussels Equestrian League) website [www.lewb.be](http://www.lewb.be)
- ↗ EquiTV, LEWB webTV
- ↗ Local and national newspapers
- ↗ Posters

## 17. Contact


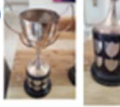

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- ↗ Organising team Bepoclas: [contact@bepoclas.be](mailto:contact@bepoclas.be) - [www.bepoclas.be](http://www.bepoclas.be)
- ↗ For administrative matters: Florence Hennuy – LEWB secretary:  
[mga.belgium@lewb.be](mailto:mga.belgium@lewb.be) - [www.lewb.be/discipline/poneys-games](http://www.lewb.be/discipline/poneys-games)

## Attachment for item 4.2 Trophies

### IMGA Trophies - The Glory, the Lost and the Broken

#### Open World Team Championships

- **World Champions – Churchill Cup**
  - Won by Ireland in 2017
  - Currently in good condition
- **Reserve World Champions – Derbyshire Cup**
  - Won by Wales in 2017, still in South Africa
  - More engraving space required, dent by one handle
- **Outstanding Horsemanship – Druro Cup**
  - Not presented in 2017, given to Belgium for presentation at WTC in 2018
- **Highest Placed of the Original Six Nations (Canada, England, Northern Ireland, Scotland, USA and Wales) – Ulster Cup**
  - Won by Wales in 2017, still in South Africa
  - Very poor condition, needs re-silvering, no engraving space



#### U17 World Team Championships

In 2015 USMGA presented a trophy to winners, England  
In 2016 England took the trophy to Ireland and won, but were presented with a new trophy purchased by Ireland  
Did New Zealand, champions in 2017, receive a third trophy?  
I am chasing all team members to try and find both/either trophy

#### World Pairs Championships

- **Open – Mike Gleadow Memorial Trophy**
  - Won by Joe Garnett and Colin Verdelhan in 2017
  - Small dent on front
- **U17 Champion Trophy**
  - Won by Katie Deas and Gwen Williams
  - Good condition
- **U14 Champion Trophy**
  - Won by Martina Badia and Bernardo Boscalgi in 2017
  - Good condition
- **U12 Champion Trophy**
  - Won by Sam Hopkins, Mackenzie Norton Phibben in 2017
  - ??

## World Individual Championships

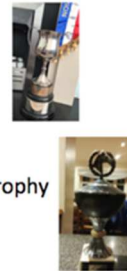
### Open

- Champion–  
Eddie Bullied Memorial Trophy
  - Won by Widukind Moormann in 2017
  - Unattached to base, handles broken, no engraving space
- Highest placed Lady – Lynn Wilson Memorial Trophy
  - Won by Amy Wiltshire in 2017
  - ??
- Highest place non-British rider – Razara Trophy
  - Won by Widukind Moormann in 2017
  - Good condition



### U17

- Champion Trophy
  - Won by Dione Walters in 2017
  - Good condition, engraving band could be re-silvered
- Youngest Rider in Final - Dapple Trophy
  - Won by Charlie Yates in 2017
  - Good condition



### U14

- Champion Trophy
  - Won by Amelia Swann in 2017
  - Good condition
- Winning Pony – Emma Williams Memorial Trophy
  - Won by Hattie (Amelia Swann) in 2017
  - Good condition



### U12

- Champion Trophy
  - Won by Sam Hopkins in 2017
  - Unattached to base, no engraving space
- Highest placed Girl – Sunny Memorial Trophy
  - Won by Poppy Shaw in 2017
  - ??



## European Championships

- Open Champion Trophy
  - Won By England in 2017
  - ??
- U17 Champion Trophy
  - Won by Wales in 2017
  - Good condition
- U14 Champion Trophy
  - Won by England in 2017
  - Corner broken
- U12 Champion Trophy
  - Won by Wales in 2017
  - Good condition



- Individual Champion
  - Won by Jake O'Connor in 2017
  - Good condition
- Service to the European Championship - Chairman's Trophy
  - Won by Quentin Voeltzel in 2015
  - ??



