

**MINUTES OF SELECTION COMMITTEE MEETING EQUESTRIAN FEDERATION OF INDIA  
HELD AT MANEKSHAW CENTRE, DELHI CANTT ON 27<sup>TH</sup> JUN 2018 TO SELECT THE  
HORSE RIDER COMBINATION FOR GIVING ENTRY BY NAME TO IOA AND FEI  
NOMINATED ENTRIES FOR 18<sup>TH</sup> ASIAN GAMES JAKARTA**

1. The Selection Committee meeting of EFI was held in Manekshaw Centre, Delhi Cantt, on 27<sup>th</sup> Jun 2018.

2. Following members attended the Meeting: -

- |     |                                |  |
|-----|--------------------------------|--|
| (a) | Lt Gen Ashok Ambre, AVSM**, SM | - President & Chairman Selection Committee |
| (b) | Brig AA Mahmood, VSM           | - Selection Committee Member               |
| (c) | Brig Sameer Lanba, VSM         | - Selection Committee Member               |
| (d) | Col Rajiv Dahiya               | - Selection Committee Member               |
| (e) | Col HR Sunil                   | - Selection Committee Member               |
| (f) | Mrs Anisha Bhandari            | - Selection Committee Member               |
| (g) | Col RK Swain                   | - Secretary General                        |
| (h) | Mslrene Koshy                  | - Representative of IOA                    |

3. At the beginning, President EFI welcomed all the Selection Committee members and IOA observer Ms Irene Koshy and said that the last meeting of Selection Committee was held on 02-03 Jun 2018 which selected 04 member Eventing and 03 member Show Jumping Team. After the minutes of Selection Committee meeting were uploaded on the EFI website, a lot of complaints/ emails/ representations were received. On the basis of these complaints, I cancelled the proceedings of Selection Committee meeting of 02-03 Jun through a notice on 05 Jun 2018 because none of the riders were meeting the qualifying requirements as set in the Selection Criteria. Before taking such decision, I felt that if certain inputs were made available to Selection Committee at that point of time, we might have reached at the correct decision. After cancelling the Selection Committee meeting minutes, I interacted with large no of riders/ officials & some of the parents. Further, during the ACTC 2018-19 meeting on 13 Jun 2018, I interacted with certain officials of MYAS & IOA who enquired about my decision of not sending the team to Asian Games 2018 to which I replied that as no one was meeting the requirement of stringent selection criteria set by the federation, we are unable to select the team.





Thereafter, I received requests from many quarters to send the riders to Asian Games as this is a very expensive sport for which riders have spent lot of money & effort and by not sending the team, they will get discouraged. They also submitted that for Indian riders, participation in Olympic Games is beyond their reach and they look forward to participate in Asian Games which is held every four years. Also, the benchmark set in the Selection Criteria were very high thereby making the riders unable to achieve the required qualifications. Taking all the above factors under consideration, I decided to reconvene the Selection Committee meeting under the provision of Para 3.4 of Article 15 of EFI Statutes, in the best interest of the sport & the medal winning prospects of the country. In the mean time, we received certain fresh inputs from INASGOC on 15 Jun 2018 regarding the new entry system vide Equestrian Sports Technical Hand Book Ver 2.2. Further, we received the clarification about the entry system from FEI & AEF on 22 Jun 2018. As per the fresh guidelines on entry system, 04 by name entry per discipline are required to be forwarded to IOA for submission to INASGOC & simultaneously triple the number of by name entries (12) per discipline are required to be entered in FEI entry system as FEI nominated entries before 30 Jun 2018. The guidelines permitted four definite entries to be submitted in the FEI entry system by 10 Aug 2018. All the above factors permits the federation to amend the Selection Criteria under the provision of Para 34 of Selection Committee which is as under :-

**"Note: EFI reserves the rights to amend its selection criteria as necessary, particularly where there is a change to the qualification system or circumstances affecting the nomination/entries process."**

Thereafter the President requested all the members to express their opinion in a free & frank manner to select the best possible team in various disciplines which can represent the country. Thereafter, he directed the Secretary General to proceed with the Agenda.

