



**Board Meeting
29th January 2015 – Brussels
Minutes**

Attendees:

Roly Owers, WHW - World Horse Welfare
Florence Gras, EPMA - European Pari Mutuel Association
Stefan Johanson, HNS - Swedish Horse Council Foundation
Jesper Moller Nielsen, FEEVA, Equine Veterinarians

Excused

Klaus Miesner, World Breeding Federation for Sport Horses
Bo Helander, EEF - European Equestrian Federation
Pierre Lekeux, Hippolia Foundation

1. Approval of the agenda

Agenda was validated with 3 items added:

- Cooperation with American Horse Council
- Membership of Racing authorities (P. Casier concern)
- Horse Conference by Ouest France 2nd Edition (first draft).

BETA representative cannot attend the Board for a presentation but will do it next time.
Daniel from COPA will also attend the next Board.

2. Validation of minutes of previous Board meeting – 2nd September 2014

Minutes are approved without modifications.

Florence needs to contact Constance from FFE regarding Equestrian Tourism membership.

3. EU documents

Guidance documents for Fitness for transport and watering (attached) are completed and will be sent to all EHN members (publication on EHN web site?).

Draft Equine Welfare report will be sent by Roly to all for comment.

4. MEP Horse Group

Today's meeting: Excellent meeting well prepared with a good mix of MEP, EU representatives and experts.

Next MEP Horse group meetings:

Horses for Growth and Environment: The draft leaflet circulating (prepared by Pit) needs to be updated with more economic/sustainable information (jobs)

Could be scheduled on 26 May or 3/4 June – see with Julie Girling for availabilities.

A focus on How to finance the Horse sector could also be scheduled for a future meeting - a demand from Jean Arthuis (French MEP). Florence will contact him.

Stefan said that the zootechnical regulation is also very important on the market. Michel Dantin is rapporteur for the AGRI committee in the Parliament. EHN will see if a meeting could be organised late April. Klaus will be contacted on the issue.

5. Key figures about European Horse sector

In order to finalise the document, Florence will contact EEF to agree on common figures as well as review figures presented in the Equine Report.

6. Finance Report

EHN has a demand to finance speakers at the joint session with EAAP in Warsaw (€6,000 budgeted to support attendance of speakers at this event) and to organise a 2 days event for its AGM in Brussels in October.



7. EAAP seminar in Warsaw – August 2015

EHN (Pierre and Stefan) have discussed with EAAP to suggest a draft workshop programme:
Title: INNOVATION AND RESEARCH FOR DEVELOPING THE HORSE SECTOR – EQUINE PRACTICE IN SCIENCE

2 sessions + Round Table

Developing Equine practice into Science

- Equine Practice into science – what does this mean? Nicoletta Miraglia + Ana Sofia Santos
- Where is the horse sector developing? Where are we going with the equine industry? Francoise Clement (IFCE) (EHN sponsored)
- Innovation and research in Equine Science and practice

Research in Horse – Human interaction - where are we?

- Horse role in Human life in the 21st century – Rhys Evans
- How to be sure that high level competition is compatible with health and welfare in horses? Michela Minero (from the veterinary faculty of Milano) (EHN sponsored)
- Equitation Science – Horse perspective – Carissa Wickens (University of Florida)

Round Table – funding horse research (Stefan Johanson/Pierre Lekeux)

- How to fund the equine research?
- How to fund interdisciplinary research?
- The need to fund international coalitions in research.
- Horse Welfare -- The need to understand humans, as well as horses.

Comments from EHN Board members:

At the round table session about funding, it is important to have a representative from EU Commission (from Horizon 2020 or AGRI Research) another from a national Ministry and also from any branch/industry which has been successful with fund-raising at the EU-level.

Look for lower fees to attend the workshop if people from the industry will only attend one day (€1500 for participating to all EAAP annual conference). Essential if EHN is a partner and look for the possibility to attract its members.

EHN agrees to co-finance “our speakers” with approximately EUR 400 per person.

8. Document on education and training in the Horse sector

The document is completed with information from France, Sweden, Germany and the full list of Vet schools.

Florence will collect more information from other EHN members and from more education facilities in different countries.

9. EHN – Update Action plan 2015

The next AGM in Brussels should be a 2 days event.

The Action Plan is updated.

10. Added items to the agenda

American Horse Council – Jesper met a representative of AHC at the US Equine practitioners Annual Convention in December and they discussed the possibility to cooperate with EHN.

AHC association represents all segments of the horse industry and works daily to represent equine interests and opportunities.

Founded in 1969, the AHC was organized by a group of horsemen concerned about federal legislation affecting their industry. The AHC promotes and protects all horse breeds, disciplines and interests by communicating with Congress, federal agencies, the media and the industry.

Stefan will contact AHC to ask about the possibility to exchange information between them and EHN.



Philippe Casier, from EMHF expressed his concern over too many **structures in EHN representing Racing**, EMHF, UET, ETF, and EFTBA. EHN Board sees such representation as a benefit and not a constraint. It will bring more expertise in EHN and coherence in the activities of the different Federations. In the Principles for EHN we also have a model for electing Board members which handle this issue. Stefan will contact Philippe for give him this information.

Horse Conference in Caen in September 2015 – first draft content proposal sent by the organiser, Ouest France. Topics: How to finance the Horse Industry? Impact of VAT since new level in France, Germany, Horse end of life/welfare
2 topics are of interest for EHN but the location is again difficult to welcome more Horse industry players from outside France.
Florence will keep the contact with Ouest France.

Next steps:

- **MEP Horse Group meeting PR + Report (Florence, Jesper, Roly)**
- **Action Plan 2015 update (Florence)**
- **Date for next MEP Horse Group (May or June) Florence will contact Alison**
- **Contact Jean Arthuis (MEP) about the possibility to meet to discuss the economy/finance of the Horse industry (Florence)**
- **Contact Michel Dantin (MEP, rapporteur on zootechnical regulation) for a meeting (Florence)**
- **Update the EAAP workshop (Pierre, Stefan)**

Next Board meetings in Brussels

29th April – 11.00 a m – 15 p m (TBC)

2nd September – 11.00 a m – 15.00 p m

AGM 2015

21st and 22nd October – Afternoon seminar with a dinner and AGM on 22.

Next MEP Horse Group proposals:

26th May or 3/4 June 2015 (TBC)