

CHARTER OF THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION
OF GENTLEMEN-RIDERS AND LADY RIDERS

This Charter of the International Federation of Gentlemen-Riders replaces and cancels the Charter filed in 1986 with the Police Department in Paris.

This Charter was approved by several General Assemblies including those held on 7 December 1996, 12 February 2005, 4 February 2006 and 3 February 2007, 6 February 2010

Article 1 – Name

The Associations or Clubs of Gentlemen-Riders (Officers, Lady Riders and Amateurs) of the following countries: Germany, France, Italy, Sweden and Switzerland, founded on Saturday, 5 February 1955 in St- Moritz (Switzerland) the “INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF GENTLEMEN-RIDERS” (Fegentri), for an unlimited duration. These countries are the Founding Members.

Following the decision of the General Assembly held on 7 December 1996, the Association became the **INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF GENTLEMEN-RIDERS AND LADY RIDERS** (FEGENTRI).

Article 2 – Members

The National Associations of Gentlemen-Riders, Officers and Lady Riders of all countries may become Members of Fegentri.

The National Association wishing to become a Member of Fegentri shall submit a written request to the President of Fegentri, together with supporting documentation, i.e., the Charter of the Association and the list of its members and of the persons belonging to its governing bodies.

Countries that do not have a National Association of amateur riders may become “associate members” of Fegentri. Associate members may organise Fegentri races in their own countries but have no right to designate riders to participate in Fegentri races abroad. Associate members are invited to attend General Assemblies and have the right to vote.

By becoming a Member, each and every National Association agrees to comply with this Charter and with the regulations and resolutions of Fegentri.

In exceptional circumstances, the Managing Board may nominate Honorary Members upon proposal by a National Club.

Article 3 – Purpose and Activities

The purpose of Fegentri is to establish among Gentlemen-Riders and Lady Riders of different countries relationships based on comradeship and solidarity by perpetuating traditions of morality, courtesy and courage, all being characteristics of equestrianism.

With a view to the Rules of Racing of each country, Fegentri shall:

- a. promote the organisation of international races for Gentlemen-Riders, Officers and Lady Riders (flat races, hurdle races, steeple chases and cross-countries),
- b. co-ordinate official international races for Gentlemen-Riders, Officers and Lady Riders by establishing a calendar and by trying to unify general conditions thereof,
- c. keep close relationships with the official representatives of all countries.

Article 4 – Registered Office

The registered office of Fegentri is established at 1, rue du Camp Canadien, 92210 Saint-Cloud (France).

Article 5 – Administrative Year

The administrative year begins on 1 January of each year and ends on 31 December of the same year.

Article 6 – Annual Report

At the end of each year, the National Associations shall provide Fegentri with a report regarding their sporting activity, a list of their members and of the persons forming their governing bodies.

Article 7 – Membership Fees

The National Associations shall pay Fegentri an annual fee. Each year the Managing Board shall put forward this fee, which shall be settled prior to 31 March.

Associate members must also pay an annual fee.

Article 8 – Withdrawal of Members

The dissolution of a National Association results in the losing of the membership to Fegentri.

Any National Association may withdraw from Fegentri at the end of each administrative year, provided that it has announced its intention to withdraw prior to 30 September and provided that it has met all its commitments to Fegentri.

The General Assembly may revoke any National Association which would not fulfil its obligations vis-à-vis Fegentri or which would have prejudiced Fegentri's interests.

Article 9 – Governing Bodies

The governing bodies of Fegentri are:

- a. the General Assembly;
- b. the Managing Board;
- c. the Secretariat;
- d. the Financial Control.

Article 10 – General Assembly

The General Assembly is comprised of three representatives of each country at the most. Each National Association which is a full member and which has paid its annual fee may cast one vote.

The countries unable to attend the General Assembly may not be represented by another country, nor vote by correspondence. However, they have the right to send a report to explain their point of view.

The Ordinary General Assembly assembles once a year. Extraordinary General Assemblies may be convened by the Managing Board and when at least five Associations so request.

Notices shall be sent by the Secretary General sixteen days prior to the meeting.

- a. Competences of the Ordinary General Assembly

The Ordinary General Assembly is competent over any matter of interest to Fegentri and over any issue on its agenda and more in particular:

1. it appoints members of the Managing Board and the Auditors for a period of two years. They may seek re-election.
2. it approves, amends or opposes amendments adopted by the Managing Board.
3. it approves or amends the annual reports regarding management and activity of Fegentri.
4. it hears the Auditor's report and approves the accounts.
5. it elects the President.