## Nations Team Championships

- Champions – Masterton-Duvenage Trophy
- Won by USA Stars in 2017
  - Not returned by Australia, 2016 winners as damaged
  - Currently in South Africa - damaged



## Keith Martin Trophy

- To be awarded to an outstanding individual rider at the Open World Team Championships as chosen by all team trainers.
- In recognition of Keith Martin's service as Chairman of IMGA

To honor his service to the sport

KEITH HAS DONE SO MUCH FOR THIS GREAT SPORT, HE DESERVES SUITABLE RECOGNITION

Someone who has guided the fate of the association for such a long time, it is only appropriate and worthy of his merit

He has been at the forefront of MGA all my riding and coaching life and has a lot to be proud of what he has achieved

## Attachment for item 4.4 WHS/OHS Register / Risk Management

### IMGA Risk Appetite Statement

Risk Appetite Range			
	Low Appetite	Medium Appetite	High Appetite
Philosophy towards risk taking	IMGA tolerates as little risk as possible with a cautious approach towards taking risk	IMGA takes a balanced approach to risk taking	IMGA takes an aggressive approach towards risk taking and will tolerate a higher level of risk for increased benefit or to achieve our strategy
Preferred approach to addressing the risk	Risks that cannot be effectively mitigated are avoided	There is no preference and the risk treatment will be considered depending on the context and benefit to IMGA	Preference to reduce or tolerate risk through internal measures

Key Activity	Qualitative Risk Appetite Statement	Level of risk IMGA is prepared to tolerate	
		Desired	Current
Operations			
International Championships	We have a high appetite in relation to the scheduling and conduct of International championships. These are conducted annually in participating nations and regional championships like European Championships and Under 17 world teams.	Number and spread	Number and spread
Committee Processes	We have a medium appetite for risks associated with the processes that plan and administer / conduct International and National committee processes which empower the prudential oversight of championship preparations to ensure success. (I.e. timelines for site reviews can be stretched if required)	Timely assurance	Timely assurance
Expansion of the sport	We have a high appetite in relation to the spreading of mounted games as a sport throughout the world.	Marketing and support	Marketing and support
External perceptions			
Brand & reputation	We have a medium appetite for taking risks that build our reputation as a facilitator of exciting high quality International championships and events. We have a low appetite for taking risks that could damage our brand and reputation as a well organised and competent sports administration body and event management organisation.	Building Reputation Reputation damage	Building Reputation Reputation damage
People			
Health and Safety	The willingness to tolerate risks to the health and safety of officials, volunteers, competitors, spectators and ponies is low, no matter the location of an activity or championship. This does not mean that inherently risky activities are avoided; rather, health and safety risks are identified and managed to the best extent possible and, if after consideration of the residual risks the risks remain intolerable, they are to be avoided.	Health and Safety	Health and Safety
Governance			
Fraud and Conduct	We have a low tolerance for fraud or misconduct (harassment, discrimination, bullying, stealing, rough riding, cruelty to mounts; disrespect to officials, drug and or alcohol abuse).	Misconduct Unethical or corrupt activity	Misconduct Unethical or corrupt activity
Legal, compliance regulatory considerations	<b>No appetite</b> for compliance breaches that: impact on IMGA's ability to continue to administer and grow the sport; may result in harm to IMGA officials competitors, spectators or the ponies; and may lead to prosecution of executive committee members, officials or competitors, or cause significant damage to IMGA's reputation.	Breaches that impact ability to administer and grow; Result in: - Harm - Prosecution - Significant damage	Breaches that impact ability to administer and grow; Result in: - Harm - Prosecution - Significant damage

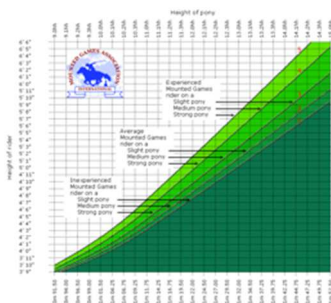
## Attachment for item 4.5 Height and Weight Graphs

### TOO BIG FOR YOUR PONY?

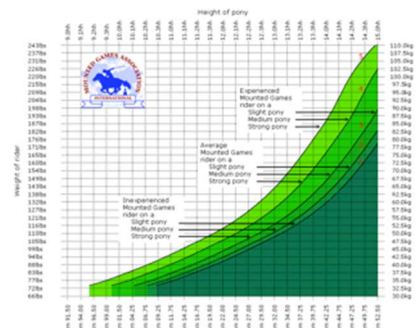


Most of us know if a pony is too small for its rider.  
But others do not have the knowledge or experience, so need rules to guide them.

