

FEI NFs PRESIDENTS

Madrid, 12nd November 2014

Dear President,

In many occasions since the beginning of the present electoral process for President of the FEI, I have stated, in meetings, in my Manifesto, in my public presentation at the General Assembly of the European Equestrian Federation, and in previous communications to all of you, that this process was being eroded by the following facts:

1. The Secretary General of the FEI is at the same time a candidate. I have said numerous times that I have absolutely nothing against Ingmar de Voss as a person or as the Secretary General, however, as a candidate, it breaks all principles of impartiality in the process. In my views, Mr. de Vos should have resigned as Secretary General, exactly at the moment that he declared himself a candidate. If not there could be an issue of conflict of interests. I personally expressed these feelings to Ingmar de Voss during the WEG in Caen, a day after he announced his candidacy.
2. The FEI announced the formation and composition of the Independent Advisory Committee. It is my opinion this Committee is essential for the good governance of an election, but in any case should have been set before the beginning of the electoral period, not after as it was. Also the independency of it, is compromised by the fact that one of its members, the FEI President, hired one of the candidates as Secretary General of the FEI.

As for the impartiality of the Committee, it is also doubtful at best, due to the fact that required an outside law firm report, to justify and defend the position of a candidate in particular. Just for this reason, in my opinion, the impartiality of the Committee is damaged.

3. On October 7th, all the candidates received a letter from the FEI that included the Rules of Conduct for FEI President candidates. I fully agree with the existence of these Rules and I view them as a necessity, however, I believe those Rules must be established, and no doubt in place, before the electoral period, and clearly before the acceptance of any candidacy. Once again the FEI has acted, in my opinion, with tardiness regarding this subject. It is plainly unacceptable that these Rules were issued one month after the closing date to present candidacies.
4. In recent days there has been a surprising movement from Mr. de Vos, where he changed, after heavily defending the dual role President-Secretary General, a view I opposed from the very beginning in light of the FEI Statutes, to the position of being a remunerated President.

Although I may be in agreement with Mr. de Vos, *“that the position of FEI President should be open to all suitable candidates and not only volunteers that can afford it”* I truly believe that this change in our structure should be done, if the NF's consider it necessary, in a proper way, not in a hurry to comply with a candidacy for President, with a deep study of the reasons why it should be made and if it is beneficial, or not for the FEI.

I am convinced it is mandatory to see what would be the real scope of this change, in my opinion very important, with all the Articles of the FEI Statutes that must be modified.

For all the above mentioned reasons I am left with the following alternatives:

- First.- Content the Elections in the FEI Tribunal and subsequent tribunals, if necessary, with the possible damage to the image of the sport that could be associated with these actions.
- Second.- Withdraw my Candidacy to the Presidency of the FEI.

With sadness I have decided the later. I do not want to damage the image of our sport in front of third institutions, like the IOC, or put under stress the Spanish National Federation that I proudly Chair, but I cannot act against my principles, and be accomplice with a process that I believe it is flawed, and does not meet the minimum democratic principles of independency, transparency and equal opportunity to all candidates.

I have notified the FEI, that I withdraw my candidacy for the position of President of the FEI.

Looking forward to see you again soon, I remain.

With Kind regards,



Javier Revuelta