



European
Equestrian
Business
Association e.V.



Welcome!

Expert Panel Meeting "safety in horse sport"

15th of September 2022

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**Antitrust
Information**

**Kartell-
Hinweise**

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We draw your attention to **European and national antitrust law** and to the **EEBA's antitrust information**, which is binding on all members and is part of their membership contract. Violations of these rules will lead to the exclusion of the participant concerned from this meeting.

Wir weisen Sie auf das **europäische und nationale Kartellrecht** sowie auf die **Kartellrechtsinformationen der EEBA**, welche für alle Mitglieder binden und Teil ihres Mitgliedsvertrages sind. Verstöße gegen diese Regeln führen zum Ausschluss des betreffenden Teilnehmers von diesem Meeting.



Agenda

- Introduction
- Structure of the Expert Panel
- Recap
 - Goals of this Expert Panel
 - Activities so far
- Norms
 - Status quo EU norms
 - Future EEBA norms – discussion
- Data collection
 - Status quo
 - Discussion
- Next steps

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Introduction - Sport accidents

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- First representative, international study on children's accidents during sport and exercise
- From April 2021 to March 2022, over **one million children** were injured so severely that they required medical treatment
 - Around 5% of the injured children suffered permanent injuries
 - For 28% permanent damages are likely
- **85% of the accidents could have been avoided!**
- Overall, the human factor seems to be more important in preventing accidents than protective equipment, technical and structural protection. Only a good 15% of parents see "external" factors as a way of preventing



Introduction - Sport accidents

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- **Every single accident is one too many!**
- The levers of prevention are:
 - Promoting children's physical activity so that they learn to know and assess their possibilities, recognise risks and dangers and are able to deal with them

This requires:

- safe sports facilities in sufficient quantities,
- trained supervisors and exercise instructors,
- Awareness of prevention of sports accidents, including **education** about hazards,
- an awareness of the usefulness of constructional and technical **quality standards** and
- **awareness of the use of protective equipment.**



Introduction - Equestrian accidents

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Did you know...

- Over a period of 10 years, the number of equestrian accidents has remained the same
- An estimated 38% of accidents could have been avoided
- About half of those involved in equestrian accidents (46%) are under 19 years of age
- 90.8% of accidents occur during leisure time
- Overall, only 33% of riders show a change in their safety behaviour after an accident



