

European Federation of Farriers Associations

EFFA



THE HISTORY OF EFFA

The European Federation of Farriers Associations (EFFA) was founded on 14 December 1997 at the Veterinary School at Maisons Alfort in Paris. This followed preparatory meetings at Stoneleigh (UK) in 1995, Utrecht (Netherlands) and Verona (Italy) in 1996.

Membership

The original member nations were: **Belgium, Denmark, France, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom.**

Over the next few years, Belgium and Italy left EFFA, but have since rejoined. While **Austria, Czech Republic, Finland, Germany, Iceland, Norway and Poland** joined. **Hungary** joined for a while, but then left again. France has temporarily ceased membership.

Malta and Algeria are represented by individuals.

Headquarters

The official headquarters of EFFA has always been the headquarters of the British Farriers and Blacksmiths Association at The Forge, at Stoneleigh in Warwickshire, England.

Officers of the Society

Presidents of EFFA since its formation have been:

- 1997 – 1999 André Romijn (Netherlands)
- 2000 – 2003 Denis Leveillard (France)
- 2004 – 2008 Mats Persson (Sweden)
- 2009 – 2010 David Gulley (UK)
- 2011 – 2012 Flemming Christensen (Denmark)
- 2013 – 2016 Peter Frosch (Sweden)
- 2016 - Gary Burton (UK)

Secretaries have been:

- 1997 – 1999 Norman Cameron (UK)
- 2000 – 2008 Chris Oomen (Netherlands)
- 2009 – 2011 Andreas Furgler (Switzerland)
- 2012 – 2013 Miles Williamson-Noble (UK)
- 2014 - 2016 Chris Oomen (Netherlands)
- 2017 John Ravenelli (Germany)
- 2018 - Chris Linssner (UK)

Treasurers have been:

- 1997 – 2001 Kerstin Haga-Wilund (Sweden)
- 2002 - 2013 Andreas Furgler (Switzerland)
- 2014 - Marianne Gullbrand (Denmark))

In addition, EFFA has appointed as Chairman of the Accreditation Board:

- 2004 – 2008 Tony Fox (UK)
- 2009 - 2013 Howard Cooper (UK)
- 2014 - Flemming Christensen (Denmark)

and as Registrar:

- 2004 - 2013 Miles Williamson-Noble (UK)
- 2014 - 2016 Ginny Ifould (UK)
- 2017 – 2018 Miles Williamson-Noble (UK)
- 2019 - Linda Quinn (UK)

Major Achievements

The greatest achievements of EFFA have been to:

- Bring together farriers from a wide range of backgrounds, traditions and training, allowing them to meet together and to share their experiences and problems.
- Set in place a series of European Shoeing and Shoemaking Championships, and Educational Events.
- 1999 to 2002 develop, with help from the European Leonardo da Vinci programme, ***common standards of basic training*** to which all member nations aspire.
- 2004 to 2008 modify, with help from the European Leonardo da Vinci programme, these standards and implement a system of national accreditation leading to the ***award of Certified Euro-Farrier*** status.
- 2004 to 2008 develop and produce, with help from the European Leonardo da Vinci programme, a ***farriery handbook***.
- 2007 to 2014 contribute to the production of the **eHoof** farriery educational tool in German, and then to a major update and production of an English version.
- 2016 develop draft standards for higher level qualifications in farriery.
- 2018 getting the Equine Sub-Group of the European Commission's Platform of Animal Welfare to adopt the paper "Farriery as an Essential Element of Equine Welfare".

Annual General Meetings:

1997	France
1998	Sweden
1999	France
2000	Ireland
2001	Spain (Catalonia)
2002	United Kingdom
2003	Switzerland
2004	Germany
2005	Denmark
2006	Austria
2007	Holland
2008	France
2009	Sweden
2010	United Kingdom
2011	Spain
2012	Finland
2013	Czech Republic
2014	Hungary
2015	Switzerland
2016	Ireland
2017	Netherlands
2018	Spain (Catalonia)

Educational Events:

2003	France
2005	Switzerland
2007	Germany
2009	Holland
2011	Switzerland
2013	Denmark
2015	France
2017	Cancelled

European Championships:

2000	Holland
2002	Denmark
2004	Sweden
2006	Finland
2008	Germany
2010	France
2012	Austria
2014	United Kingdom
2016	Denmark
2018	Switzerland