

NOGOE

No to Greenwich Olympic Equestrian Events

Greenwich Park, Application Nos 09/2598 and 09/2599

ANNEX E

to letter dated 27th January 2010

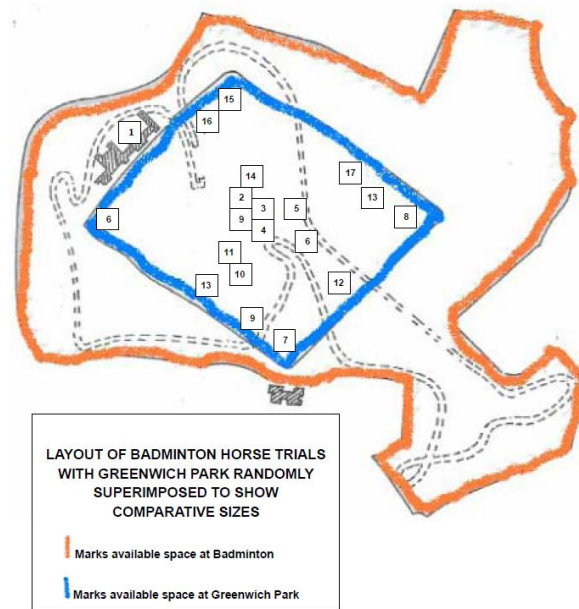
PROVISION FOR SPECTATORS

Provision for Spectators on “Cross Country Day”

1. The key features for any spectator at a cross country event are easy access to any point on the course, good views of the jumps and pleasant places for picnicking.
2. The map of the course (see for example ES Non Technical Summary pp 4-5) which includes the approximate location of the jumps, gives no impression of what will be required on the ground to provide the facilities necessary to put on the event.
3. By way of example of what would be required:
 - At each fence, space for the horse to turn round if he fails to take the jump first time: approximately 20 metres square is required for a single effort jump; 40 metres square would be required for multi “effort” jumping combinations (the current course plan shows two fences with three efforts and eight fences with two efforts)
 - Provision (including tenting) for two fence judges, two first aiders people and an exclusive toilet;
 - Provision for vehicular access: there must be marked access to every fence for both human and horse ambulances, for tractors/4WDs to make instant repair on fences if a horse damages a fence, and, for humans, an ambulance-track marked to the helicopter pad in case hospital treatment is needed. None of these emergency vehicle routes are shown on the plans
 - There will also be one or more TV cameras, with associated equipment at each fence.
4. The cross-country track between fences is ideally 10 metres wide. LOCOG has said (ES para 3.2.22) that the maximum width would be 10 metres, but that “it has been narrowed in some locations to avoid trees and sensitive ecological and archaeological areas”. The narrower the course, the greater the risk of accidents and injury to competitors and possibly members of the public as well.
5. It is difficult to assess how much space will be available within the Park for spectator circulation. However, by the time that space for the track, the facilities required around each jump, the sensitive areas fenced off for archaeological or ecological reasons, the TV towers and public, toilets, the emergency vehicular routes have been laid, the start and finish facilities etc have been taken into account, there may be only 20 hectares available to the public. However, assuming 20 hectares, 52,000 spectators and an even distribution of those attending across the whole of the available space, there would be an area of less than 2 metres square (i.e. 2 x 2) per person.
6. But, of course, there would not be an even distribution of spectators: there would be potentially uncontrollable pinch points at course crossings and around the jumps. Furthermore, it is presumably to be expected that many of those with

seats in the stands would also go onto the course from time to time, increasing the numbers still further. As yet, LOCOG has given no indication as to how it would propose to manage the crowds that it forecasts.

- The following plan gives some idea of relative space that is available at Badminton for the cross country course and spectators and what would be available at Greenwich, not just for the cross country, but for the main arena, stables, training grounds all the other facilities that LOCOG propose. A key difference, apart from the almost infinitely greater amount of space, is the ability for spectators at Badminton (and, it is understood, at most other cross country events) to circulate outside the course itself. That would be virtually impossible at Greenwich, as the course would be tightly surrounded by the security fencing that would be installed.



KEY to features in Greenwich Park

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|----------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Maritime Museum | 6. Two cafes | 10. Tennis courts | 14. General Wolfe |
| 2. Observatory | 7. Park Offices etc | 11. Reservoir | 15. Children's play area |
| 3. Planetarium | 8. Park Keeper's house | 12. Brick built shelter | 16. Boating pond |
| 4. Astronomy Centre | 9. Public lavatories | 13. Flower gardens | 17. Deer enclosure |
| 5. Bandstand | | | |

- The usual practice for spectators at a cross-country event is to arrive by car, with picnics, wet weather gear, blankets etc. At Greenwich, they would have to arrive by public transport and it is probable that most will have given themselves no

alternative, but to buy food and refreshments on site; however, no positions for food and beverage outlets are shown on the plan. Such arrangements will not be attractive to the usual cross-country supporters, but perhaps LOCOG is intending to encourage an entirely different audience with no clear understanding of what to expect.

9. What is, however, clear is that the traditional audience may be less likely to attend and that those who do will complain, since there is no evidence that the course would be able to deliver the key ingredients identified at the beginning of this section.. For all who attend, it seems most unlikely that they will have the enjoyable experience that is normally associated with an international event.