ANNEX 10 CONSULTATION WITH RIDERS (2006 updates in bold)

1. Prior to the riders' first opportunity to inspect the cross-country course every Organising Committee (OC) of an international event must appoint a Rider Representative (RR) from among the riders taking part in the competition having first obtained that rider's consent. This RR has the task of acting as a channel of communication between the competitors and the officials on any matter directly connected with the event without in any way removing the right of any rider to speak to the OC, Technical Delegate (TD), Ground Jury (GJ), or Course Designer (CD). The name of this rider must be notified to the competitors at the briefing if one is held or posted prominently on the event notice board if no briefing takes place.

2. The OC will appoint prior to the start of the competition the Chairman of an Ad Hoc Committee (AHC) – see # **9** below.

3. At the end of the day on which the First Horse Inspection is held there will be a meeting of all riders should they so wish to be called by the RR. The TD and representative of the OC should attend although not the Ground Jury unless specifically requested by the TD, OC or the RR.

4. If the event is a "normal" CCI following a 'normal' timetable the RR has the right, if there are any concerns amongst the riders, to ask for a riders' meeting to take place at the end of the first day of Dressage to discuss major issues concerning the obstacles on the course and/or the distances of the course/phases. This meeting must be attended by the Ground Jury, TD, CD, and a senior representative from the OC. (If there are no issues the RR may advise the TD who will contact the OC and GJ and cancel the meeting).

5. At this meeting any such issues must be recorded in writing (the TD & RR have this responsibility) and the response of the GJ also recorded in writing and signed by the President of the GJ and the RR.

6. At this stage the riders may appoint a further two people (to join the already appointed RR) as RR's to continue the discussions with the officials and the OC. These additional two people can be anyone the riders choose and do not necessarily have to be competing at the competition.

7. A further and final riders' meeting, attended as before by all the officials and a representative from the OC, **is now required**. Ahead of this meeting the written response by the Ground Jury to any written concerns of the riders raised the previous evening shall be given to the RR's. At this meeting any final briefing of the riders will take place. If the riders are still dissatisfied with the decisions of the GJ a vote will be taken. **This should be a secret vote and the OC should assist the riders in conduct of the meeting. The issue to be voted on is "Do you accept the responses of the Event Officials, or should they be referred to the AHC for final decision?"** If a majority of the riders actually taking part in the competition (50% plus one) so agree the outstanding issue(s) will be referred immediately to the AHC for a final decision against which there will be no appeal. At this meeting any such issues must be recorded in writing (TD & RR responsibility) and the response of the AHC also recorded in writing and signed by the Chairman of the AHC and the RR.

8. The usual riders briefing on routine matters to do with last minute changes due to meteorological conditions, ground etc must still take place on the evening before the cross-country. In case of dispute on such issues, the procedure with the AHC is available for use.

9. The AHC will consist of three people appointed on the first day of the event by the OC in conjunction with the RR – a non-competing current or recent rider experienced at the level of the event, a FEI qualified CD or TD, and a third independent person experienced in the sport, e.g. an Organiser. If such people are not available at the event the OC, in consultation with the TD and the President of the GJ, must appoint a committee of similarly experienced people likely to have the confidence of the riders and officials alike. Any one of

these three people can be appointed as Chairman. The President or a member of the Appeal Jury may be appointed to this committee if suitably qualified.

10. At a CIC or CCI with only one day of Dressage it will be necessary to modify the above procedure. In these circumstances the above timetable may be compressed and/or certain steps omitted but the most important principles must be retained, i.e.:

- Concerns and responses recorded in writing
- The opportunity for riders to vote if dissatisfied
- Final decision by an Ad Hoc, independent Committee, provided a majority of starters so request

Note: It is recommended that the Ad Hoc Committee established above, whether or not it actually meets or has to take a decision, should also act as the committee of investigation reporting to the President of the Ground Jury in the event of a fatal accident to horse or rider and as the investigators required by the Ad hoc Investigation team (see FEI Eventing Memorandum/Guidelines). This recommendation is intended to avoid duplication of effort and of officials.

The above will not apply for Championships or team events (RR replaced by Chef d'Equipe) or for Young Riders, Junior of Pony events.

The article will not apply for Championships, Team events, Young Riders ***or*** *Juniors events.*