

Minutes of the cavy section meeting in Balatonalmadi/Hungary, 3. June 2011.

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1. Welcome and Opening

Evelyne van Vliet opened the meeting at 8am to welcome all delegates and hoped for a constructive meeting.

She regretted the fact that a substantial number of countries are absent.

2. Recording attendance

Evelyne van Vliet, England; Helmut Sakac, Austria; Petr Tejml, Czech Rep.; Priska Küng, Switzerland; Christian Koch, Germany; Peter Supuka, Slovakia; Mihail Anoshin, Russia (with interpreter as a guest)

The following countries were absent: Spain, Portugal, Belgium, Holland, Poland, Sweden, Slovenia, France.

There are problems in Poland: Aldona is no longer president of CCP. Furthermore Poland was absent from the Judges's seminar in Laa an der Thaya; no apologies for absence were received and neither have the fees been paid so far.

7 eligible votes with an absolute majority of 4.

3. Minutes of the last section meeting in Toledo / E on 14/05/2010

The minutes were received by all and taken as read. Evelyne thanked Priska for the ever prompt delivery of these minutes. No questions or matters were raised.

4. Correspondence

The cavy section has quite a substantial amount of money, as most delegates never claim any expenses for attending the meetings (the EE sponsors these meetings with €1.000 every year). Moreover, the European standard produced a neat profit too.

A discussion took place in the ESKC meeting that the Judges' seminars could be financially supported with this money; surely this money could not be better invested than in furthering cavy judges' expertise in the future.

No other ideas came out of the meeting. It was therefore decided that €2.000 would be distributed proportionally across all participants at the next seminar.

**A letter was received from Sweden in which they stated that they were not against clipped longhairs, but objected against chewed longhairs being entered as clipped.

Skinnies should be exhibited at European shows, unless the host nation of the European show has a rule forbidding them to be shown. Satin cavies are in the same situation in Sweden, where they can no longer be bred or exhibited.

Within the EE we have no possibility for Skinnies to be shown, as the EE Animal Health and Welfare sub committee has ruled that hairless cavies will not be tolerated at any of our shows.

Sweden further holds the opinion that all judges can judge in whatever nation or association, irrelevant whether that nation or association is a member of the EE.

** A letter was received from Belgium (Flanders) which contained the resignation of Flor Dickens as delegate as well as a member of the ESKC. The future Belgian delegate will be Eddy de Permentier (he came last year), but was unable to attend this year because of ill health.

The meeting owes Flor Dickens a great debt and would like to thank him for all his hard work over numerous years, especially in being instrumental in putting the EE standard together as well as all his French translations.

Recently, our minutes have not been translated into French, but Priska will make sure that this year's minutes will be translated by members of the French speaking cavy club Craci in Switzerland.

Evelyne mentioned that gettogethers at shows or meetings produce many positive discussions. This should be promoted wherever possible.

** Urs Freiburghaus is planning a symposium for all European cavy associations (also those that are currently not affiliated to the EE) with a view to discussing the future of the European cavy fancy.

Possible items for discussion would include: a uniform standard and cooperation between all clubs on a national and international level. Almost without fail personal differences lie at the basis in all those countries in which there are more than one cavy club. We will try and tackle these differences

and come to some agreements. We need as many countries, clubs and members in our otherwise rather small section.

Possible date: Spring 2012 somewhere in Germany, which is most central.

** Talks between Urs Freiburghaus and Karlheinz Müller about cooperation between the various cavy clubs in Germany, in particular the OMNC run by Herbert Janssen and the recognition of the OMNC judges.

Apparently, there is different information going round as to what standards can be used. It would be beneficial if either the MFD or the EE standard would be used. Supposedly, an email is being circulated that the OMNC is not allowed to use the EE standard.

Progress is being made and Urs is planning to visit the Bundesschau in Frankfurt in 10 days time, where he hopes to have further talks with various people.

Mihail Anoshin liked the idea of having this symposium, but he was unsure whether Russia can participate (finances). He feared, as there were only 6 nations present at this convention, that many countries will not take part in the symposium.

Evelyne thinks that we must go down this avenue and try it, although we cannot be sure of its success.

5. Reports of the Executive Meetings of 05/02/2011 and 02/06/2011

Evelyne was unable to attend the February meeting because of a family bereavement, but will inform the meeting as per minutes of the meeting.

The EE Constitution and Regulations for Breedspecific European shows were drawn up and will be discussed at the AGM and voted on. The Constitution will be discussed per passage and then voted on.

The European Carrier Pigeon association would like to be affiliated to the EE in time to take part at the European show in Leipzig.