Introduction - Equestrian accidents

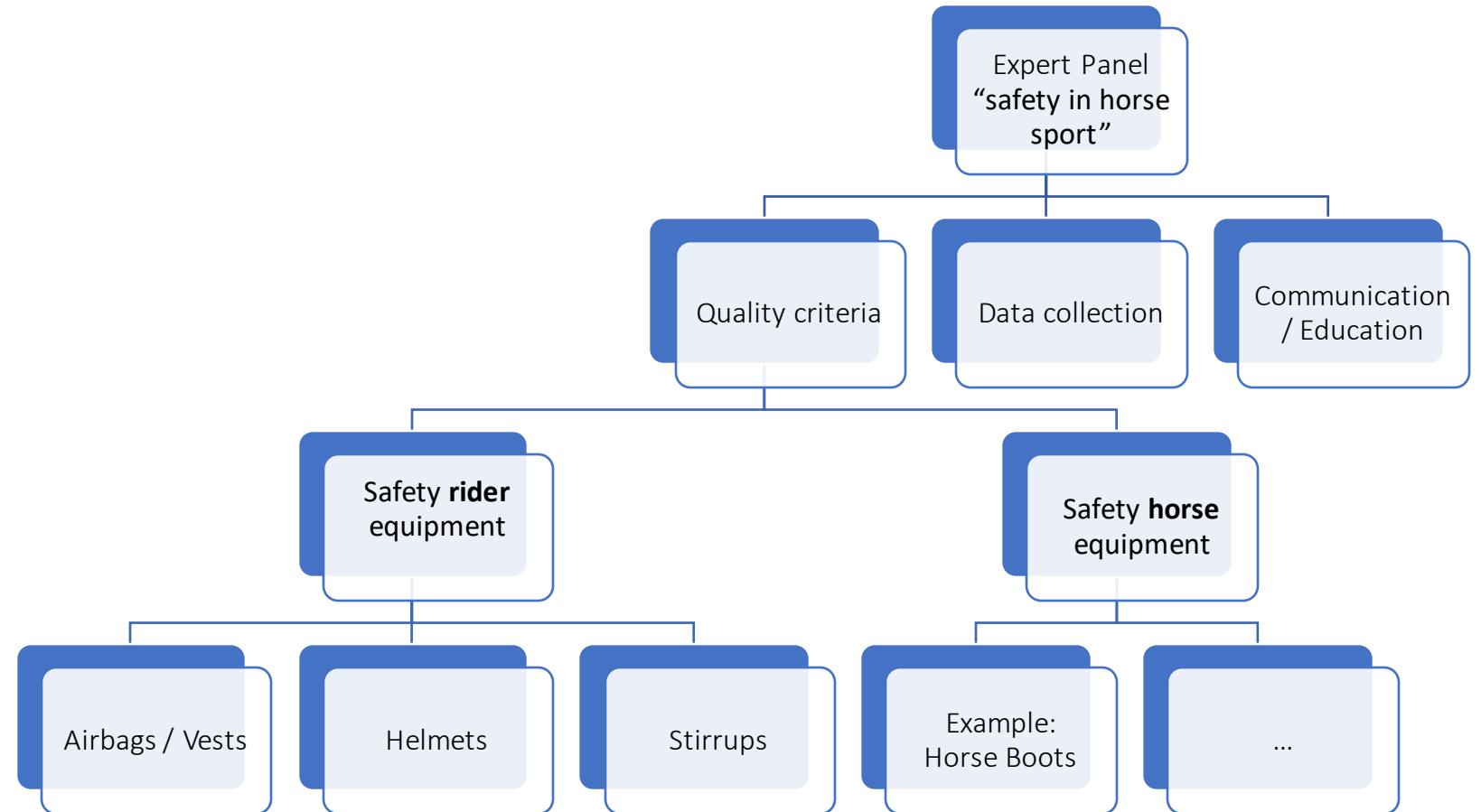
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- The four main danger zones are **hand, foot, head and spine**
- **Falling** from a horse is the most common cause of accidents, followed by **kicks** and injuries from **bridles or reins**
- There are recurring injury patterns that can be related to certain body sections which need protection
- The recording of emergency forms from the outpatient clinic should be standardised and be recorded electronically
- Improvements in protective measures in equestrian sports could reduce a large proportion of injuries
- **Prevention of injuries in riding accidents should focus on safety equipment, safety education and safety awareness**

Source: "Verletzungsmuster bei Reitunfällen", medical dissertation by Lars Fleischer, 2014, evaluation of 1300 injury reports



Structure Expert Panel



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- Group speakers / representatives?
- Who's supporting which section?



Recap - The Goals

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- Define and develop **quality standards** if not existing or not sufficient
 - **Educate customers** but also people at POS and trainers about special norms and existing quality standards
 - **Promote awareness** for safety in equestrian sport in general
 - **Enhance collaboration** between different stakeholders
 - **Establish** a European **online tool** for collecting data of all kind of accidents in the equestrian field
-
- ✓ *Make horse sport safer for all riders / equestrians and their horses!*
 - ✓ *Provide more and better information to all involved*
 - ✓ *Indicate clear direction for product development to manufacturers*
 - ✓ *Enable trade to offer sound shopping advice*
 - ✓ *Support trainers to better address the issue of safety during training*



Recap - Activities so far

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- Three meetings of the EP taken place (one at spoga)
- Addressed the matter to about 60 leading manufacturers (some verbal confirmations pending)
- Researching studies and initiatives already taken place
- Initial contact and exchange with
 - FN / German Equestrian Federation (French pending)
 - German Workers' Compensation Board / 'Berufsgenossenschaften' (French pending)
 - Insurance providers
 - Medical experts
 - Stiftung Sicherheit im Sport ('Safety in Sport Foundation')
- Get communication / publicity started



Recap - Activities so far

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- Some medical studies available at <https://eeb-a.eu/login/expert-panels>
- To be addressed:
 - Ärzte im Reitsport / Club deutscher Vielseitigkeitsreiter
 - Deutsche Wirbelsäulengesellschaft (DWG)
 - Benjamin Winter Stiftung (seems not to be active anymore?)
 - Other national federations, insurances and medical experts
 - Sporthochschule Köln (mutal partner for further studies)?
 - **YOUR SUGGESTIONS?**