### What is wrong with what we have?



The charts are hard to read Experience of rider and build of pony are subjective but can make a difference of 22kg (48lb) and 30cm (1 foot) for the ride.



### What does research show?

*Evaluation of Indicators of Weight-Carrying Ability of Light Riding Horses. Debra M. Powell, MS, PhD, Karen Bennett-Wimbush, MS, PhD, Amy Peeples, AAS, BS, Maria Duthie, BS, Ohio State University Agricultural Technical Institute, Wooster, Ohio*

Horses undertook mounted standard exercise test carrying 15, 20, 25, or 30% of their body weight. Heart rate was monitored and blood samples were taken pre-exercise, immediately, 10 minutes and 24 hours post-exercise.

- Heart rates remained significantly higher when the horses carried 25% or more of their body weight.
- Plasma lactate concentrations immediately and 10 minutes after exercise were higher when horses carried 30% of their body weight.
- Horses showed muscle soreness and tightness when carrying 25% or more of their body weight.

### Proposed rule

Riders should weigh not weigh more than 20% of their pony's body weight

### How do we do this?

*A Comparison of Weight Estimation Methods in Adult Horses. Elizabeth L. Wagner, PhD, Patricia J. Tyler, MS Department of Animal Sciences, Auburn University, Auburn, AL*

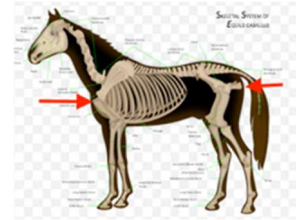
The best way of estimating weight is using a formula based on measuring the heart girth and body length from point of shoulder to ischial tuberosity (point of buttock)  
What is the formula?



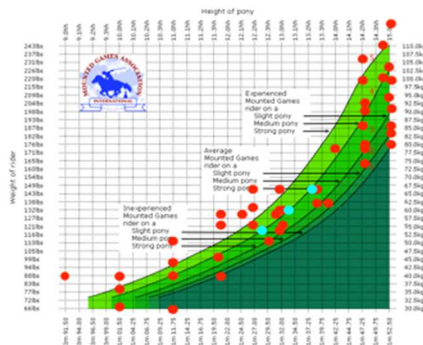
1. Make sure the pony is standing square and is relaxed.
2. Measure the heart girth from the lowest point of the wither passing as close to the back of the elbow as possible, keeping the tape tight
3. Measure from the point of shoulder to the point of buttock

In kg and cm, weight =  $\frac{(\text{Heart girth})^2 \times \text{Length}}{11,880}$

In lb and inches, weight =  $\frac{(\text{Heart girth})^2 \times \text{Length}}{329.5}$



Is this a change?



Calculated weights and pony heights from MGA members

Pony Club UK's maximum weights for games riders

### Potential problems

- If a pony is fat it does not mean it can carry a heavier rider!
- The formula is based on the pony being fit, not fat.
- Ideally ponies will be so that you can easily feel their ribs but not see them.
- If they are fatter or thinner then the weight they can carry should be reduced

### But what about tack?

Yes, a pony's tack is part of the weight it carries, as are the rider's hat and boots  
However, the research has shown that:

1. A pony is unaffected at a 20% load, so the tack and hat and boots can be safely ignored
2. The formula tends to slightly underestimate pony bodyweight

### What about rider height?

A good guideline is that the pony's wither should not be more than 10cm below the rider's horizontal arm.

However, it is the weight and build of the rider and the pony that is most important as to what looks acceptable.

## Attachment for item 4.7 Membership Criteria Checking

Procedure 9 of the IMGA Procedure Manual currently states:

### **Procedure 9** **Checking Compliance with Membership Criteria**

9.1. *A checklist covering all the requirements member countries are expected to fulfil is maintained by the IMGA Development officer.*

9.2. *The checklist is distributed to all International Representatives biennially in odd numbered years by the end of September at the latest. It must be completed and returned to the IMGA Development officer with supporting documentation (where required) by the 31st December of the same year.*

9.3. *Failure to provide the correct documentation by the deadline, or failure to comply with any of the requirements, results in suspension of the membership of the offending country and no request for an affiliation fee payment will be sent for the following year.*

9.4. *If the documentation is submitted after the 31st December, a request for affiliation fee payment will be sent as soon as the documentation has been satisfactorily checked and payment of the affiliation fee will then automatically reactivate that country's membership.*