Resolutions are taken by a simple majority of votes. The President has a casting vote.

b. Competences of the Extraordinary General Assembly

1. important decisions regarding Fegentri's future.
2. amendments to this Charter.
3. dissolution of Fegentri.

Resolutions are taken with a two-thirds majority provided that at least two-thirds of the Members be present.

Article 11 – Managing Board

a. Composition

The Managing Board comprises not less than five members and not more than eight members. The President appointed by the General Assembly is a member of the Managing Board *ex officio*. The Managing Board appoints one or more Vice-Presidents among the persons appointed to form the Managing Board.

b. Competences of the Managing Board

The Managing Board has the same competences as a Board of Directors including:

1. drafting Internal Regulations,
2. acceptance of new Members,

3. proposing the amount of the annual fee,
4. appointing Honorary Members.

The Managing Board may decide to create new categories of members provided that these members will have no vote and will not be allowed to attend General Assemblies. These members will be either private individuals or associations or corporations. Any new member must be approved by the Managing Board. The Board decides whether members pay an annual fee or a lifetime fee or are exempt. Conditions to become a member are laid down by the Managing Board.

The Honorary Members are appointed by the Managing Board for life. Their title may only be withdrawn in case of gross misconduct to be appreciated by the General Assembly. The Honorary Members form an Honorary Board who meets whenever one or more Honorary Members ask the Honorary Presidents to convene a meeting. Such a meeting must be convened within 60 days of the request. The Honorary Board may make non-binding recommendations to the General Assembly and the Managing Board. Honorary Members are invited to attend the General Assembly but have no vote.

Resolutions are taken by simple majority of votes. The Chairman has a casting vote.

The Managing Board assembles:

1. Mandatorily at year end in order to establish the following year's calendar,
2. As many times as needed, upon notice by the Chairman or upon request of at least three of its Members.

Notices shall be sent by the Secretary General or the Chairman sixteen days prior to the meeting.

Article 12 – Secretariat

The General Assembly, upon proposal by the Managing Board, appoints a Secretary General who shall be its representative and delegate. He shall:

1. keep in touch and improve its relationships with the authorities of all Member Countries and with the organisers of Fegentri races,
2. maintain a permanent relation with each national delegate or correspondent of each Club,

3. attend all meetings in order to assess whether the Regulations of Fegentri are complied with,
4. study on-site each and every country's problems,
5. contribute to the achievement of Fegentri's purposes.

In addition, he carries out the tasks entrusted to him by General Assembly and the Managing Board and, more in particular, he drafts minutes, annual reports, accounts, etc. He shall be remunerated.

He also controls the General Meeting and the Managing Board and the management of Fegentri.

Article 13 – Financial Control

Two Auditors shall be entrusted with financial control. They are appointed among the delegates. They shall look into Fegentri's accounts at year end and present a report to the General Assembly.

Article 14 – Agenda

The Agenda is established by the President of Fegentri.

Article 15 – Liabilities

Only Fegentri's corporate fund is liable for Fegentri's commitments. Personal liability of the Associations is excluded.

Article 16 – Correspondence

Correspondence with Fegentri shall be made by ordinary mail.

All correspondence to Fegentri shall be directed to the Secretary General's attention.

Article 18 – Dissolution

In the case of Fegentri's dissolution, the Extraordinary General Assembly shall appoint liquidators and shall decide upon the use of the remaining funds.

Assets shall be distributed in accordance with legal provisions.

Article 19 – Governing law

For all matters which are not regulated in this Charter, the laws of the country where Fegentri maintains its registered office shall apply.

Article 20 – International Races for Lady Riders

Fegentri may organise international races for Lady Riders “*sous les auspices de la Fegentri*” and control such races in accordance with its Sporting and Administrative Regulations.

These races shall be organised in agreement with the Secretariat of Fegentri and in agreement with the Jockey Club of each Country.

Article 21 – Internal Regulations

Internal Regulations necessary for the fulfilment of Fegentri’s purposes are adopted by the Managing Board. They should improve administrative conditions and Fegentri’s development. They can be amended by a simple resolution of the Managing Board. They are binding on all Members on equal footing as this Charter.