

## **Federation of European Equine Veterinary Associations**

"FEEVA was created in Strasbourg in 1998 when equine veterinary practitioners from different EU countries met to discuss with European Parliament members the medical regulation issue about horses.

Restriction of authorized medicines to treat horses was a threat to horse health and welfare.

Since that time, numerous national equine veterinary associations have joined FEEVA to work on all the subjects related to horse care and protection across Europe together with good public health outcomes".

\*'They' shall mean any gender.

\*\*'Horse' and 'Equine' shall mean and include horses, ponies, donkeys and their hybrids.

## **S T A T U T E S**

### **Chapter I: Foundation and purposes**

- Art. 1: The professional organisations of equine veterinarians that exist in European countries and that have accepted the present statutes have created an international association. This association is called the Federation of European Equine Veterinary Associations (FEEVA).
- Art. 2: The headquarters of the Federation is the Federation of Veterinarians of Europe (FVE) office.
- Art. 3: The duration of the Federation is unlimited.
- Art. 4: The Federation is a non-profit-making organisation and its purpose, bearing in mind horse health and welfare is:
1. To undertake the representation of its member associations in international organisations.
  2. To organise a mutual defence of the independent aspect of the equine veterinary profession, in particular in its relations with public bodies and private companies.
  3. To reinforce any member association in its relations in any given country.

4. To promote the Public Relations of the equine veterinary profession.
5. To participate in the harmonisation of national methods of prevention of epizootic diseases.
6. To ensure, if needed, the defence of its member associations before international judiciary powers.
7. To promote the harmonisation of relevant legislation.
8. To promote the exchange of everything in scientific, education, social, legal, economic or fiscal fields that could be useful to the equine veterinary profession.
9. To consider and advise the appropriate European authorities on EU Directives, Regulations and Decisions on drafts and proposals relating thereto, whenever they have equine veterinary implications.
10. To promote liaison with and discussion between organisations representing other professions with common interests to those of the equine veterinary profession.
11. To advance the status and interests of the equine veterinary profession in Europe by promoting inter alia :
  - (a) the provision and exchange of information on matters affecting the equine veterinary profession.
  - (b) greater understanding by persons external to the equine veterinary profession of the role and status of the profession.
12. To pursue such other activities as may from time to time appear to FEEVA to be appropriate, in particular the defence of the interests of FEEVA member associations. In a general manner to study, from a European point of view, all the problems that concern the equine veterinary profession.

## **Chapter II:**

### **Registration - Conditions of eligibility**

#### **Art. 5:**

1. Any European national recognised association representing the equine veterinary profession in Europe can become a member of the Federation.

2. Admission to the Federation requires a written application addressed to the General Secretary's office. The General Assembly decides on admission by a two-thirds majority vote.

To be admitted as a member the organisation shall:

- (a) forward a written application to the FEEVA General Secretary accompanied by the necessary documentation that establishes the organisation as being eligible for becoming a member.
- (b) Submit a copy of the Association's constitution in English.
- (c) accept the statutes of the FEEVA and the internal rules of procedures.
- (d) be accepted by the General Assembly.

### **Chapter III: Fees**

- Art. 6:
1. Each member organisation pays an annual fee to the Federation. The amount and apportioning will be determined by the Board and presented to the General Assembly for approval.
  2. The fee is paid for the duration of the calendar year. Fees must be paid within two months of receipt of the request for payment.
  3. If, after three requests, a member organisation fails to pay the fee, it will lose its right to vote in the Federation. If delays in payment occur for two successive annual fees, the General Assembly can decide on the exclusion of the member association

### **Chapter IV: Board of Directors**

- Art. 7:
1. The board of directors will be elected from amongst the member associations. It shall consist of six members and include:

The President

Four Vice-Presidents

The Treasurer.

The founder President and Treasurer shall serve their initial term for three years. Then their mandate may be renewed once for two years.

2. Thereafter, members of the board of directors will be elected for a period of two years. The mandate can be renewed once for two years.

3. By way of exception to Art.7.2., the board of directors may ask the general assembly to allow a board member to serve for more than 4 years and this can be permitted on an annual basis following a vote of the general assembly with a majority of two thirds.

- Art. 8:
1. The President will direct the Federation and represent it in all acts of civil life and before the courts. They will convene the Board of Directors and the General Assembly and will act as Chairperson at these assemblies. The General Assembly will approve the minutes thereof.
  2. In case of absence a Vice-President will represent the President. If necessary, the Vice-President will be asked by the General Assembly to act as chairperson on a temporary basis, by a simple vote of those present. During the following meeting, the General Assembly will decide if permanent replacement or successor is required for the President alone or on a re-election of the board of directors before the normal date of vote.

- Art. 9:
1. The President will manage the secretariat. They will sign, in agreement with the Treasurer, all official documents and papers.
  2. The secretariat will employ the necessary administrative staff as agreed by the President, and with the approval of the General Assembly.