4. **Agenda - I.** Discussion on various inputs received by the Federation.

(a) **Fresh Entry System.**

- (i) Equestrian Sport Technical Hand Book ver 2.2. – Para 8.2 (Appx 'A').
- (ii) FEI email dated 22 Jun 2018. - Appx 'B'.
- (iii) AEF email dated 22 Jun 2018. - Appx 'C'.

Handwritten signatures and initials in blue ink, including a large stylized signature on the left, followed by several smaller initials and a signature that appears to be 'AB'.



(iv) **Decision by Selection Committee.** After having gone through all the above documents, the Selection Committee was of the opinion that we must follow the entry system in all its sincerity and entries will now be made as under :-

Ser No	Date	Event
(aa)	By 30 Jun 2018:	By name entries to IOA, 04 per disciplines & 01 reserve horse for Show Jumping.
		Nominated Entries in FEI Entry System. Upto 12 per discipline/ including 04 per discipline forwarded to IOA.
(ab)	By 10 Aug 2018	Definite entries in FEI entry system – 04 per discipline+ 01 reserve horse for Jumping. This will include any substitution out of nominated entries in FEI entry system as per "late replacement of athlete procedure" of INASGOC as per Para B.5.2 of 18 <sup>th</sup> Asian Games Jakarta Chef-de-mission manual.

(b) **Mails/ representations received in Show Jumping discipline.**

- (i) Email dated 29 May 2018 of MrChetan Reddy. – Appx 'D'.
- (ii) Email dated 29 May and 25 May 2018 of MrKevicSetalvad.–Appx 'E'.
- (iii) Email dated 16 May, 18 Jun and 26 Jun 2018 of NeerajDhingra – Appx 'F'.
- (iv) Representation by BalajiVijayashankar&YashanKhambatta to Hon'ble Minister of YA & S and President IOA – Appx 'G'.
- (v) **Decision by Selection Committee.** After going through the ibid letters / emails in detail as per Selection Criteria Para 19 (a), the Committee is of the opinion that the representation by various stake holders regarding invalidity of trials attempted by riders at Luxembourg is genuine and they recommended the trials to be null and void as these competitions were neither CSI\* nor National Competitions (ref Para 17 (a) of Selection Committee) and also they do not form a part of National Calendar of Luxembourg Federation. Moreover, the results of these competitions are also not available on the Federation website.



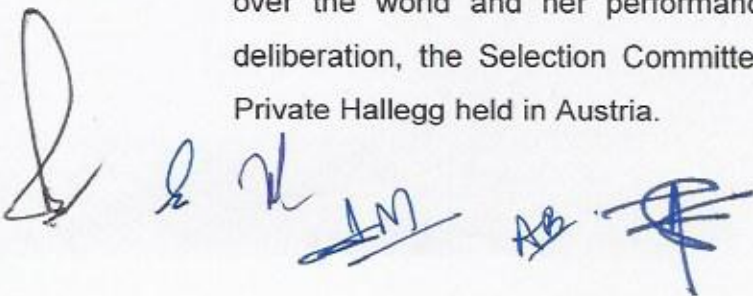
Hence, they cannot be considered towards selection for Asian Games. Mrs Anisha Bhandari, Member Selection Committee who was detailed as an observer to witness Show Jumping & Dressage in Luxembourg / Austria also briefed the Selection Committee that on the day, she was there (18 May 2018), out of 03 riders, only 01 rider had participated and other two riders abstained from participation. The rider who participated, Mr Balaji Vijayshankar had 01 drop (04 penalties) in the 1<sup>st</sup> round and after incurring 04-05 drops (16-20 penalties) in the 2<sup>nd</sup> round, he retired from the competition. However, to her surprise same rider qualified in the subsequent trials, which raised doubt about conduct of the trials. At this point of time the Secretary General informed the Selection Committee that Mr Balaji Vijayshankar & Mr Yashaan Khambatta had filed a writ petition in Hon'ble High Court of Delhi to consider their trials as legitimate. However, the court has disposed off the writ petition on 25<sup>th</sup> Jun 2018.

