

International Mounted Games Association – 3rd International Council Meeting Tuesday, August 11, 2026

Parc Équestre Fédéral – Lamotte-Beuvron, France - 16:00 CET

IMGA Officials:

Conor O’Leary	Chairperson	present
Quentin Voeltzel	Vice Chairperson	present
Jens Martin	Finance/Administration	absent
Lizzy Franck	Communication	online
Widu Moormann	Development	present
Mark Crowe	Chief Referee	present

International Representatives (V – Voting member):

Jemima Gardiner (V)	Australia	online
Rachel Lechner (V)	Austria – proxy held by Mark Crowe	online
Robin Donnay (V)	Belgium	absent
Michelle Cruikshanks (V)	Canada	present
Elijah Zhangxiaotian (A)	China (for Leo Liang)	online
Jette Holst Jonsson (V)	Denmark	absent
Pete Walters (V)	England(for Elaine Trevor Jones)	present
Stéphane Tardif (V)	France	present
Widu Moormann (V)	Germany (for Volker Baasch)	present
Suresh Kumar (A)	India	absent
Jerome O’Connor (V)	Ireland	present
Andrea Farinetti (V)	Italy (for Andrea Piazza)	present
Lizzy Franck (A)	Luxembourg	online
Sue Robertson (V)	New Zealand	absent
Nick Tougher(V)	Northern Ireland (for Allister Hamilton)	present
Anne Kjensli Strøm (V)	Norway	absent
Ali Fawad Chadhary (A)	Pakistan	absent
Ewa Obrycka-Blaut (A)	Poland	absent
Bridget Scott (V)	Scotland	present
Nick Sloane (V)	South Africa	absent
Quentin Voeltzel (V)	Sweden	present
Marino Kammermann	Switzerland	absent
Quentin Gargallo (V)	Switzerland	online
Paul Greiling (V)	USA	online
Nikki Beach (V)	Wales	absent

Guests

Christian Jones – USA
Edoardo Boss - Italy
Giorgia Valente – Italy - Italian Federation
Jonathan Marion – France
Mats Hensel – Germany
Paul – Australia
Valentin Kozet – France

Meeting Agenda

Item 1 Introduction

- Welcome and Attendance

Introduction by Chairperson Conor O’Leary includes welcome to attendees, and preview of a key purpose of this meeting being to ratify Widu’s proposal regarding IMGA strategic goals, growth measurement, and the process for submitting proposals to the AGM.

Development Officer Widu Moormann is attending online to speak to the proposal and to review for those in attendance, the strategic goal workshop results from December 2025. Formal adoption of the proposals arising from this workshop some time ago are sought at this meeting.

- Please refer to the Proposal document shared by Conor via email May 12, 2026. See also Annex 1 below.

Item 2 Minutes from May 20 Meeting

- Shared electronically with International Representatives prior to the meeting date by Chairperson Conor.

Item 3 Proposal from Development Officer Widukind Moormann

(See Annex 1 for proposal document)

Discussion/Questions/Comments

- Questions - Italy
 - What are the criteria for growth? –
 - How measured?
 - How are the proposals evaluated to ensure that they are part of the strategic goals?
- Response – Development Officer Widu – A proposal submission form would be introduced with all proposals considered if possible. To avoid strategic drift – which is discussion of matters not within the scope of the current strategic goals - the Board would review submitted proposals for alignment with the key IMGA strategic goal(s). A process of proposal editing and refinement would occur between the Executive and the proposer(s) so that proposals reaching the AGM are clear in their stated goal(s), alignment, containing sufficient background and information for the required action to be taken at the AGM e.g. discussion, vote.
- Reiteration of the original question above with a specific request to ensure that e.g. safety issues are not put to the side since they might not reflect the main goal of ‘Grow the Sport’.
- General recognition that matters of safety and pony and rider welfare are important to consider and that the IMGA sub-Committees continue to be active in these matters.

