

**INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF ARABIAN HORSERACING AUTHORITIES**



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**Conclusion of the 9th Pattern Race & Handicapper Committee meeting:**

**February, 24th, 2010, 11:00 a.m. at Ritz Carlton hotel in Doha**

Invitation made by: Comte Jean-Pierre de Gasté c/o AFAC France

Participants:

- Comte Jean-Pierre de Gasté, France, Chairman
- Christopher Kennedy, Director of ARO, UK
- Neil Abrahams, Handicapper, U.A.E.
- Conrad Allen, Handicapper, Qatar
- Wieger de Ruiten, Netherlands
- Cihat Gürüz, Executive board member of IFAHR, Turkey
- Pam Cordrey, Handicapper, Scandinavia
- Omar Skalli, General Director of SOREC, Morocco
- Feliks Klimczak, President of the Polish Jockey Club, Poland
- Krzysztof Wolski, handicapper, Poland
- Izeta Selimanjin, Director of AFAC, France



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**CONVENING FOR THE 9<sup>th</sup> PATTERN RACE & HANDICAPPER COMMITTEE MEETING :**

**Wednesday 24th of February 2010 – 10.30 a.m.**  
**at the Qatar Racing & Equestrian Club (QREC) in Doha**

**A G E N D A**

1. Conclusion of last Pattern Race and Handicapper Committee Meeting
2. Functioning rules of the Pattern Race & Handicapper Committee
3. Reminder of the rules regulating the Group PA races
4. Evaluation of Group PA races per country in 2008-2009
5. Examination of applications for new Group PA races or for upgrading Group PA races
6. Production of a Pattern Race Calendar for the season 2009-2010 and year 2010
7. Establishment of a chart for alignment of handicap ratings between country members
8. Finalisation of an international handicap rating database
9. Review of the list of Group PA races sent for publishing in the Yearbook 2010
10. Any other business
11. Next meeting

**Documents to provide for the meeting by each country member in at least 10 copies:**

- List of 2009 handicap ratings for 2008-2009
- Racing calendar for the 2010 Group PA races
- Evaluation of the level of rating of all Group races in your country
- Applications for new Group PA races or for upgrading Group PA races including the rating of the last three years editions of the race

# Minutes of the 9<sup>th</sup> IFAHR Pattern Race and Handicapper Committee Meeting

## 1. Conclusion of last Pattern Race and Handicapper Committee Meeting

The minutes of the last Pattern Race & Handicapper Committee are approved by the members.

## 2. Functioning rules of the Pattern Race & Handicapper Committee

and

## 3. Reminder of the rules regulating the Group PA races

Jean-Pierre de Gasté presents a document entitled “ARABIAN PATTERN RACES COMMITTEE RULES” (annexe 1 ) which he has drawn up from the Thoroughbred rules in order to provide the Arabian Pattern Races system with complete rules gathering initial rules that have been added successively in the past.

For instance, one of the points clarified in this document is the standards to justify Pattern Race status. Indeed, in the previous meeting in Saint-Cloud, it has been agreed that the rating for 3yo should be:

**Group 1 PA :**  
**110**

**Group 2 PA :**  
**105**

**Group 3 PA:**  
**100**

However, allowance has not been considered for fillies. Therefore the rules should be again amended with emendation for the fillies:

### 4-y-o's or older fillies and mares' races

Gr1 PA	Gr2 PA	Gr3 PA
110	105	100

### 3-y-o fillies' races

Gr1 PA	Gr2 PA	Gr3 PA
105	100	95

Another major aspect to consider for these rules is the inclusion of a Supervisory Committee.

Indeed, there are 9 countries that have Group PA races + some countries that will apply for new Group PA races

A Supervisory Committee is needed in order to be able to guarantee full respect of the rules and to be able to follow it up carefully

The Thoroughbred system has appointed 5 countries: USA, GB, FR, IRE and GER, to the Supervisory Committee

Our Pattern Race & Handicapper Committee would need to appoint persons that are fully aware of the rules and could become guarantors for their respect.

**Omar Skalli:** Will there be any changes in the future?

**Jean-Pierre de Gasté:** Of course, changes can be made in the future according to the development of the Pattern Races Committee.

Also, any points in this document can be reviewed, and proposition of amendments could be forwarded by email.

**Chris Kennedy** : A Pattern Race Book should be created with the approval of the PRC

**Jean-Pierre de Gasté**: It is not very easy as some of the countries are not able to provide their Group plans long in advance

However, in order to allow such publication on time, we could specify more clearly in the rules that a permanent element in the name of a Pattern Race should always be kept. Therefore, we could add in **3 (d) 3** of the rules the following addition: *No matter of the sponsor, a race must keep its generic name.*

**Izeta Selimanjin**: some countries with Group 3 PA races are totally depending on the approval of the sponsors. Some of the Group PA races were cancelled in 2008 and 2009 for financing reasons. Therefore it is difficult to established a 100% reliable Pattern Race Book

**Krzysztof Wolski**: An international calendar could be published in the beginning of the year and post publication with amendments could be made on IFAHR's website

**Chris Kennedy** agrees with that idea and thinks that this could enable to have constant Group Pa races in the future.

**Omar skalli** asks how long before modifications for a race should be done?

**Jean-Pierre de Gasté**: two meetings per year are held for the Pattern Race Committee, which allows changes to be done easily

**Jean-Pierre de Gasté** suggests also another amendment to be added to the Pattern Race rules, a point that will be add in IFAHR statutes.