EU norms - Status quo

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Body protectors / Airbags:

- Currently **EN 13158:2018**
- EU working group 11 – Body Protection for sports is currently pushing to develop a new norm, which will include Airbag protectors as a single use or combination (with body protectors) use for equestrian sport.
- Right now, Airbags only under **EN 1621** (Motorcycling) or even without any standard available
- Also under construction, a new norm (previously EN 1621) for back protectors specifically for equestrian sports (will take 1-2 years)

Within these regulation, **BETA** provides three different levels for different types of use:

<https://www.beta-uk.org/pages/safety-equipment/body-protectors.php>

The US have their own standards (ASTM - American Society for Testing and Materials, SEI - Safety Equipment institute)



EU norms - Status quo

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Helmets:

- Currently **VG1 01.040 2014-12** (Transitional standard)
- New developed norm **EN 1384:2022-02** will most likely come into effect within the next months
 - <https://www.beuth.de/de/norm-entwurf/din-en-1384/346869297>

No standards and norms for other riding equipment as they are currently not considered 'safety-relevant' by EU regulations respectively are not defined as personal protection gear.

But **medical studies** about injuries/accidents in horse sports **proof**, that there are more equipment items highly relevant to overall safety. All come to the conclusion, that preventive measures must to be intensified and that appropriate protective equipment is systemically relevant.



Future EEBA norms - Discussion

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- How to make EU norms familiar to target group?
- Interest has been expressed in developing standards for **stirrups**.
 - *which experts to include in this process (besides from our members)?*
 - *are there any studies available?*
 - *First steps?*

Should **other categories** be considered or later?

Your suggestions:

-
-



Data collection - Status quo

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Example: BETA reporting tool

- Rider Accident & Equipment Reporting Form
- Available in english
- Can be accessed via a web link or by QR code, which will be widely published both through BETA retail members, equipment manufacturers and on social media
- The content:
 - Contact details (mail, name, country, age and gender)
 - Horse details (age, gender, height)
 - Accident details (date, location, type of activity, speed, detailed discription)
 - **Equipment details** (hat: brand, model, date of purchase, other equipiment like vest, safety stirrups, damaged?)
 - Details of injuries
 - Request to send in pictures of damaged equipment (external channell)
 - Request of consent with privacy policy





Data collection - Status quo

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Example: Medical Dissertation, 2014

- Rider information: Gender / age at time of accident
- Accident mechanism (under which circumstances did injury occur, several accident mechanism possible per case)
- Trauma (which, localisation)
- Fracture / Other injury
- Accident care
- Neurology
- Craniocerebral trauma
- Hospitalisation
- Professional association share
- Journey to hospital after riding accident
- Number of accidents during the study period
- ...



Data collection - Status quo

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Example: Uelzener evaluation of about 6000 insurance cases

- Information about the damage (Location of damage, property damage, personal injury, How high was the damage?)
- Horse details (type of horse, use of the horse)
- Indication of the trigger of the damage (where did it happen, cause of damage: animal behaviour, human error, defect of equipment/material)
- Information not publicly available, but could still provide important insights in anonymised form

Conclusions from the examples

- BETA's focus is on equipment details, Uelzener's focus is on the circumstances of an accident, Medical focus is on the consequences of accidents and details of injuries



Data collection - Discussion

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- From our perspective, a future recording tool should take into account a selection of aspects as broad as possible (some missing to our point of view) so that the information gained from it can serve to improve safety in equestrian sport as comprehensively as possible.
- This will also make it more attractive to become supported by all kind of stakeholders
- To be determined:
 - **Where / when and by whom should the tool be used?**
 - (later: how can technical solution look like?)
 - (later: who is keeper of the information and who may use it?)



Next steps

- Addressing further stakeholders
- Send doodle request for different subjects
- Schedule meeting dates for different subjects (determine speakers)
- Research studies / information for stirrups and go into details
- Draft criteria catalogue for data tool (inquiry amongst stakeholders?) and check technical solutions
- Support required for communication!



Contact

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