- The concept of Proposal Applications and Executive Board Review as further explained by Conor and Widu provides for proposals coming to the AGM in better condition for presentation, prioritised for consideration on the AGM agenda. The AGM would feature enhanced, concise and focused discussion, reflecting the desire for inclusion of and due process for items to do with the main goals of IMGA.
- The intent of the AGM as an opportunity to ensure consideration of all important matters brought to the table was reiterated.

Voting on the Proposal

- **Proposal 1** Implementation of Annual Growth Indicator Reporting within the IMGA Compliance Process (See Annex 1).

Voting Representatives - 13

8 – Yes – In person
 3 – Yes - Online
 0 – No - In person
 2 – Abstain - In person

Total: 11 – Yes; 0 – No; 2 - Abstain

The proposal is accepted.

- **Proposal 2** Implementation of a Strategic Alignment and Proposal Prioritisation Framework within IMGA Governance (See Annex 1).

Voting Representatives - 13

7 – Yes – In person
 3 – Yes - Online
 2 – No - In person
 1 – Abstain - In person

Total: 10 – Yes; 2 – No; 1 Abstain

The proposal for prioritisation of proposals is accepted.

Item 4 Mexico Adventure Update

- Lizzy provided a very positive report on the first Mounted Games competition featuring additional international riders in Mexico. She notes that there were amazing ponies and that the efforts to provide suitable equipment were great. For the competition, they were fully equipped with Australia and New Zealand, along with Lizzy, contributing equipment.
- Lizzy reviews the application process and notes that there were spaces for 8 riders; there was a good mix of players with excellent support from family members who were knowledgeable and able to organise, referee, etc.
- Lizzy reports that 20 applicants filled out a form to be considered. Information for applicants was provided ahead of time

- Generally agreed by those involved that it would be great to see future such competitions with attendance by international riders supporting a country's developing mounted games program.
- The riders included a mix of Mexico riders with the visiting riders – 6 UK, 1 US, and 1 AUS.

Item 5 Protocol for motions/proposals put forward for the 2026 AGM

- Chairperson Conor notes that based on acceptance of the Strategic Goals proposals of Item 1, the Board will meet immediately to develop the protocol for the AGM, currently scheduled for November 14/15, 2026.
- The proposals coming to the AGM would be by topic aligned under the main categories identified as a result of the December 2025 Strategic goal setting workshop. Vice-Chairperson Quentin provides additional clarity that rather than accepting and addressing proposals as they arrive chronologically for the AGM agenda, they will be prioritised according to the IMGA strategic goals.

Item 6 Discussion Items Currently on the agenda for the 2026 AGM:

Discussion/Questions/Comments

- Return to the matter of the AGM – discussion of meeting venue location as optimally right beside airports rather than attendees having to depart for lengthy drives to the airport, missing parts of Sunday's meeting to make flights home.
- **For AGM 2026 the discussion / motions/ proposals so far suggested:**
 - Mark is proposing a return to the **seeding system discussion** since it doesn't seem to be working for pairs and Individuals. The review after one year of implementation did not occur as planned at the AGM 2025
 - **Breathalyser discussion** to be reconsidered:
 - Some matters are not in the protocol e.g.:
 - how many sessions to be missed for a trainer in contravention?
 - Also, notification to the home country organisation for trainers who fail
 - Many trainers for Individuals have very late notification home.
 - IMGA officers taking frontline role to also be tested
- **Timing of competitions** for logistical purposes needs to be discussed with the calendar year and travel distances considered; the distances for 2027 are tricky; country bids need consideration of dates and distances