The problems of two associations wanting to affiliate to the EE is ongoing in Serbia and Rumania.

There will be some changes in certain sections: Werner Lüthgen, President pigeon section will retire and Dieter Plumanns (President rabbit section) had already resigned with immediate effect.

The poultry sections of Portugal and Rumania are negotiating affiliation of the EE.

The show contract for the European show in Leipzig was signed and sealed the previous day. The Leipzig committee also offered to host the European show again in 2021.

VDT (German Pigeon association) is organising a national pigeon show one week after the European show in Leipzig; this will harm the European show considerably. Furthermore it contravenes the rule that „no national show can be staged in the immediate vicinity of a European show“.

Additionally, no breedspecific European shows can be staged in the year of a European show. The German English Cropper club has applied for an exception to this rule, as they would like to stage a breedspecific show 6 weeks before the European show to celebrate the 100. Anniversary of the club. The EE Executive has granted approval.

Change to the Constitution: voting procedure and affiliation fees will be amended (up to 1000 members €110 and 2 votes; up to 5000 members €220 and 4 votes; more than 5000 members €330 and 6 votes). No matter how many votes an association has got, all votes have to be the same; either all for or all against.

Entry fees@ €6.50 per exhibit at breedspecific shows -50 cents of which will be donated to the EE.

The rules for Breedspecific European shows have to be amended, so that they are uniform throughout the sections.

Amendment with regard to majority vote: so far 75% from now onwards 66%.

EE judges' badges: how does one qualify:

3 x participation at judges' seminar and 1 judging engagement at either European show or breedspecific European show.

Each judge will be issued with a booklet in which all attendances at the seminars as well as the engagements at the European shows will be logged.

Further problems include that only countries, that have entered a specific number of exhibits, can delegate judges to a European show, whilst according to the rules ESKC members will always have preference over others to judge. Moreover, exhibitors do not like their animals being judged by their own national judges at European shows (example: request from Holland that all Dutch exhibits would be judged by non Dutch judges at the breedspecific European show in Etziken).

Judges should be prohibited from walking round the pens prior to judging, so that they do not know what exhibit is in what pen number. It would be easier if exhibitors would only enter collections, as these can be judged by 2 or more judges.

Evelyn would prefer to engage well qualified judges rather than abiding by the EE rules.

Re EE judges' badge, a vote was taken and the following: 3 seminars, 1 European show (either 3 yearly or breedspecific) was passed with 5 votes.

Infos from the EE-President

Urs Freiburghaus paid us a visit and regretted the fact that there were only 6 cavy nations present.

He thanked all on behalf of the Etziken show organisers for their participation in the show. He hoped that the 3 yearly rota for breedspecific shows could be upheld and volunteered Germany to host the show in 2013, Austria in 2016 and the Czech republic in 2019.

He also gave us more information about the symposium that he intends to stage. Spring 2012 will probably clash too much with the judges seminar, that will take place on the 3. Weekend in March. Possibly autumn 2012, but that would be quite close to the European show.

Evelyn thanked the Etziken show organisers once more for the fine show they gave us and requested that Urs and Priska will convey her thanks to the rest of the committee.

A great advantage in the cavy section is that exhibitors are used to being present and therefore helping at shows.

Urs requested that the cavy delegates will support the amendments to the Constitution and the Regulations for (Breedspecific) European shows, that will be voted on at tomorrow's AGM.

6. Agenda for the Annual General Meeting of Saturday 04/06/2011

The General Secretary as well as the Vice President were coming up for re-election for a further three years.

The election of a new President for the rabbit and pigeon sections will be confirmed by the AGM.

There were no questions as regards the agenda of the AGM.

7. Report of the ESKC Standards Committee Meeting

After the resignation of Flor Dickens as ESKC member, the Standards Committee consists of 5 members again. No nominations for the ESKC vacancies had been received.

A further problem within the ESKC is the intermittent attendance of Lena Tysk at the meetings. Apologies for absence had been received for this year's as well as the 2009 ESKC meetings and she has only attended 1 of the 3 Judges' seminars. The meeting questioned whether there was any sense in Lena retaining her place on the ESKC.

Evelyne suggested to send an email to Lena as well as the Swedish cavy club in which the meeting's worries would be aired.

The ESKC desperately needs nominations for the ESKC, notably from Holland and /or Belgium. Evelyne will contact these countries.

The ESKC meeting had made a start with the revision, correction and amendments of the European standard.

It was decided to finish this project off on a specially convened day, possibly the day before the Judges' seminar.

