



NEWSFLASH!

NEW WEB ADDRESS

We have a new, user friendly, web address:

www.igeq.org

Check out our web site for up to date news and information.

Please add a link to us on your Federation web site.

MEMBER FEDERATION FEATURE

In each issue we plan to feature a member Federation from one of the 9 IGEQ Regions in turn and we begin with The Czech Republic from Region 5.



The Czech Equestrian Federation generously hosted the IGEQ Executive meeting in beautiful Prague recently and delegates were treated to a tour of two impressive equestrian facilities. On

behalf of the Executive many thanks to our kind hosts.

This Federation has a long history, founded in 1891 and is one of the oldest members of the FEI, joining in 1927. The growth of equestrian sport in the Czech Republic sees the Federation looking after the interests of 24,000 members, 1,500 riding clubs, 6,000 licensed competitors and 7,000 horses. Show jumping is currently the most popular competition discipline. The Federation is also one of the founder members of IGEQ, attending the initial meetings in 1992.

The Czech Republic is currently developing its instructor qualifications based on the IGEQ matrix, will hold the first exams in October and has invited IGEQ Observers to attend.

MEMBERS' NEWS

Malawi – this Federation is hosting their first instructor examinations in June 2006 and we wish them every success. Di Pieterse will be in attendance as the IGEQ International Observer.

New Zealand – A very warm welcome back to New Zealand, who has reinstated their membership of the Group. A little bird tells us their delegate, Ainslee Souness, will be making the extremely long trip to Finland for their first visit to the Annual Conference.

Germany - Young Horse Clinic, Warendorf. Christoph Hess reported on the successful Young Horse Clinic in Warendorf early in 2006, which attracted 120 delegates of FEI Judges, members of the World Breeders Association and IGEQ Instructors. Congratulations to the 9 judges who passed their international examination during the clinic.

Italy - IGEQ bids a warm welcome to Barbara Ardu, who has taken over from Claudio Possenti as the delegate for FISE. We very much hope Claudio will remain involved with the Group.

Belgium - Congratulations to Anne Van Neste d'Ieteren on her appointment as President of the Belgian Olympic Selection Committee.

Israel & Malaysia – these Federations are keen for experienced instructors to visit to take courses for their junior instructors. Interested parties, please contact the IGEQ Secretary, Carole Payne.

Italy & Germany - have made some changes to their qualifications systems and have therefore invited IGEQ Observers to their new examinations. South Africa has also made improvements to their system.

NEWS FROM THE EXECUTIVE

Examination Observer Visits- Invitations have been accepted from the Netherlands, Czech Republic, Italy and Germany, all at Levels 1 & 2, which will take place in 2006/2007.

FEIF - At its recent meeting the Executive enjoyed an interesting and enlightening presentation by Hannes Kirchmayr of FEIF on the impressive education system that has been developed for Icelandic Riding instructors, which was based on the IGEQ matrix. Quote from Hannes: "Education is the best way to influence horse welfare". The Group is very keen to maintain close links with such fellow organizations and FEIF expressed a desire to cooperate closely with IGEQ in future. [A copy of the FEIF presentation is available for anyone who would like a copy (contact Carole Payne)].

Diary Dates

3-5 September 2006 – Teaching / Pedagogic Skills Seminar, Hartpury College, UK – Please encourage your Level 2 instructors to make the most of this rare opportunity to learn from a variety of high level presenters. £100 for IGEQ passport holders, £150 others, including 2 nights accommodation. Programme from Carole Payne.

2-5 November 2006 – Annual Conference at Ypaja, Finland. This is your Federation's chance to take an active part in the work of the Group and meet fellow members, so please make every effort to send a delegate to this Conference. Those who have not been before - you are missing a unique opportunity!

Watch out for future editions, which will be published on a regular basis. Forward any news items to the Editor, Di Pieterse at di@worldonline.co.uk and don't forget to check out the web site at www.igeq.org