



June 20, 2023

Gianni Infantino
President
Fédération Internationale de Football Association

Via e-mail

Dear Mr. Infantino:

I'm writing on behalf of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals—PETA entities have more than 9 million members and supporters globally—to share some disturbing information and to ask for your help.

We understand that Anheuser-Busch has renewed its contract with FIFA for Budweiser to be the official beer during this summer's Women's World Cup and the World Cup in 2026. You should know that Budweiser is associated with cruelty to animals—and FIFA will be too. PETA has [documented](#) that the company is amputating the tailbones of its famous Budweiser Clydesdales. These amputations are done just for cosmetic reasons and serve no medical purpose. They're performed either by severing the tailbone or by putting a tight band around the tail to cut off blood flow so that the tail and most of the bone will die and fall off. This unnecessary and permanent disfigurement causes immense pain, affects horses' balance, and leaves them without natural protection from flies and other biting insects. Horses also depend on their tails to communicate with herdmates and humans.

Both the American Association of Equine Practitioners and the American Veterinary Medical Association condemn severing horses' tails unless it's medically necessary. Many European countries, including Belgium, where Anheuser-Busch is headquartered, have banned this practice, as have 10 U.S. states. If Budweiser is concerned that tail hair could become entangled in a wagon's hitch equipment, simply braiding and wrapping the tails would prevent this possibility.

Budweiser presents the iconic Clydesdales as symbols of traditional American values, but harming horses is the antithesis of what all fans in the U.S and around the world hold dear. Anheuser-Busch is choosing to align the Budweiser brand—and now FIFA—with the disfigurement of horses. Will you speak with the company's executives to urge them to discontinue tailbone severing and if they refuse, drop them as a sponsor?

Thank you very much for your consideration. I'm available to answer questions, and I look forward to hearing from you.

Respectfully,

Kathy Guillermo
Senior Vice President
Equine Matters Department

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