



ITBF GENERAL MEETING
France 2026
Commencing at 09.00 hrs (Paris local time)
on Saturday 9th May at Mercure Paris Boulogne
37 Place René Clair, 92100 Boulogne-Billancourt

AGENDA

Session 1: start time 09.00

- 09.00** 1.1 **CHAIRMAN'S OPENING STATEMENT & REPORT**
Kirsten Rausing - Chairman, ITBF
- 1.2 **MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**
Held in 2024 in Tokyo, Japan. Sited on Members' Secure Area of website, circulated to members and taken as read.
MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES
To approve the Minutes as a true record.
- 09.10** 2 **CEO's REPORT**
Sarah Carmichael - CEO, ITBF
- 09.20** 3 **VETERINARY DELEGATES' MATTERS**
Report from Dr Des Leadon on the meeting held the previous day. The full report will form part of the minutes of this ITBF Meeting.
Dr Des Leadon - Veterinary Chairman, ITBF
- 09.40** 4 **EIDS (Equine Infectious Disease Surveillance)**
Report and Financial Update
Dr James Crowhurst - EIDS Advisor to the ITBF
- 09.50** 5 **EUROPEAN TRANSPORTATION REGULATIONS UPDATE**
Dr Des Leadon - Veterinary Chairman, ITBF

Session 1: 1hr

Session 2: start time 10.00

- 10.00** 6 **NO FOALS – NO RACING!**
Declining Global Foal Crops and Stallion Population
Philip Newton - Chairman, British TBA
- 10.15** 7 **WHERE DO ALL THE HORSES GO?**
A Future Global Collaboration on Critical Traceability Information Sharing. Model from the Whereabouts Analysis of the 2018 & 2019 British-bred Foal Crops
Naomi Mellor, Chief Executive, British TBA

10.30 8 **THE NARROWING GENE POOL - AWARENESS & ACTION**
Simon Cooper – Director, Weatherbys and Committee Member of the ISBC Inbreeding Working Group

10.45 - 11.15 **BREAK FOR COFFEE**

Session 2 continues ...

11.15 9 **SECURING THE FUTURE GENERATIONS**
Owners, breeders, staff and service providers
Cathy Grassick – ITBA Regional Director

11.30 10 **THE FIRST INTERACTIONS**
How Early Handling Shapes the Resilient Thoroughbred
Leigh Wills - Managing Director, Foal NZ and Winning FORM.
Professor Natalie Waran O.B.E. - Equine Behaviourist & Welfare Specialist. ([Remote presentations](#))

11.55 11 **FIRES & FLOODS**
A New Era of Thoroughbred Industry Challenges
Andrew Hore-Lacy – CEO, TB AUS & AusHorse

12.10 12 **ATTRACT, RETAIN & DEVELOP OUR HUMAN CAPITAL**
How Our Industry Needs to Adapt to the Changing World of Work
Guillaume Herrnberger - Deputy CEO, France Galop and President, AFASEC.

12.25 **PANEL - Q&A with the speakers from Session 2**

13.30 **BREAK FOR LUNCH**

Session 2: 3hrs 30 mins incl. 30 mins coffee break

Session 3: start time 14.45

14.45 13 **SUSTAINABILITY & CLIMATE CHANGE IN THE RACING INDUSTRY**
IFHA - research paper findings
Matt Orr, Executive Manager, IFHA

15.00 14 **SOUTH AMERICA -**
Influences on Latin American Bloodlines
Juan Cruz Ramallo, Treasurer, Argentinian Breeders' Association
([Pre-recorded Presentation](#))

15.20 15 **SOUTH AFRICA -**
The Current Breeding Landscape
Bradley Ralph – Chairman, South African TBA

15.45 **Questions to Session 3 Speakers**

Session 4: start time 16.00

- 16 **HOSTING OF 2028 GENERAL MEETING**
- 17 **THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**
17.1 Rotation of 'Other Region'
17.2 Representative for Europe
17.3 Australia's 2025 succeeding representative, Andrew Hore-Lacy
- 18 **THE OUTGOING CHAIRMAN**
18.1 Kirsten Rausing' Summary
18.2 CEO's Thanks to the outgoing Chairman
- 19 **A.O.B.**
- 20 **INCOMING ITBF CHAIRMAN**
20.1 **The Executive Committee's Elected Incoming Chairman**
(elected by the Executive Committee in accordance with the ITBF Statutes, at the Executive Committee meeting, held on 2.9.25)
20.2 **Chairman's Introduction to the Elected**
20.3 **Member's Ratification of the Elected** *(ratification in accordance with ITBF Statutes)*
20.4 **Incoming Chairman's Acceptance**
- 21 **21.1 Chairman's introduction to ITBF's upholding the ban on artificial breeding methods**
- 21.2 **TO VOTE FOR:**
"The ITBF continues its resolute stand against the use of artificial breeding methods on Thoroughbreds (Artificial Insemination, Embryo Transfer, Cloning, Sexing of sperm, Genetic engineering/manipulation, and other potential methods yet to be defined)"
ONE VOTE PER ITBF FULL-MEMBER COUNTRY.
ITBF ASSOCIATE MEMBERS DO NOT HAVE A VOTING RIGHT.
- International Federation of Horseracing Authorities (IFHA)**
ARTICLE 12 of the IFHA International Agreement on Breeding, Racing and Wagering (IABRW):
12.1.1 *The Thoroughbred must be the result of a Stallion's mating with a Mare which is the physical mounting of a Mare by a Stallion with intromission of the penis and ejaculation of semen into the reproductive tract.*
12.3.1 *A natural gestation must take place in, and delivery must be from, the body of the same Mare in which the Foal was conceived. Any Foal resulting from or produced by the processes of Artificial Insemination, Embryo Transfer or Transplant, Cloning or any other form of genetic manipulation not herein specified, shall not be eligible for recording in a Thoroughbred Stud Book approved by the International Stud Book Committee.*
12.B *The heritable genome of a prospective or registered Thoroughbred must not be modified in any way at any time, including during its conception, gestation or at any stage thereafter in its existence.*
- CHAIRMAN'S CLOSE OF THE ITBF GENERAL MEETING 2026**
Kirsten Rausing

***** A Tribute to Sam Sheppard *****

Finish by 17.00 (Paris local time)