9.5. *In such a case, all late payment fees still apply from the beginning of the year.*

Membership Criteria currently are as follows:

*The Initial membership criteria (for national organisations applying to join IMGA) are:*

- *The candidate member organisation must provide a letter requesting membership to the IMGA Development Officer*
- *The candidate member organisation must be able to show that they offer membership within the requirements of IMGA's non-discrimination policy (see the equality statement) to all those who wish to join their organisation*
- *The candidate member organisation must have an initial executive consisting of a minimum of three members residing in the country applying for membership*
- *The candidate member organisation must have 5 active riders*
- *The candidate member organisation must have a clear and concise understanding of the dynamics of IMGA, its structure, governing rules and regulations, constitution and the rules governing the sport of mounted games*
- *The candidate member organisation must appoint a country representative to serve on the IMGA committee*
- *The candidate member organisation must provide details of all other organisations within their country for which mounted games is known to be the main or a major activity*

*The long-term membership criteria (for national organisations which have been members for two or more years) are :*

- *A member organisation must have a written democratic constitution which provides members with the ability to elect all members of its executive unless membership of its country's National Equestrian Federation prevents this*
- *A member organisation must have at least 10 active riders*
- *A member organisation must have a written plan to grow the sport of mounted games within their country*
- *A member organisation must take steps to become a sanctioned member of that country's Equestrian Federation*
- *A member organisation must attend either an SAGM or an AGM at least every two years. Attendance may be by electronic means but submitting a proxy vote is not considered as attendance*

- *A member organisation must take steps in team development to be able to send at least one rider to at least one IMGA sanctioned competitions every two years. This could be a team, individual or pairs competition*
- *A member organisation must hold national mounted games championships annually or at least have a competition structure in place*

These criteria refer to an Equality Statement, which is :

*The International Mounted Games Association is committed to the principles of equality of opportunity and aims to ensure that no individual receives less favourable treatment on the grounds of age, gender, disability, race, ethnic origin, nationality, colour, parental or marital status, pregnancy, religious belief, class or social background, sexual orientation or political belief, except where this may conflict with local/national laws and regulations. This includes all those involved in mounted games in whatever capacity: riders, parents, employees, trainers, officials, other volunteers and spectators.*

Issues to be resolved:

1. The procedure states that the responsibility for checking compliance with membership criteria resides with the IMGA Development Officer. However, this procedure was written prior to the creation of the IMGA Compliance Sub Committee with whom this responsibility more naturally resides.
2. The procedure caters for the possibility that compliance documentation is provided after the deadline but gives no final deadline. There must naturally come a point where we can wait no longer and membership is cancelled.
3. Similar to the previous point, we have in place a system whereby penalties are applied to members who do not pay their affiliation fee by the requested deadline. These are added monthly but there must come a point where the continued addition of penalties no longer makes sense and membership should instead be cancelled.
4. From an administrative point of view, membership criteria are hard to reference due to them simply appearing in a list and not being individually identified by a number.
5. There is a “catch 22” in the current set-up. A member can be found to be in breach of membership criteria if they have not “taken steps in team development to be able to send at least one rider to at least one IMGA sanctioned competitions every two years” or if they have not “attended either an SAGM or an AGM at least every two years”. If they are in breach their membership is cancelled however this leaves them with no opportunity to ever fulfil these criteria as they have to be members in the first place to be able to attend an IMGA sanctioned competition, AN SAGM or an AGM!
6. In the past concerns have been raised about new members who may not yet be fully active and whether they should have full voting rights within the association like all others.

To address all of these points it is proposed that the following set of principles with regard to membership and the rights that this entails should be adopted:

***In order for riders to compete at IMGA-sanctioned events they must be a member of a national organisation that:***

- *Is fully compliant with all membership criteria with the possible exception of criteria 2.5 and/or 2.6 OR, in the case of national organisations in their first two years of membership, is fully compliant with criteria 1.1 – 1.7, and*
- *Has satisfactorily submitted all compliance checking paperwork, and*
- *Is not indebted to IMGA*

***In order for a national organisation to have full voting rights within IMGA, it must:***

- *Be fully compliant with all membership criteria, and*
- *Have satisfactorily submitted all compliance checking paperwork, and*

- Not be indebted to IMGGA

**A national organisation will no longer be a member of IMGGA if either:**

- It fails to produce satisfactory compliance checking paperwork within six months of the due date, or
- It remains indebted to IMGGA for a period of twelve months

In order to support these principles, the following changes (marked in red) are required to Procedure 9 of the IMGGA Procedure Manual and the Membership Criteria:

**Procedure 9**

**Checking Compliance with Membership Criteria**

9.1. A checklist covering all the requirements member countries are expected to fulfil is maintained by the IMGGA ~~Development officer~~ **Compliance Sub Committee**.

