



WTC

WORLD TROTTING CONFERENCE

SWE 2019

GENERAL ASSEMBLY



CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE REPORT

ITA MEMBERSHIP



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No new membership applications have been received.



SCHEDULE FOR FUTURE WTC AND WDC

Current Schedule:

- 2019 Sweden
- 2021 Europe (still open) – UET to confirm in October 2019
- 2023 New Zealand
- 2025 Europe, UET to confirm
- 2027 United States of America
- 2029 Europe, UET to confirm

DATE AND VENUE FOR 2020 INTER-CONFERENCE MEETING



Germany during summer of 2020 – date to be confirmed



ITA CONSTITUTION

A proposal from Sweden to change 4C in the Constitution were discussed and partly clarified with addition and approved (new text underlined):

4 C Every member country shall, in addition to its official delegates, be entitled to have not more than four observers duly appointment by the member countries. These observers shall not have the right to vote at meetings of the Conference but otherwise have full rights under the authority of the delegates. The chairholder of the committee shall always be a delegate. In addition, interested persons who shall be classified as visitors may attend meetings of the international Trotting Association at the discretion of the host country, providing they obtain the accreditation of the member country of which they are resident.

ITA CONSTITUTION



From the Inter-Conference in Stockholm 2018, the question about the need of an organization or someone working between the conference:

The committee discussed the importance that all agreements made during the conference are actually implemented. It was suggested that the committee chairmen be given the responsibility to follow up and report to members what happens between conferences. The incoming conference chairman will endeavor to arrange a meeting of the committee chairmen at the opening of the next conference, and perhaps beforehand in conjunction with the inter-session meeting, to assemble progress reports from the committees. These reports will be distributed to the ITA members as a means of assessing the status of each goal/commitment made at the previous WTC, and also as a way for members to prepare for upcoming discussions.

MEMBERSHIP FEES



Review and confirmation of the schedule of maximum fees the host country can charge. The conference fee was set at \$ 2000 for delegates, observers and accompanying persons (no change).



LIFE MEMBERSHIP OF THE ITA

Nominated and carried 2019:

- Andrew Kelly, Australia.
- Guillaume Maupas, France.
- Mike Tanner, USA.
- TC Lane, USA.

MATTER BETWEEN IRELAND AND GREAT BRITAIN



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Constitution Committee Statement:

The Constitution Committee recognizes the philosophical disagreement that currently exists between the British Harness Racing Club (BHRC) and the Irish Harness Racing Association (IHRA). While the Committee finds the situation unfortunate and regrettable, the International Trotting Association constitution does not provide the ITA with the autonomy necessary to effect a solution in this matter. Moreover, the ITA is not the proper forum at which to debate this topic. Rather, the issue is specific to the BHRC and IHRA, and should be contemplated by those organizations. It is our sincere hope that in the best interests of trotting, a resolution satisfactory to both parties will be reached in short order.



BREEDING COMMITTEE REPORT



PROPOSALS ITA 2019 – BREEDING COMMITTEE

Proposal nr 1

The use of semen from a dead stallion or one that has been gelded is forbidden and not to exceed the end of the breeding season following his death or date of gelding. No foal may be registered for an insemination performed beyond this time limit.



PROPOSALS ITA 2019 – BREEDING COMMITTEE

Proposal 2

That ITA member countries limit the number of services annually per stallion by either a number of services or a percentage (%) of the registrations in the studbook, regardless of method. No foal may be registered from an insemination performed beyond this limit, and a financial sanction shall be applied (to the Stallion Owner).



PROPOSALS ITA 2019 – BREEDING COMMITTEE

Proposal 3

ITA members adopt country of origin code ISO 3166 suffix to two letters.



PROPOSALS ITA 2019 – BREEDING COMMITTEE

Proposal 4

That member countries prohibit the registration of foals born as a result of frozen embryo (ovum) transfer or sex sorting techniques.



PROPOSALS ITA 2019 – BREEDING COMMITTEE

Proposal 5

Only the country of origin can change the name of the horse. Once the horse is imported to another country, the name cannot be changed by the new home country.



EQUINE HEALTH, WELFARE & INTEGRITY COMMITTEE REPORT



RECOMMENDATION 1 - WHIP

The whip can only be used for correction or light prompting up to 400 meters from the finishing line.

