



Entente Européenne d'Aviculture et de Cuniculture

European Association of Poultry, Pigeon, Bird, Rabbit and Cavy Breeders

Constitution

Name and Domicile

Article 1

The European Society for Poultry and Rabbit breeding (European Society for Small Livestock breeding) was founded in Brussels on 18th. June 1938 by the small livestock societies of Belgium, France, Luxembourg and the Netherlands.

The society will hereinafter be referred to as the EE, in line with the French translation of the original name - Entente Européenne d'Aviculture et de Cuniculture.

Nowadays the EE is called: European Association of Poultry, Pigeon, Bird, Rabbit and Cavy breeders. The legal seat of the EE is in Luxembourg at L-3321 Berchem, 51 Rue Meckenheck. The official languages of the EE are German, English and French.

(According to the law of 21st. April 1928 "sur les associations et les fondations sans but lucratif", telle qu'elle a été modifiée+)

Area of the Association and Financial Year

Article 2

2.1 The area of the association covers all European countries.

2.2 The financial year is the calendar year.

Objects

Article 3

The EE is a non-profit-making organisation and does not pursue any business enterprise. It is party-politically and confessionally neutral.

Its objects are as follows:

- 3.1. Promoting the keeping, breeding and exhibiting of poultry, waterfowl, turkeys, pigeons, cage birds, rabbits and cavies as well as wild and ornamental fowl.
- 3.2. Unification of all national small livestock societies in Europe.
- 3.3 Promoting international meetings of small livestock breeders in Europe, especially through the direct and indirect organisation of shows and educational conventions.
- 3.4. Monitoring the organisation of European small livestock exhibitions which are hosted by the various EE member countries.
- 3.5. Compiling a European show-calendar which is of particular national and international importance.

- 3.6. The EE seeks to achieve simplification of customs' formalities and veterinary regulations to aid the transport of exhibits to European shows.
- 3.7. The EE promotes animal welfare within the framework of its goals at a European level.
- 3.8. The EE promotes all scientific and practical research in small livestock breeding. It will do its best to combat animal diseases and implement cautionary measures.
- 3.9. The EE represents all general objects and interests of small livestock breeders against European, international and national authorities and institutions.
- 3.10. It promotes small livestock breeding as a valuable hobby and leisure activity.
- 3.11. It promotes the technical as well as the further education of small livestock breeders.
- 3.12. It compiles a list of international judges, as initiated by the technical sections that can be called upon for European shows. It gives guidelines for judging and organising a European show with an aim to standardize the running of all these shows. The same applies to awarding specials at all European shows.
- 3.13. From 2008, the EE will have a patented logo for closed rings to be used by all affiliated countries. The logo will be released to the ring manufacturer of the affiliated country upon written application from the relevant national association. The logo and the letters EE are to be positioned to the left of the country code. From 2008 onwards, only exhibits with the correct EE-rings will be judged at European and all national shows of affiliated countries. Exception: exhibits with rings from 2003 to 2007. Exhibits may not be older than 6 years (e.g. 2002 . 2007)
- 3.14. It oversees the standard descriptions of breeds and stimulates a European standardization.
- 3.15. The EE pursues only non-profit-making objects.
- 3.16. The EE abstains from all party-political or ideological activities.
- 3.17. The work of the EE is selfless and does not primarily follow any business interests.
- 3.18. Funds of the EE should only be used for statutory purposes. Payments from the association's funds to members are forbidden.
- 3.19. No person may receive unnaturally large expenses or payments which exceed the norm as laid down in this Constitution.

Membership

Article 4

- 4.1 Membership is open to all national societies of small livestock breeders from the area covered by the EE. The minimum amount of EE-members must be 3.

- 4.2 In order to affiliate to the EE, these national societies must cover the entire country as a whole rather than only a region.
- 4.3 The Executive can nominate certain people for honorary membership to be voted on by the Annual General Meeting. The chosen candidates must have made a considerable contribution to the furtherance of small livestock breeding within Europe. They will be invited to attend the AGM.
- 4.4 The Annual General Meeting can also bestow Honorary Presidencies upon retiring EE Presidents, who can be nominated by the Executive in recognition of their excellence. They will be invited to the EE Annual General Meetings as well as European shows. They will have voting rights.