(c) **Mails/ representations received in Dressage Discipline.**

(i) Email dated 10 Jun 2018 of Ms Shruti Vora. – Appx 'H'.

(ii) Email dated 11 Jun and 22 Jun 2018 of Ms Vanita Malhotra. – Appx 'J'.

(iii) **Decision by Selection Committee.** The Selection Committee after going through the above mails and actual facts & figures of the selection trials held in Austria, they were of the opinion that like Show Jumping trials in Luxembourg, these trials also were exclusive trials which do not form part of their NF calendar and the results are also not available on their website and they cannot be considered towards selection for Asian Games. Further, it was brought out that the results forwarded by the riders bear the stamp of Carinthian State Federation and not the Austria National Federation which is the mandatory requirement as per the Selection Criteria. At this juncture, Mrs Anisha Bhandari, member of Selection Committee detailed as observer to witness one of these trials on 22-23 May 2018 said that Ms Shruti Vora had one qualifying score in CDI Hungary and when she interacted with the officials in Austria, the report given was very positive and the judges also gave good feedback as these judges have judged various events all over the world and her performance has been very good. However, after due deliberation, the Selection Committee decided to exclude all the results of CDN Private Hallegg held in Austria.





(d) **Mails/ representations received in Eventing discipline.**

(i) Email dated 24 May, 05 Jun, 14 Jun & 22 Jun 2018 of Lt Col Amit Sinsinwar. – Appx 'K'.

(ii) **Decision by Selection Committee.** The Selection Committee considered and discussed the contents of ibid mails and after the deliberation is of the opinion that the point of 2/3 judges raised by Lt Col Amit Sinsinwar is not justified on any ground whatsoever and is hereby rejected as the format of Asian Games Equestrian and International Eventing competition are held under the aegis of FEI rules and regulation where FEI authorizes use of 2 judges for international competition (CCI1\*) (refer FEI eventing rules Article 5.13.2). This is valid internationally and as such no violation has thus taken place. Brig AA Mahmood, member Selection Committee further emphasized that the requirement of 03 FEI Judges was for trials to be conducted in India and for the riders based abroad, the requirement of competition was just CCI1\* and therefore the events conducted with 02 Judges in Europe were acceptable as they were within the FEI rules.

As far as the point on type of dressage test raised by Lt Col Amit Sinsinwar is concerned it has the following justifiable ground :-

(aa) The Dressage test for eventing in Asian Games Jakarta 2018 is Test 'B' as given in eventing rules and INASGOC Technical Hand Book version 2.0.

(ab) The Dressage test in CCI1\* Jardy (France) was indeed test 'A'. However, since these were trials attempted exclusively for Asian Games qualification, where laid down test is test 'B', the argument of Lt Col Amit Sinsinwar holds merit for consideration as there were enough CCI1\* with dressage test 'B' available during the same duration and there was adequate opportunity for the riders to select competition with correct dressage test to be on the equal platform as the trials conducted in India and competitions at Asian Games.

(ac) Taking into consideration all the regulations on the subject and discussions, the Selection Committee with 04:01 voting, was of the opinion that the results of CCI1\* Jardy (France) be dispensed with and removed from the qualifying trials for 2018 Asian Games.