- Art. 10:
1. The Treasurer will be in charge of the funds, of the accounts and of all matters concerning these. They will be responsible for the assets of the Federation. They may transfer into their own national currency at a convenient Bank all the funds of the Federation.
  2. They will pay in to the FEEVA bank account the members' fees and all sums paid on behalf of the Federation.
  3. On request, and after approbation by the President, they will make all necessary payments, transfers and deductions from the accounts.
  4. The financial year starts on 1 January and ends on 31 December each year.
  5. At the next meeting of the General Assembly the Treasurer will present to the General assembly, a written report on the income and expenses of the preceding year and on the balance of the accounts, and projections for the following year. This is also

applicable for the last meeting of the General assembly at the end of the Treasurer's mandate.

6. If necessary and feasible, the Treasurer will make proposals on financial management that will be decided upon by the General Assembly.

Art. 11:

1. The board will appoint an Auditor to audit the accounts annually.
2. The auditor will verify the financial administration and accounts and report the results of that verification at the first meeting of the General Assembly after the financial year ends. Before the Treasurer finishes their mandate they are required to present a written audit report at their final attendance of a General Assembly meeting.
3. In addition, an audit on the financial administration and accounting is allowed at any given time, if it has been deemed necessary by the auditor concerned with the audit of the accounts or if it is requested by at least three national delegations.

## **Chapter V:**

### **General Assembly**

Art.12:

1. The General Assembly shall have the following powers:
  - a. FEEVA policy making.
  - b. admission and expulsion of members.
  - c. adoption of the internal rules of procedure.
  - d. fixing of members' annual contributions.
  - e. appointment and removal of the members of the Board of Directors.
  - f. supervision of the Board of Directors.
  - g. adoption of the financial report, accounts and projections for the following year.
  - h. amendments of the statutes.
  - i. dissolution of the FEEVA.
2. The General Assembly is presided over by the President. The General Assembly will meet where indicated on the convocation, which must be sent two months in advance of the meeting together with the agenda to member associations.
3. The General Assembly shall meet at least once a year.

4. A General Assembly must be convened when the Board has decided it or requested by at least half of the member organisations.
5. The General Assembly is composed of all the member associations of the Federation. Each member association may have a maximum of two delegates.
6. Convocation to the General Assembly and a tentative agenda established by the Board will be forwarded by the President to member associations with at least two months notice before the meeting, to allow associations to convene.
7. On the agenda must appear at least the President's report, the financial report from the Treasurer and the audit of accounts report.
8. In addition to the published agenda, the Board can decide on what matters will be debated.
9. Every participant at the General Assembly has a right to be heard and to ask questions.
10. Members of the Board of Directors can act as delegates.
11. Each country has one vote at the General Assembly. In the case of there being more than one member organisation from the same country, the delegates of those member organisations must decide amongst themselves how they will cast the single vote they share on behalf of their country. If an agreement cannot be reached their country's vote will be registered as an abstention.
12. The General Assembly has a quorum when at least half of the members of the General Assembly are present.
13. If the General Assembly does not have a quorum, the President can direct that the General Assembly will be entitled to operate but the decisions reached will be subject to ratification at the next meeting.
14. Decisions are made by simple majority votes. When there is equality of votes, the President will have the casting (decision) vote.
15. Decisions taken by the General Assembly when a quorum is present are binding.

16. If a General Assembly cannot or does not take place all matters shall be decided upon by the Board of Directors.

17. An Extraordinary Meeting of the General Assembly may be convened by the President or at the request of at least half of the member associations.

**Chapter VI: General Specifications**

Art. 13: 1. The business of any General Assembly shall be confined to the items on the agenda for that meeting. Items may be added at the start of the meeting. Such items can however only be discussed and cannot be subject to a formal decision.

**Chapter VII Amendments to the Statutes.**

Art 14: 1. The Board or any member association can propose to alter the statutes.

2. All proposals concerning modifications of the statutes must be addressed, at least three months before a meeting of the General Assembly, to the board of direction who forwards these requests to all member associations within a month. In exceptional cases, shorter delays are acceptable provided there is agreement of at least two-thirds of member associations.

3. A modification of the statutes must appear on the agenda of the meeting where it will be decided.

**Chapter VIII: Dissolution of the Federation**

Art 15: 1. The Board or any member association can propose to wind up the Federation

2. Dissolution of the Federation will be pronounced by a General Assembly specifically called for that reason and where member associations will be convened with at least two months notice and with indication of the agenda.

3. Dissolution will be decided by a two-thirds majority of votes. If the necessary number of votes is not available, a new meeting of the General Assembly shall be convened under the same conditions to

decide on the said proposal whatever the number of delegations present or represented.

4. Vote by mail is allowed in cases of necessity. In that event, dissolution is decided if at least half of the votes are favourable.

Art. 16:

1. The General Assembly shall decide on the procedure to be adopted for the winding up of the FEEVA. In case of dissolution and after the Federation has been wound up the net assets remaining shall be divided amongst member associations in proportion to their contribution during the previous year. Sharing will be decided by the Board of Directors on a simple majority vote.

Art. 17:

1. In the case of any matter not provided for in these articles, the decision shall be at the discretion of the Board of Directors.