Affiliation

Article 5

- 5.1 All national societies in Europe for Poultry, Pigeon, Bird, Rabbit and Cavy breeding can affiliate to the EE.
- 5.2 All prospective new members must apply in writing to the Secretary of the EE and accept the Constitution of the EE. A copy of the national society's Constitution in one of the official languages of the EE is to be enclosed. Furthermore the address details and telephone numbers from the President, Secretary and Treasurer of the association are to be included as well as the society's structure and an events list. Additional information is to be made available to the EE, if required.
- 5.3 The Annual General Meeting votes on the affiliation-application which can only be passed with an absolute majority.
- 5.4 Once the affiliation has been approved, all members of the national society will be bound by the Constitution of the EE.

Rights and Duties of Members

Article 6

- 6.1 All affiliated national societies have to transfer their annual fee by the 1st. of March of the current year or hand over cash in Euros to the Treasurer on the Friday prior to the Annual General Meeting at the latest. The Annual General Meeting determines the annual fee which shall not exceed 500 Euros.
- 6.2 Failing to pay the current membership by the Annual General Meeting will result in suspension of all membership rights.
- 6.3 If the annual fee is two years in arrears, the General Secretary will urge the association to pay the outstanding amount within two months. If, after this period no payment has been received, the EE membership will cease automatically. To re-affiliate, membership will have to be re-applied for.
- 6.4 Membership fees are two tier:
a) Societies with up to 5.000 members
b) Societies with over 5.000 members

The annual fee of group b) is double that of group a)

- 6.5 Only one national society per animal genus in each European country can become a full member of the EE. The maximum amount of affiliations for each country are therefore five societies: poultry, pigeons, cage birds, rabbits and caviae.
- 6.6 If more than one society is united in an umbrella organisation, the societies which are connected to this organisation have priority for EE membership and will appoint the delegates.
- 6.7 Each national society has one EE section-delegate, who represents his organisation at the Annual General Meeting and in the section-meeting.
- 6.8 The Honorary Presidents, the Executive members and all delegates have one vote each at the AGM.
At the section meetings the section's President, his deputy, the section's secretary and all delegates have one vote each.
- 6.9 If the delegate of a country is unable to attend, another delegate of the same country can vote on his behalf.
Authorisation in writing must be provided and be in the hands of the General Secretary. All votes given by the appointed delegate must be unanimous.
- 6.10 Transfer of votes between member countries is prohibited.
- 6.11 Only persons who are members of an affiliated national society can hold a position in the EE.

Termination of Membership

Article 7

Membership of the EE ends through:

- 7.1. **Resignation**
Resignation is only possible at the end of the financial year under observance of a period of notice of 3 months. The notice must be in writing and sent to the General Secretary.
- 7.2. **Expulsion**
A member can be temporarily or permanently expelled if he has contravened the Constitution, Rules and Regulations or decisions of the EE.
The expulsion can be proposed by the Executive or an affiliated association. The expulsion proposal has to be made in writing to the General Secretary by 31st. December stating the grounds for expulsion. The final decision lies with the Annual General Meeting's vote, requiring a two thirds majority.
- Minor offences can be treated through limitation of membership rights, e.g. prohibition of participating at events or the European Show. The final decision lies with the Executive.
- 7.3. **Termination**
Termination of membership follows the non payment of membership fees for at least two years. (see article 6.3)

- 7.4. **Dissolution**
In the event that an affiliated association is dissolved, the EE membership will automatically cease.
- 7.5 Termination of EE membership of any kind is to be communicated to the affected party immediately stating the reasons why. The affected member can lodge a protest within 60 days with the General Secretary. The protest will be dealt with by the next Annual General Meeting. The registered protest has no postponement effect.

European Shows

Article 8

- 8.1 The Annual General Meeting of the EE assigns a European Show to a member state once every three years. Preference goes to those who guarantee participation of all recognised animal genusq The show will be organised on the basis of the Regulations for European Shows.
- 8.2 The country (society or umbrella organisation) which hosts the European show is under the obligation to observe the EE Regulations for European shows as well as any additional regulations. A show contract will be drawn up between the EE and the show organisers.
- 8.3 The President and the General Secretary conduct all negotiations with the show organisers. They act on behalf of the Executive and they must make sure that that the show is held according to the appropriate show regulations.
- 8.4 All affiliated member states are obliged to take part in the show, especially to exhibit their national breeds.
No national shows may be held in any member country on the same weekend as well as the weekends before and after the European show.
- 8.5 Exhibitors to a European Show from EE-affiliated countries must all be members of their national society.

Sections

Article 9

The EE's sections are as follows::

1. the Annual General Meeting
2. the Executive
3. the technical Sections
4. the Sub-Committee for Animal Health and Welfare

The Annual General Meeting

Article 10

- 10.1 The Annual General Meeting of the EE consists of the Honorary Presidents, the Executive and the delegates of all affiliated national societies. The meeting is convened at least once a year. All members are invited in writing at least eight

weeks prior to the meeting. An agenda for all meetings must accompany the invitation. The invitation is sent out by the General Secretary, after having been approved by the Executive.