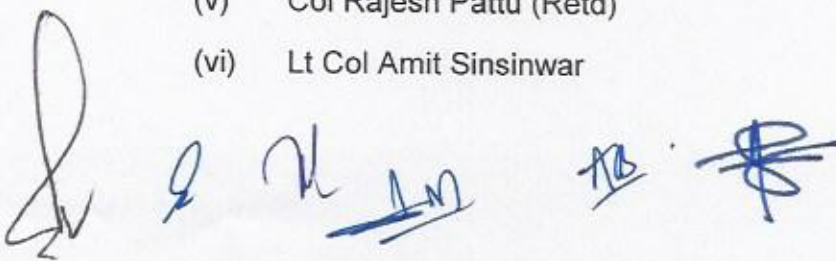
(ad) The decision was however opposed by Mrs Anisha Bhandari who suggested that Test 'B' of CCI1\* to be considered at par with test 'A'. *Strongly opposed. AB.*

(ae) The plea of Lt Col Amit Sinsinwar demanding disciplinary action against the erring riders and coach is unjustified and cannot be granted.

5. **Agenda II: Selection of Team:** The Secretary General presented the results of selection trials of all disciplines through a power point presentation which is attached as Appx 'L', after having gone through presentation, the Selection Committee proceeded to select the teams for various discipline which are as follows :-

(a) **Eventing.** Brig AA Mahmood brought out that only one rider has acquired 03 qualifications on 02 horses and 01 rider has 02 qualification on 01 horse, rest all other riders have one qualification each after discarding results of CCI\* Jardy. He further suggested that by taking upto one qualification, 07 riders can be selected as probable. However at this point of time, the Secretary General informed the committee that Mr Rishab Mehta has not submitted the consent form for horse as per the Para 19 (d) of Selection Criteria till date, therefore his name cannot be considered. Accordingly, the probables in Eventing are as under: -

- (i) Mr Fouad Mirza
- (ii) Swr Rakesh Kumar
- (iii) Swr Jitendar Singh
- (iv) Maj Ashish Malik
- (v) Col Rajesh Pattu (Retd)
- (vi) Lt Col Amit Sinsinwar





After deliberating on the results of all the probable, the Selection Committee prepared the merit list of all the horse – rider combination in Eventing as follows:-

<u>Ser No</u>	<u>Name of Rider</u>	<u>Name of Horse</u>	<u>Penalties</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
(i)	MrFouaad Mirza	Seigneur Medicott	42.50,47.5 & 43.35	03 Qualifications
(ii)	Mr. Fouaad Mirza	Cocky Locky	43.50, 52.30 & 45.7	03 Qualifications
(iii)	Swr Rakesh Kumar	VeniVedi Vici	52.95 & 48.10	02 Qualifications
(iv)	SwrJitender Singh	VirilPeccau CH	42.75	01 Qualification
(v)	Maj Ashish Malik	Frimeur Du Record CH	44.05	01 Qualification
(vi)	Maj Ashish Malik	Qurt De Montplaisir	46.30	01 Qualification
(vii)	Col Rajesh Pattu	BGS Captain Morgan	47.55	01 Qualification (excluding CCI* Jardy)
(viii)	Swr Rakesh Kumar	Vadim De Savigny	47.75	01 Qualification
(ix)	SwrJitender Singh	Dalakhani Du Routy	48.3	01 Qualification (excluding CCI* Jardy)
(x)	Lt Col Amit Sinsinwar	Fleece Clover	52.9	01 Qualification

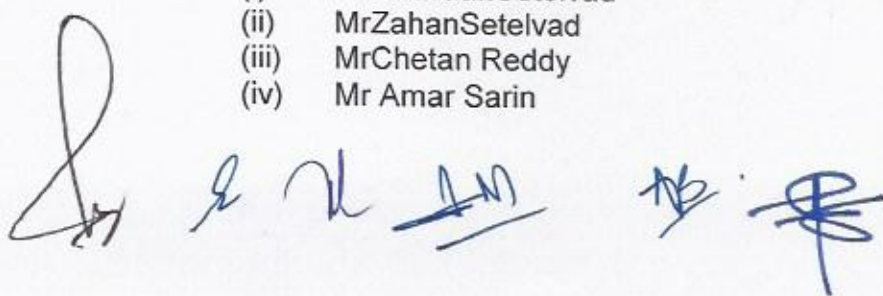
Selection of Horse/Rider combination for nominated entries to be submitted by 30 June 2018. (04 TO IOA as per INASGOC and upto maximum 12 for FEI Entry system). After perusal of all the available inputs, selection criteria, new entry system protocol, suggestion, complaints, trial results etc. the selection committee recommends the following as the nominated entries only, for the Eventing discipline. These will be submitted to IOA and FEI respectively as per the laid down and discussed guidelines by 30 June 2018.