*- Only full members of IFAHR that have paid their membership can be member of the Pattern Race & Handicapper Committee.*

#### **4. Evaluation of Group PA races per country in 2008-2009**

The ratings and Group PA evaluations of several countries were distributed

**Jean-Pierre de Gasté** mentions that there is a great difference of ratings among the countries.

**Pamela Cordrey** says that she calculates the ratings from the old scale and that it is very difficult to adjust according to others countries.

#### **5. Examination of applications for new Group PA races or for upgrading Group PA races**

#### **6. Production of a Pattern Race Calendar for the season 2009-2010 and year 2010**

**Jean-Pierre de Gasté** encourages every country to apply for new Group PA races and reminds that according to the rules, only entire open race without any indigenous condition can have Group PA status, and that every new application can only obtain a Group 3 PA status.

## **MOROCCO – Omar Skalli**

Application for a Group 3 PA : **LE GRAND PRIX DE SA MAJESTE LE ROI MOHAMMED VI**

The ratings of the 3 previous editions of this race were presented and are as follow:

**2009 : 120**

**2008 : 121**

**2007 : 114**

Omar Skalli made a brief presentation of Arabian Racing in Morocco:

6 racecourses

400 horses in training

284 races

3000 starts

Average runner per race : 10

Total purse : 900 000 €

Average purse per race : 3000 €

4 major races:

3 races that are run in Casablanca on May during “la Journée Internationale” :

- Le Grand Prix de Sa Majesté Le Roi Mohammed VI	71 000 €
- Le Grand Prix de Son Altesse Royal Le Prince Moulay Rachid	45 000 €
- Le Grand Prix de Son Altesse Royal Le Prince Héritier Moulay El Hassan	36 000 €

1 race run in Rabbat

- Le Grand Prix de Son Altesse Royal Le Prince Héritier Moulay El Abdullah	25 000 €
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**The Pattern race & Handicapper Committee approves unanimously the status of Group 3 PA for “Le Grand Prix de Sa Majesté Le Roi Mohammed VI”**

## **FRANCE – Jean-Pierre de Gasté**

France applies for one Group 3 PA race: **Prix Nevada II** for 3yo fillies over 2000m., beginning of September

**2009: 111**

**2008: 113**

**2007: 119**

**The Pattern race & Handicapper Committee has approved the status of Group 3 PA for “Prix Nevada II”**

## **SWEDEN - Pamela Cordrey**

Sweden applies for another Group 3 PA race but needs time to adjust the ratings according to other countries (see enclosed)

## **POLAND - Krzysztof Wolski**

POLAND is facing the same situation Sweden. It is very difficult for them to prepare international figures as no horses from abroad have raced in Poland in 2009. Nevertheless, very few horses from Poland have raced abroad.

**Pamela Cordrey** proposes to help them to adjust their rating.

**Poland** applies for two Group 3 PA races (see enclosed) :

- **Nagroda Europa** for 4yo and upward over 2600 m
- **Bialka Stakes** over 2000 m

There are 3 racetracks: Warsaw, Breslaw and Sopot

Warsaw: 167 races

290 Purebred Arabians:

34 5yo and up

79 4yo

177 3yo

## **TURKEY - Cihat Gürüz**

**Turkey** applies for one Group 3 PA race

There are 518 racedays

3348 races

Total prize money: \$1 200 000 000

8 international races:

- 5 thoroughbred and
- 3 Purebred Arabian races

A decision is taken to give a delay to these delegations for sending complete applications with ratings with a dead line of March 10<sup>th</sup> for a publication by March 20<sup>th</sup>, and approved by all the present members.

## **7. Establishment of a chart for alignment of handicap ratings between country members**

## **8. Finalisation of an international handicap rating database**

**Izeta Selimanjin** is presenting a project for creating a specific website for the handicappers in order to facilitate the alignment of handicap rating between countries.

The project consists of enabling the handicappers to have a specific website similar to the website for Thoroughbred handicappers.

The website would gather the list of all Group PA & Listed PA races as well as the complete details of each race and Group or Listed PA horses. It would be restricted to the members of the Supervisory Committee: Gérald Sauques, Graham Walcroft, Neil Abrahams, Conrad Alen, Pamela Cordrey and Harald Siemen.

Every member will be able to rate every Group PA race, and if they wish even those of another country.

That way, all ratings will be viewable from that website and will help the handicappers to harmonize their level according to others countries' rating. (See annexe 2).

It is important that the handicappers give a feedback about the essential information that they need for this project before finalizing it. Another important point is to study the possibility to give to every handicapper an access to view the races in other countries to facilitate the rating of every horse and every race.

Minutes taken by Izeta Selimanjin