- 10.2 The Annual General Meeting takes place in the spring of every year. The date, country and venue are determined by the Annual General Meeting at least two years before.
- 10.3 An executive member will be appointed by the Executive to support the hosts of the Annual General Meeting with all preliminary tasks and give advice where needed. The executive member also ascertains that all administration is of the highest order.
- 10.4 The convention fees will be set by the hosts in conjunction with the Executive.
- 10.5 An Extraordinary General Meeting can be called by the Executive or upon the request of at least one quarter of all affiliated societies. This has to be done in writing to the General Secretary.
The Extraordinary General Meeting must take place within eight weeks.
The agenda as well as all relevant proposals from the Executive or the affiliated societies is to be sent out in writing at least one month prior to the meeting.
- 10.6 Decisions can only be made at the Annual General Meeting or Extraordinary General Meeting through proposals.

Proposals to the Annual General Meeting can be submitted by the Executive as well as the national societies. They have to be in writing and in the hands of the General Secretary by 31st.December of the previous year for inclusion on the agenda. Late proposals can only be included on the agenda as a matter of urgency if the Annual General Meeting decides this by a two thirds majority vote. Proposals that cannot gain the two thirds majority will lapse and must be submitted again.

- 10.7 The Annual General Meeting requires no quorum. A majority vote is binding. In the event of parity of votes a proposal is considered defeated. Amendment of the Constitution requires a three quarter majority of the votes submitted.
- 10.8 The President as well as the General Secretary report to the AGM on the business of the previous year. The Treasurer presents the accounts and balance.
- 10.9 Two auditors and a reserve-auditor are elected by the Annual General Meeting for two years to audit the accounts.
One of the auditors gives a report and requests the meeting to adopt the accounts. An auditor's term of office can be a maximum of four years.
- 10.10 The Annual General Meeting decides on the subscription fees per section and country as well as the budget for the coming year.
Sponsorships must be approved by the Annual General Meeting.
- 10.11 The Executive members are elected by the Annual General Meeting. It also confirms the section Presidents.
- 10.12 Nominations must be in the hands of the General Secretary by 31st. January before the Annual General Meeting for inclusion on the agenda. Late nominations can be put on the agenda by a two thirds majority vote in exceptional circumstances (e.g. no candidature)

- 10.13 Minutes of the Annual General Meeting will be taken in writing by the General Secretary and signed by him and the President. The minutes have to be sent out to the Executive and all delegates within 3 months of the AGM at the latest in the three official languages of the EE. All national societies are requested to submit their email address to the General Secretary, so that the minutes can be sent out electronically.
Members have a right to ask the General Secretary for insight in previous years' minutes.

The Executive

Article 11

- 11.1 All members from societies which are affiliated to the EE can stand for election for the Executive. Members who are not present at the Annual General Meeting must give their written consent for standing beforehand.

The Executive consists of:

1. President
2. Vice-President
3. General Secretary
4. Treasurer
5. President of the Poultry section
6. President of the Pigeon section
7. President of the Cage Bird section
8. President of the Rabbit section
9. President of the Cavy section
10. President of the Animal Health and Welfare Sub-Committee

If necessary, the Executive can be expanded after a majority decision by the Annual General Meeting.

- 11.2 A term of office for Executive members is three years. Re-election is possible.
- 11.3 Election of the entire Executive must be avoided, so in the first year the President and the Treasurer will be elected and in the following year the Vice-President and the General Secretary. In the third year the Presidents of the sections as well as the sub committee, who are elected by their section / sub committee members and confirmed in office by the Annual General Meeting. If an Executive member retires during his period of office, a successor must be elected for the remaining term of office.
- 11.4 The Executive meets following an invitation by the President. Normally this meeting takes place prior to the Annual General Meeting. If necessary, more meetings can be convened by the President. The EE pays the incurred costs (travel expenses, board and lodging) for all meetings other than the one prior to the Annual General Meeting. Modified expenses will be determined by the Executive for the Annual General Meeting.
- 11.5 All offices are honorary. Expenses for official duties will be reimbursed and the height of the expenses determined by the Executive.
- 11.6 The President (and in his absence the Vice-President) along with the General Secretary or the Treasurer represent the society legally and non-legally.