9.2. The checklist is distributed to all International Representatives biennially in odd numbered years by the end of September at the latest. It must be completed and returned to the **Chairperson of the IMGGA Development officer** ~~Compliance Sub Committee~~ with supporting documentation (where required) by the 31st December of the same year.

9.3. Failure to provide the ~~correct~~ documentation by the deadline, ~~or failure to comply with any of the requirements,~~ results in suspension of the membership of the offending country and no request for an affiliation fee payment will be sent for the following year.

9.4. If the documentation is submitted after the 31st December **and before the 30<sup>th</sup> June**, a request for affiliation fee payment will be sent as soon as the documentation has been satisfactorily checked and payment of the affiliation fee will then automatically reactivate that country's membership.

9.5. In such a case, all late payment fees still apply from the beginning of the year.

**9.6. If the documentation is not received before the 30<sup>th</sup> June, the membership of the offending country will be cancelled.**

**9.7. In cases where submitted documentation is found to be either incomplete or shows evidence or suspicion of a breach in the IMGGA membership criteria, the IMGGA Compliance Sub Committee Chairperson will report any issues to the member country concerned at the earliest possible time.**

**Through ongoing dialogue both parties will attempt to resolve any issues found. If this is not successful the membership of the offending country will be cancelled unless the issue(s) are confined solely to membership criteria 2.5 and/or 2.6. In such cases, the country's membership will be placed on probation and affiliation fee payments will be requested the following year as usual.**

**9.8. A member country whose membership is placed on probation loses all voting rights within IMGGA until such time as membership criteria 2.5 and/or 2.6 are satisfied and the probation is thereby lifted. All other rights remain the same.**

**9.9. Countries whose membership has been cancelled (as a result of 9.6. or 9.7.) may reapply for membership of IMGGA at any point after the cancellation. In order to do so, the country must fulfil all membership criteria at the point of re-entry and not only the initial membership criteria (as is the case for entirely new members). If the country concerned is unable to satisfy membership criteria 2.5 and/or 2.6 at the point of re-entry but can satisfy all other criteria, their reactivated membership will be placed on probation (see 9.8.) until such time as these criteria have been satisfied.**

The Initial membership criteria (for national organisations applying to join IMGGA) are :

**1.1. The candidate member organisation must provide a letter requesting membership to the IMGGA Development Officer**

**1.2. The candidate member organisation must be able to show that they offer membership within the requirements of IMGGA's non-discrimination policy (see the equality statement) to all those who wish to join their organisation**

**1.3. The candidate member organisation must have an initial executive consisting of a minimum of three members residing in the country applying for membership**

**1.4. The candidate member organisation must have 5 active riders**

**1.5. The candidate member organisation must have a clear and concise understanding of the dynamics of IMGGA, its structure, governing rules and regulations, constitution and the rules governing the sport of mounted games**

**1.6. The candidate member organisation must appoint a country representative to serve on the IMGGA committee**

*1.7. The candidate member organisation must provide details of all other organisations within their country for which mounted games is known to be the main or a major activity*

*The long-term membership criteria (for national organisations which have been members for two or more years) are :*

*2.1. A member organisation must have a written democratic constitution which provides members with the ability to elect all members of its executive unless membership of its country's National Equestrian Federation prevents this*

*2.2. A member organisation must have at least 10 active riders*

*2.3. A member organisation must have a written plan to grow the sport of mounted games within their country*

*2.4. A member organisation must take steps to become a sanctioned member of that country's Equestrian Federation*

*2.5. A member organisation must attend either an SAGM or an AGM at least every two years. Attendance may be by electronic means but submitting a proxy vote is not considered as attendance*

*2.6. A member organisation must take steps in team development to be able to send at least one rider to at least one IMGGA sanctioned competitions every two years. This could be a team, individual or pairs competition Policies*

*2.7. A member organisation must hold national mounted games championships annually or at least have a competition structure in place*