

International Alliance of Equestrian Journalists

STATUTES

(Revision 2022/Approved August 8, 2022)

Foreword

The International Alliance of Equestrian Journalists (IAEJ) was created in 1966 to promote and maintain contacts among the equestrian journalists of all nations and to interact as a body with the Federation Equestre Internationale (FEI) on issues in which the FEI and the equestrian press are both involved.

As the original character of the IAEJ as a non-professional press association did not meet with the changing nature of equestrian sport, talks began in 1973 to alter the Statutes of the IAEJ in regard to its aims, organization and at a meeting held in September 1974, a consensus was established as to the new aims and structure of the IAEJ.

The ~~present~~ Statutes, drawn up by the Statutes Commission, were adopted January 1st, 1975, and went into effect-August 16, 1975.

They were altered by decision of the General Assembly in August, 1980 at Rotterdam; and again at the 2006 General Assembly in Aachen, Germany when members approved online voting. Subsequent changes were approved by the membership in 2010 at the General Assembly in Lexington, Kentucky; and in 2018 by the General Assembly in Tryon, South Carolina. Significant alterations to the Statutes were approved on August 8, 2022 by the General Assembly in Herning, Denmark.

1. Aims

The IAEJ exists to support and advance the interests of professional journalists and photographers specializing in coverage of the equestrian industry.

Its aim is to ensure that optimal working conditions are provided by organisers of FEI equestrian events and to encourage show organisers at every level to provide realistic working conditions in line with the Guidelines for Media Operations, created by the IAEJ in collaboration with the FEI. The IAEJ will be proactive and work in tandem with the FEI, before, during and after Olympic Games, World

Championships, European Championships and Pan Am Games, to ensure the goal of good service is met by organisers and the bar is continually raised.

2. Organization

The IAEJ is made up of:

- a) the General Assembly of the active members;
- b) the Board, as elected by members.

a) The General Assembly

The General Assembly strives to meet at least once a year. Ideally, this meeting will take place at a high-profile event where a reasonable proportion of the IAEJ membership will be present. Every four years, there will be an election on the composition of the Board. An election and balloting are not required unless the number of candidates exceeds the number of vacancies to be filled.

The General Assembly will be required to vote on any alterations of the Statutes which may be presented. Only full members are allowed to vote on IAEJ matters. A two-thirds majority of current members who vote is required for statute alterations. All other decisions are made by a simple majority of members who vote. Voting may take place in person at a General Assembly or electronically via a secure online voting system.

The General Assembly receives the reports of the President and the Treasurer or Board appointed Business Administrator.

b) The Board

The Board consists of the President, the Vice-President, and five members. Of these seven, one must be from North America, one from Europe and one has to be a photographer. If none of the members desire to, nor are equipped to, assume the role and perform the services of Treasurer, the Board will hire a Business Manager to administer the business of the Alliance.

The members of the Board are elected for a four-year term. A Board member can succeed himself/herself in office for two terms only, however, on the nomination of the existing Board and by confirmation of election by majority vote of the membership, Board members may further extend their terms.

The Board is in charge of all current matters and decides on acceptance of new members.

3. Membership

The IAEJ is open, in principle, to journalists and photographers in possession of a card or a letter confirming them as professional journalists and/or photographers who regularly cover FEI sports or the equestrian industry.

a) professional journalists and photographers who are members of their national press association

b) members of the AIPS (International Association of the Sports Press);

c) editors and regular contributors to equestrian media outlets.

Membership applications which accord to the criteria and process delineated on the IAEJ website must be presented to the Board for its consideration. The Board will be responsible for setting and publishing criteria for membership and for the acceptance of new members.

A member who has not paid his/her annual membership fee for three consecutive years can be suspended in his/her rights and deleted from the members' list after being given a warning by the Board. He/she can be readmitted after settlement of the debt.

All decisions regarding a member's conduct, including violation(s) of the IAEJ Code of Conduct, and withdrawal of membership will be taken by the Board.

4. Dissolution

The dissolution of the IAEJ can only be achieved by a two-thirds majority vote of full members. The vote to dissolve the Alliance will include the terms and conditions of dissolution as determined by the Board. After all debts and accounts are settled, any remaining funds shall be donated to an international horse welfare charity unanimously chosen by the Board.