- 11.7 The President (and in his absence the Vice-President) convenes and chairs the Executive and Annual General Meetings.
- 11.8 The Vice-President represents the President in his absence. Further duties can be bestowed on the Vice-President by the Executive.
- 11.9 The General Secretary conducts all correspondence of the EE. He compiles the minutes of the Annual General Meeting and the Executive meetings and is responsible for their safe keeping and other important documents. He compiles and upgrades a membership list containing details of the Presidents and Treasurers of all affiliated national societies. Further tasks can be determined by the Executive.
- 11.10 The Treasurer keeps the accounts for the EE and presents these to the Annual General Meeting every year. His responsibilities include paying bills and expenses on time. He must equally make sure that affiliation fees are paid on time. Outstanding affiliation fees are reported to the President prior to the Annual General Meeting. A gilt-edged trust of monies is overseen by him.
- 11.11 The section Presidents are responsible for the activities within their sections. They report on all activities to the Annual General Meeting and the Executive.
- 11.12 The President of the Animal Health and Welfare Sub-Committee is responsible for all activities within the sub committee. Further specific tasks can be set by the Executive. He reports on all activities in his sub committee to the Annual General Meeting and the Executive.

The Sections

Article 12

- 12.1 Sections have been formed for all technical matters, in order to attain the objects set by the EE.
To this end, delegates from all national societies, who partake in breeding the same animal type, meet in the sections (poultry, pigeons, birds, rabbits and cavies).
Ornamental poultry is covered by both the poultry and pigeon sections.
- 12.2 All sections are lead by:
1. President
 2. Vice President
 3. Secretary
- President, vice president and secretary are elected for a period of 3 years by the section. Re-election is possible.
- 12.3 The president calls and chairs the section meetings.
In his absence, the vice president will represent him on the Executive and in section meetings.
- 12.4 The secretary compiles the minutes of the meetings and will send these per email within two months in all three official languages, with the approval of his president, to the General Secretary.
They will then be sent out on time with the other minutes to all delegates.
- 12.5 Normally the sections meet on the day before the Annual General Meeting.

- 12.6 The sections operate totally independently in technical matters. Amongst its tasks is putting together a European standard and keep it up to date. To this end each section elects a Standards Committee, which will be governed by a special set of rules, drawn up by the section.
All decisions, made by the Standards Committee, will be binding for all affiliated national societies, after approval by the section.
The section Cage Birds is exempt from these criteria as the standards are governed by COM. The section may, however, form a standards committee that will deal with technical matters.
- 12.7 Each breed standard is founded on the one put forward by the country of origin or the country where the breed was perfected. No affiliated society can change the standard without the agreement of the country of origin or perfection. Exception: new colours of existing breeds are decided upon by the Standards Committee of the relevant section.
The poultry and pigeon sections are also responsible for a uniform closed ringing system.
- 12.8 The section stipulates the country (ies) of origin or of perfection. New breeds or colour varieties must be profoundly studied to avoid duplication of breeds that look very similar to these in another member state. If the breed or the colour already exists, the standard of that particular member country has to be adopted. The copyright for the European Standard lies with the EE.
The Bird section acts upon the directions of COM.
- 12.9 In the event of the country of origin being unable to provide a written standard for a particular breed, the breed standard of the country that has re-created and perfected the breed will be adopted.
- 12.10 All breeds have uniform descriptions in all official languages of the EE.
- 12.11 The sections can also organise breed specific European Shows. The show organisation to host such an event has to put an offer in writing to the section president by 31st December of the previous year. The host organisation will refrain from all other activities until the approval has been received from the section president.
The EE will donate a European medal for each approved breed specific European show. Breed specific European shows may only be held in the intervening years between the major European shows. Breed specific shows, that are planned for the year of a major European show, must be stopped by the member society of the country in which the show would be taking place.
- 12.12 As a rule, the Executive issues agendas to the sections to ensure uniformity of proceedings at all meetings. The sections may, however, meet independently, with the approval of the Executive, to discuss technical issues. The section president will report on the section meeting to the Annual General Meeting and the minutes will be attached to the minutes of the Annual General Meeting.
- 12.13 With a view to unifying the interpretation of breed standards and judging at a European level, all sections hold a judgesqseminar every year. These seminars are hosted by an affiliated country. The sections are responsible for the organisation and course of events.

The EE standards committee as well as all presidents of the judgesqcouncils of all affiliated societies are invited to these seminars. Additional

invitations are determined by the section concerned. There is no limit to the amount of people attending a seminar.

The cage bird section is excluded from the above rule, but may organise technical seminars.

- 12.14 The President, the Vice-President, the General Secretary and the Treasurer do not belong to any section. Whilst section meetings are in progress, they should ensure that all meetings are running smoothly.