- For WTC – there are very strong bids put forward but there is objection to the summer temperatures; there is the possibility for good acceptance of WTC bids proposing dates in October.
 - Suggestion made that the WTC be assigned a certain calendar slot e.g. Sept / Oct.
 - Reminder made that this year was complicated due to Norway pulling out and Quentin's offer to host European Team and Individual competitions separately.
 - WTC for Sept / Oct –further discussion is needed due to the impact of international championships on National competitions and championships
 - Noted that the move of Pairs to May that one year really eased the calendar
 - Germany as an example of a place where there is impossible scheduling for a WTC that late in the year
 - Additionally noted that summer bookings of venues is nearly impossible during the high competition season – e.g. Australia has no possibility of booking a venue in January/ February, their summer season
- **Pool pony allocation and sourcing** has become very problematic and impacts the feasibility of nations to host the WTC; Australia reflects on the ponies available to them and the work that was done to encourage contributions of skilled ponies; opinion expressed that Europe has excellent calibre ponies but these are not showing up for overseas teams
 - The draw process could be improved/revisited
 - Discussion continued about challenges to finding true pool ponies capable of challenging the European countries riding their own, high-calibre ponies
 - Nations countries committee originally elected to establish a hosting roster and accepted the notion of all riders competing on pool ponies – rider skill across countries would be tested rather outcome being based on significant differences in pony skill and experience – this notion did not stand up in the hosting countries
 - Quentin V. – pony provider – outlines that a good system involves owners developing trust by staying and trying to work with the riders to ensure that all parties are pleased with the pairing of pony and rider, and the care provided by the rider
- Discussion continues re: pool pony question with acceptance that developing relationships and trust from pony owners is key – in today's world pony ownership challenges and costs is making owners very cautious about loaning ponies
 - Economic factors suggested for the observation that fewer riders seem to have second ponies, green ponies previously offered for the pool
- Discussion sought regarding significant **differences in country organisations** so that there are differences between support personnel and committees, and volunteers
- Noted by Chairperson Conor that these last topics result in substantial discussion with suggestions; We will return to these at the AGM
 - These are examples of discussion that can go on, circle around, and go in several directions. The goal of the AGM proposal process is to ensure that proposals are as complete, clear, and aligned as possible with the directions of IMGA.

- **Composite teams** – offered at Europeans for U12. Although not taken up, the idea of composite country teams is now out there and may form the basis of future considerations.
- Chief Referee Mark returning to topic of **bidding for hosting**, countries' bidding could include potential dates given the challenges of venue booking. The bid could include – “we can host either September or May or ... etc. in e.g. 2030.”

NOTE – Addendum to meeting notes - Chief Referee Mark:

- For this year's AGM, Mark requests adding to the Agenda an Item for discussion and clarification:
 - **What will the vaccination standards of IMGA vaccination be?**
- Mark suggests that IMGA consider and compare the current FEI standards with the variations which are in place country to country. Currently there are variations - we need to identify a standard so that countries are then able to declare their compliance.

Item 7 Any Other Business (AOB)

Current World Team Championship

- Competition conditions:
 - Use of the Wet Bulb Globe Thermometer – Today Conor did some readings near the side of arena at 2:30 with a reading of 27; on the far side, the reading was 29. Note that we can start sessions at temperatures as high as 30;
 - Reminder that in Italy, there were readings fluctuating close to 30
- Use of the WBGT – will continue taking readings
- Note that as an example, today the session would have continued based on the readings from the WBGT.
- The question of the start for e.g. Thursday – could it go as early as 7:00?
 - Considerations of personnel perspective for ring prep ahead of the session
 - Also significantly a matter of the spacing between session - In a competition having a range of categories, it is possible to adequately spread the times for pony welfare. At this competition, there are only two groups so that a ride early in the morning would still require a significant gap until later in the day
- All parties committed to advance contingency planning based on pony and rider welfare; discussions and solutions under ongoing consideration by all.

Adjournment 17:27 CET

Annex 1 – Agenda Item 1

IMGA Proposal 2

Integration of Growth Indicators into the IMGA Compliance Process

Proposal Title

Implementation of Annual Growth Indicator Reporting within the IMGA Compliance Process

1. Competitive Participation Score

Definition:

The Competitive Participation Score represents the total number of rider participations in organised Mounted Games competitions during a calendar year.

Calculation:

- Individual Competition = 1 participation point
- Pair Competition = 2 participation points
- Team Competition = 5 participation points

A rider participating in multiple competitions contributes multiple participation points.

2. Unique Competitive Riders

Definition:

The number of individual riders who have participated in at least one organised Mounted Games competition during the calendar year.