Any use of the whip after that cannot be in quick succession and a horse must have a chance to respond prior to using again. Horses should not be whipped if they are tired, out of contention or after the finishing line.

All corrections and prompting must be affected with a rein in each hand, the whip pointed forward and in the confines of the sulky.

The drivers shall refrain from any brutality, kicking, boxing, excessive goading, blows to the sulky and other equipment is not allowed.

Penalties should be severe and suspensions are the preferred method of penalty.



RECOMMENDATION 2 – PROHIBITED SUBSTANCES

Zoledronic Acid and Bisphosphonates

The Nordic Countries will collate scientific data relating to the impact and effects of using Zoledronic Acid and Bisphosphonates (Tildren® and Osphos®).

This is an emerging issue and all ITA Members are asked to consider rules regulating its use in younger horses, particularly those not yet 4-years of age.

Altrenogest

If a horse returns a positive test to an anabolic steroid, including if it is claimed as a result of using

ltrenogest (Regumate® et al), then it should be treated as per the anabolic steroid rules in each country.

RECOMMENDATION 3 – PROHIBITED PRACTICES



The procedure of firing (pin and or bar (thermacautery)) a horse should be banned.



RECOMMENDATION 4 – GENE DOPING

Substances or other agents that directly or indirectly affect or manipulate gene expression should be banned for racing and breeding.

No foal may be registered from a mare or stallion who has been subjected to gene manipulation.



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MARKETING & BUSINESS COMMITTEE REPORT

1. LAUNCH INTERNATIONAL HORSE RANKING POLL



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Establish agreed upon criterion for an international poll ranking the top horses worldwide and design a marketing strategy to promote to industry by January 2020.



2. CREATE/BUILD AN “IDEA COOKBOOK”



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Working with national racetracks determine best ideas that have created excitement and interest at the racetrack or for the sport in general. Each ITA member will submit and upload to the ITA portal a minimum of one idea in a two page document detailing how and why the idea was effective (“inspiration”) and the instructions and order of the promotion (the “recipe”) by March 31st, 2020, and to be continuously updated at least every six months.



3. SOCIAL MEDIA (THIS WAS/IS THE RECOMMENDATION FROM 2017)



ITA members to connect various social media platforms to strengthen communication, interaction and engagement among racing fans by having each country list and follow the other members social media accounts by January 2020.





RACING & WAGERING COMMITTEE REPORT



RECOMMENDATIONS AND STATEMENT

Members of the Racing and Wagering Committee would like to reaffirm the main conclusions of the 2017 World Trotting Conference in Canada which underlined:

- The importance of exchange of data between ITA members for the export of racing and bets;
- The necessity to inform governments of the positive economic impact of the trotting/horse racing industry in each country;
- The assurance that all authorized wagering operators collecting bets on races complies with the relevant rules and regulations applicable to combating Fraud and Money Laundering;
- The support of provision 5, Chapter 8: “Regulations on Wagering”, Article 7 from UET International Agreement on Trotting Races, which applies to the funding of races. This article states members should strive to ensure a minimum fee of 8% is collected from domestic betting operators, and a minimum fee of 3% from International jurisdictions, to return to the horse racing organizations.



RECOMMENDATIONS AND STATEMENT

As presented at the WTC Stockholm conference, under the theme “CHANGE”, the Racing & Wagering committee is conscious that:

- New competitors such as sports betting and poker requires a strong response;
- Deregulation of the betting market in several countries demands that Racing and Betting authorities re-think the branding of our product (trotting races and types of bets)

The committee encourages the sharing of information and innovations between ITA members through uploading and updating on the ITA portal

Committee acknowledges that the ITA portal presently is underutilized and would recommend that all member countries familiarize themselves with the software available.



RECOMMENDATIONS AND STATEMENT

- As a first reply, the Racing and Wagering Committee recommends that all ITA members will encourage the creation of an international bet on the main trotting races organized in the world, in a common pool.
- Therefore, an establishment of a list of races is a priority, as is the participation of selected betting companies.
- As a second reply, the Racing and Wagering Committee recommends that all ITA members will encourage racing authorities to adapt to the digitization of the sport to assist in attracting and accommodating new customers, specifically a younger audience.