Animal Health & Welfare Sub-Committee

Article 13

- 13.1 This Sub Committee is an advisory body for the EE Executive and the AGM as well as all affiliated associations. It will mediate in all matters concerning animal health and welfare.
- 13.2 The main tasks include:
Creating uniform legal norms within Europe for all animal species that the EE caters for.
Conserving the breeds spectrum by influencing the understanding of these animals, based on scientific principles and free from emotional and ideological concepts.
Creating rules covering the minimal requirements of husbandry of all animal species and breeds that the EE caters for.
Influencing European legislation with regard to animal transports and animal epidemics.
Assisting in the creation of breed standards by closely cooperating with the EE sections with a view to avoiding extremes. Attending the European shows to monitor the maintenance of these guidelines.
Advising all affiliated countries on animal health, breeding and welfare and issuing guidelines in English, French and German.
Mediating in animal welfare issues in the affiliated countries and set up rules with regard to qualifications for events.
- 13.3 The workload of the Sub Committee comprises the following:
Committee members communicate with the Executive and the section Presidents as well as with the European authorities.
The main impulses are received from the Executive and the sections. Alternatively the Sub Committee can direct questions, suggestions and requests at the sections or the Executive.
The Sub Committee meets at the EE conventions and, if required, at the European shows. In the mean time queries have to be solved by telephone, fax or email. If, however, a meeting is inevitable, such meeting can be called after obtaining the consent of the EE President.

Judging

Article 14

- 14.1 The training up of new judges in all sections has to be undertaken by the relevant national associations of the countries that are affiliated to the EE. The basic training of a judge must always be conducted in the country in which the candidate lives. The training is based upon the rules and regulations of the national association concerned.

After passing all examinations, a judge will be issued with a judge's certificate. This certificate will serve as a proof and an identification of his judging abilities in cases

where the judge is invited to officiate abroad.

- 14.2 Further training in a foreign small livestock association can only be pursued, if the judge can hand over the judges certificate from the country in which he lives.
- 14.3 All national associations affiliated to the EE are responsible for obeying these rules. It is imperative that only judges, who can hand over a recognised judges certificate, are invited to judge abroad and officiate under the official rules that appertain to that country. This rule also especially applies to breed specific European shows and national and international breed club shows.
- 14.4 Judging engagements that are not based on these rules will be deemed invalid. Violation of these rules has to be reported in writing to the national associations and the president of the relevant EE-section.
- 14.5 The national associations of the EE must make sure that as many of their judges attend the annual EE Judges conventions.
- 14.6 If a judge is banned from judging by a national association, this ban will be adopted by all EE affiliated national associations.
- The President of the relevant EE-section has to notified of the ban immediately and will be responsible for submitting this information to all affiliated countries.
- 14.7 If a judge is banned from judging by his own national association, the same rules apply as mentioned under point 13.6.

Final Regulations

Article 15

- 15.1 The dissolution of the EE can only be decided upon by an Extraordinary General Meeting.
- 15.2 All affiliated national societies and the members of the Executive must be informed of such a meeting at least eight weeks before. It must be evident from the invitation that the meeting will deal with the proposed dissolution. The Executive must submit a report on the advisability for the dissolution and make a proposition thereto.
- 15.3. The EE can only be dissolved by a majority in favour of three quarters of the members' votes; voting will be done in secret. If a three-quarter majority is not attained, a second vote cannot be undertaken at the same meeting.
- 15.4 In the event of a dissolution of the EE, the remaining funds will be paid back proportionally to the affiliated societies after payment of all costs, as follows: a-members: 1 portion - b-members: 2 portions.
- 15.5 The safe keeping of the archives of the EE and its sections will be determined by the Extraordinary General Meeting.
- 15.6 In the event of one of the regulations in this Constitution being totally or partially illegal, the rest of the regulations should remain in effect. In borderline cases, the relevant law of the official EE domicile in Luxembourg will prevail.

- 15.7 The Luxembourg law is applicable to this Constitution and the town court will be L-3321 Berchem, 51 rue Meckenheck
- 15.8 In arguable cases through incorrect translating, the German version of the Constitution prevails.
- 19.9 All previous versions of the Constitution are herewith annulled as well as all opposing decisions to this Constitution.
- 15.10 All descriptions with regard to persons or functions in this Constitution are valid for both men and women and as such conforming to the principles of the Sex Discrimination Act.
- 15.11 In case of possible lingual discrepancies caused by translation, the German text will always prevail.

The Constitution was completed on the 19th. day of May 2007 in Piestany / Slovakia and came into effect immediately.

The President

The General Secretary

Urs Freiburghaus

Gion P. Gross