Each rider is counted once only, regardless of the number of competitions attended.

3. Competition Definition

For the purpose of this reporting:

A competition is defined as:

“An organised Mounted Games event with defined teams, officials, and published results.”

4. Reporting Requirement

All member nations shall:

- report both Growth Indicators annually as part of the IMGA Compliance Process;
- provide the figures for the previous calendar year;
- and submit the information by the compliance deadline determined by IMGA.

5. Transitional Implementation

To establish an initial baseline:

- member nations shall retrospectively provide the Growth Indicator figures for the calendar year 2025.

The first official recurring annual reporting cycle shall begin with the 2026 compliance process.

6. Purpose of the Indicators

The Growth Indicators are intended to:

- provide a shared factual baseline;
- support strategic discussions;
- help evaluate long-term participation trends;
- and improve understanding of sport development across member nations.

The indicators are not intended to:

- rank countries;
- compare national performance;
- or create sanctions.

IMGA Proposal 1

Strategic Alignment & Proposal Prioritisation Framework

Proposal Title

Implementation of a Strategic Alignment and Proposal Prioritisation Framework within IMGA Governance

Background

Over recent years, the IMGA has benefited from a high level of engagement, voluntary work, and a large number of constructive ideas and initiatives brought forward by member nations, Sub-Committees, and the Board.

At the same time, discussions during the Strategic Alignment Workshop highlighted the risk of strategic drift — a situation in which many valid and valuable ideas compete for attention without a clearly defined shared prioritisation logic.

During the workshop and subsequent discussions, member nations expressed clear support for recognising the Growth of the Sport as IMGA's primary strategic priority for the current phase of development.

This proposal is intended to provide a practical and transparent framework that helps align proposals, discussions, and organisational focus with this agreed strategic direction, while preserving the existing governance structure and voting rights of International Representatives.

Proposal

The IMGA shall adopt the following strategic alignment framework:

1. Strategic Direction

The IMGA formally recognises:

Primary Strategic Priority

- Growth of the Sport

Supporting Strategic Areas

- Professional Development of IMGA
- Better Rider Experience
- Maintaining MGA as a Family-Oriented Sport

The supporting strategic areas define how IMGA grows and what values should be protected during growth.

2. Proposal Submission Framework

All proposals submitted by:

- International Representatives
- Sub-Committees
- The IMGA Board

shall be submitted using a standard IMGA Proposal Submission Form.

The form shall require:

A. Primary Strategic Alignment

The proposer must identify the proposal's primary strategic alignment.

B. Strategic Contribution Statement

The proposer must provide a brief explanation describing:

- how the proposal is expected to support Growth within the next 24 months;
- whether the proposal is expected to contribute to:
- Competitive Participation Score;
- Unique Competitive Riders;
- or indirect structural support for Growth.

3. Procedural Board Review

The IMGA Board shall perform a procedural review of submitted proposals prior to circulation.

The purpose of the review is limited to:

- confirming completeness of the submission;
- confirming that strategic alignment is clearly identified;
- confirming that contribution logic is understandable and transparent.

The Board review shall not constitute:

- content approval;
- political approval;
- or a restriction of voting rights.

If information is incomplete or unclear, the proposal may be returned to the proposer for clarification.

Final decisions remain with the International Representatives through the existing voting structure.

4. Proposal Prioritisation

During the current strategic phase:

- proposals expected to contribute directly to Growth may be prioritised within agendas and discussions;
- proposals aligned with other strategic areas remain valid and eligible for discussion and vote.

This framework is intended to provide strategic focus and consistency, not to prohibit proposals.

5. Sub-Committee Alignment

When establishing, reviewing, or continuing Sub-Committees, the IMGA Board shall consider:

- the strategic purpose of the Sub-Committee;
- and how the work of the Sub-Committee supports IMGA's agreed strategic direction.

6. Governance Clarification

This proposal does not:

- alter the governance structure of IMGA;
- remove proposal rights from member nations;
- change voting rights of International Representatives;
- or create additional executive authority for the Board.