



February 25, 2021

Ingmar De Vos
President
Fédération Équestre Internationale

Via e-mail: ingmar.devos@fei.org

Dear Mr. De Vos:

I hope this letter finds you well. I'm writing on behalf of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals and our more than 6.5 million members and supporters worldwide to request that you investigate the recent whipping incident on January 30 involving German Grand Prix show jumper Kevin Lemke, at the Desert International Horse Park. We urge you to pursue all appropriate actions, including consideration of banning Lemke from competing in future events sanctioned by the Fédération Équestre Internationale (FEI) and ending his FEI membership (10034782) and eligibility.

Lemke was competing with Good Luck, who is owned by Al Masri Morad. While approaching the fifth fence, Good Luck appeared to stall, and Lemke responded by venting his anger, aggressively hitting the horse with his whip six times (four times consecutively and two more times immediately after). Lemke used the whip so harshly that the sound of it striking Good Luck can be heard in the video replay. Following the incident, it was announced that Lemke had been eliminated for excessive use of the stick, but after being dismissed, he attempted the fifth jump again, causing Good Luck to balk and collide with the fence, knocking it over and nearly causing Lemke to fall.

The video replay is [available here](#).

Although Lemke was correctly dismissed by the judges, elimination was not commensurate with the abuse, nor is it a sufficient deterrent to spare horses and protect other riders from such reckless and dangerous behavior. The excessive punishment inflicted on Good Luck, delivered as a reprimand by an enraged rider, is a cruelty issue that transcends a simple rules violation and is a stain on the sport.

In any other parallel competition involving animals—such as a dog agility contest—administering multiple forceful strikes on an animal as punishment wouldn't be tolerated by the public or law enforcement. Please note that we have also submitted a cruelty complaint about Lemke to the Riverside County Sheriff's Department.

Furthermore, these abusive actions committed by Lemke were clearly made in the public eye, in front of judges and other competitors, seemingly without a

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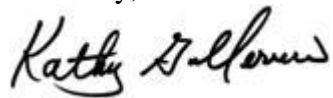
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moment of hesitation from Lemke, which immediately should raise red flags about the way he conducts teaching and training sessions.

Those who are guilty of cruelty and who have demonstrated a clear disregard for the rules should not be granted the privilege of participating in FEI-sanctioned competitions. We strongly urge you to revoke Lemke's FEI membership and investigate his training practices.

Thank you for your time and consideration. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kathy Guillermo". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial "K".

Kathy Guillermo
Senior Vice President
Equine Matters Department