Submission to IOA			Submission to FEI Entry Sys		
Ser No	Rider	Horse	Ser No	Rider	Horse
1.	MrFouaad Mirza	Seigneur Medicott	1.	MrFouaad Mirza	Seigneur Medicott
2.	Swr Rakesh Kumar	VeniVedi Vici	2.	Swr Rakesh Kumar	VeniVedi Vici
3.	SwrJitender Singh	VirilPeccau CH	3.	SwrJitender Singh	VirilPeccau CH
4.	Maj Ashish Malik	Frimeur Du Record CH	4.	Maj Ashish Malik	Frimeur Du Record CH
			5.	Mr. Fouaad Mirza	Cocky Locky
			6.	Maj Ashish Malik	Qurt De Montplaisir
			7.	Col Rajesh Pattu	BGS Captain Morgan
			8.	Swr Rakesh Kumar	Vadim De Savigny
			9.	SwrJitender Singh	Dalakhani Du Routy
			10.	Lt Col Amit Sinsinwar	Fleece Clover

On this, Mrs Anisha Bhandari opposed the decision saying the overall performance graph of horse & rider combination in all trials to be taken into account while preparing the merit and the selection cannot be mathematical and the Selection Committee has to use their judgment & wisdom in the Selection of team for Asian Games. Rest of the members were of the opinion that making the merit subjective will dispose it to legal implications. The selection committee decided that 04 Horse rider combinations be forwarded to IOA and from 30 Jun 2018 to 10 Aug 2018, just in case rider/ horse is unfit on medical/ vet ground, the next horse rider combination as per the above merit will replace the gap. In addition to above, the concerned coach of these riders will have to furnish a fitness certificate for rider and veterinary soundness certificate from the team veterinarian.

(b) **Show Jumping.** As already discussed in preceeding paragraphs the trials taken by 03 Indian riders in Luxembourg cannot be considered towards selection for Asian Games, hence the list of probables for Show Jumping are as follows :

- (i) MrKaevaanSetelvad
- (ii) MrZahanSetelvad
- (iii) MrChetan Reddy
- (iv) Mr Amar Sarin





Mr Amar Sarin has 01 qualifying score but his horse being in Glanderaffected Zone and could not move to EDFZ, Meerut hence cannot be considered for selection. Therefore merit of horse rider combination for Show Jumping discipline is as follows :-

<u>Ser No</u>	<u>Name of Rider</u>	<u>Name of Horse</u>	<u>Penalties</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
(i)	KaevaanSetalvad	Cherokee	0,4 & 4	03 Qualifications
(ii)	ZahanSetalvad	Quintus-Z	4 & 0	02 Qualifications
(iii)	Chetan Reddy	Elco VM	1 & 4	02 Qualifications
(iv)	ZahanSetalvad	Tethys De Beauval	4 & 4	02 Qualification
(v)	KaevaanSetalvad	Capella	0	01 Qualification

The reserve horse for Show Jumping as per Para 7.3 of Technical Hand Book for Asian Games will be **Tethys De Beauval**.

The entries to be forwarded are as follows :-

<u>Submission to IOA</u>			<u>Submission to FEI Entry Sys</u>		
Ser No	Rider	Horse	Ser No	Rider	Horse
1.	KaevaanSetalvad	Cherokee	1.	KaevaanSetalvad	Cherokee
2.	ZahanSetalvad	Quintus-Z	2.	ZahanSetalvad	Quintus-Z
3.	Chetan Reddy	Elco VM	3.	Chetan Reddy	Elco VM
4.	Reserve Horse	Tethys De Beauval	4.	ZahanSetalvad	Tethys De Beauval
			5.	KaevaanSetalvad	Capella

(c) **Dressage**. As discussed in preceding paras, the exclusive trial attempted by 03 Indian riders in Austria cannot be considered for selection for Asian Games, The qualifying score of MsShrutiVora of CDI, Hungary & MrAnushAggarwala of CDN, Germany can be considered. MrsAnisha Bhandari brought out that on the same lines of selection carried out in other disciplines the score of MsShrutiVora & MrAnushAgarwalla be considered and they can be fielded as Individual entries.

Brig AA Mahmood at this juncture informed that although MsShrutiVora&MrAnushAgarwalla have one qualifying score each but that score is of PSG test which is requirement for TEAM participation and there is no third member with a qualification to form the team. Further, if they do not have even single qualifying score in Inter-I/ Inter-II (FS to Music) which is a requirement for individual qualification. Hence these riders are not qualified for Individual Entry.

Therefore, the Selection Committee decided that since the team cannot be formed due to lack of required number of rides with qualification and none of the rider could achieve qualifying score for Individual entry, there would not be any representation in discipline of Dressage.

(d) **Case of MsSamarahMalaney.** The Selection Committee also discussed the case of MsSamarahMalaney and decided that since she has not achieved even a single qualifying score and the Hon'ble High Court had in their judgement had passed orders for conduct of 02 additional trials by moving the horse to EDFZ Meerut, however, in the same order the Hon'ble High Court had ordered that she will not claim any equity by virtue of moving her horse to EDFZ if she doesn't obtain a qualifying score of 67% in PSG Test.


6. **Agenda III. Selection of Officials.** The Selection Committee after due deliberation selected the following officials to accompany the Indian Equestrian Team.

- |     |                    |   |                                       |
|-----|--------------------|---|---------------------------------------|
| (a) | Coach Eventing     | - | MrRodolpheSecherer, France            |
| (b) | Coach Show Jumping | - | MrEdourdCouperie, France              |
| (c) | Team Manager       | - | Col RK Dahiya, India                  |
| (d) | Team Vet           | - | Dr. Jerome Jean SargeThevenot, France |
| (e) | Farrier            | - | Mr. Fortier Patrick, France           |



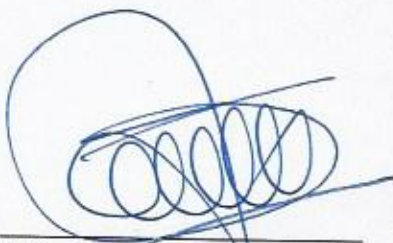
7. **Performance review of the team.** The Selection Committee decided that all the selected horse rider combinations based in Europe will participate in same grade event together at one place for Eventing discipline. The event will be selected by the Federation in consultation with the Coaches and will be notified to the athletes subsequently. A similar event will be organized for Lt Col Amit Sinsinwar and Fleece Clover at EDFZ, Meerut. For the Show Jumping discipline, the athletes can select a suitable competition of level of Asian Games in situ. All these events will be witnessed by at least 02 selection committee members along with Coach & will give final opinion regarding the fitness of horse – rider combination, performance and overall conduct of the rider during the preparation period before the definite entries are fed in FEI online entry system on or before 10 Aug 2018.


8. **Vote of thanks.** At the end The President, EFI thanked all the members of Selection Committee and the rep of IOA Ms Irene Koshy for their constructive participation in selecting the Indian Team for various discipline of Equestrian and wished the team Good Luck and perform to best of their ability and bring glory to sport and the country.


  
(Mrs Anisha Bhandari)

  
(Col HR Sunil)

  
(Col RK Dahiya)

  
(Brig Sameer Lamba, VSM)

  
(Brig AA Mahmood, VSM)

  
(Lt Gen Ashok Ambre, AVSM\*\*, SM)