The showing of Skinnies also came to the fore again; there is only one answer to this: this breed cannot be shown at European shows, but they can, of course, be shown in those countries that have standardised them. It is expected that animal welfare issues will soon be filtering through to all eastern European countries too.

8. Affiliation of new members

France had shown an interest in joining again and Evelyne had forwarded all necessary paperwork. She also invited the French to the show in Etziken. A reply or a proposal for affiliation was never received, though. France will have to officially re-apply for affiliation as they lost their membership some years ago through non payment of fees over many years.

We will have to wait and see whether they will apply for membership next year.

Luxemburg is also interested in affiliating to the EE; Evelyne has sent them all the paperwork.

9. Report from the Breedspecific European show held in Etziken (CH) from 14.-15./05/2011

The Breedspecific European show in Etziken was very well organised, the hall was beautifully decorated, the social evening was very varied and the food good throughout.

The quality of the exhibits was good.

Two suggestions for future shows were aired: Best in Show judging would have to be done by an international jury.

Some judges had penalised certain exhibits (e.g. the Self reds) quite heavily on 'condition'. It has to be remembered that some exhibits have travelled very far and therefore lost some condition; we have to be more lenient in future. If 1 or more points are deducted from position 7, the judge will have to write down the reasons why.

Further suggestions included that collections are to be judged by 2 judges in future and, in an effort to reduce stark differences in judging; it would be beneficial to have a „dress rehearsal“ on the evening before the show.

Priska thanked all exhibitors for their help at the show and apologised once more for the mistakes in the catalogue

Helmut found that the Lunkaryas were very mediocre, but he had had the chance to talk to the owners and explain to them what their faults were and what a Lunkarya should look.

10. Discussing the Regulations for Breed Specific European Shows

These regulations should be amended in such a way that they are mostly uniform across all sections. It was decided that the first half would be the same in all sections, whereas the second half (the technical part) could differ in the various sections.

These regulations only allow one breedspecific European show per breed in between the two big European shows; this means that, if we can find people to host these shows, we can have 3 breedspecific shows (smooth, rough and long coated) in every term. A breedspecific show can be linked to a national show, if necessary. No breedspecific shows can currently be organised for single breeds (e.g. Tans) –such shows could be called „international shows“, though.

Amendment to the rules: „that all travelling, accommodation and food expenses for judges will be borne by the show organisers (8.1); the extent of the fees will be discussed and set individually from show to show.

New wording:

8.1: all accommodation and food costs for judges will be borne by the show organisers. Foreign judges will be paid for 2 nights' accommodation per day of judging.

8.2: Travelling expense for judges will be negotiated individually for each and every show. Judges will be encouraged to travelling together in one car as much as possible.

9.1 Cavies will be judged in two age groups, as follows:

Adults: from 12 months onwards, youngsters from 6 – 12 months with a minimum weight of 800g .

9.2 97 - 100 points = Excellent (V)

95 - 96.5 points = Outstanding (HV)

The listing on the comments card will be dropped from the regulations (first and last sentence will remain).

9.4 Deductions from 1.5 points onwards = EXPLANATION REQUIRED

Each and every disqualification requires an explanation too; a second judge or the head judge must be called upon to countersign the card.

9.6 If 97 points or higher are awarded...

Delete „Obligations to the EE, coming into force in 2013“

11. Discussing the EE Constitution 2011

The amendments were looked at in depth and discussed; the meeting was in favour of all changes.

12. Discussing the Regulations for European Shows 2011

There were no questions or comments about the proposed regulations

13. EE Judges' seminar in Cheltenham (GB) on 4.+5./09/2010

The visit to the London Championship Show on Saturday was very interesting; all candidates were issued with a set task during the day. The outcome was later discussed and some very interesting results were booked.

Sunday: Lecture on type and shape.

14. EE Judges' seminar in Laa a/d Thaya (A) on 19.+ 20. / 03/ 2011

This seminar was completely different again from the previous two. Helmut and his family treated us to an excellent organisation. Many thanks to Christian, who at the last minute stepped in to deliver a superb lecture on Teddies. Anneke Vermeulen did a lecture on Rex cavies, which was equally interesting. The accompanying booklets from these lectures make excellent learning material for new judges.

15. EE Judges Training

The next Judges' seminar will take place in Germany, probably Berlin from 16. – 18. March 2012 and is organised by Christian Koch. Melanie Polinelli will hold a lecture on Swiss.

March 2013 will be Holland's turn, as they had originally offered for 2012.

A letter was received from Peter Supuka from Slovakia with regard to the Judges' training. Slovakia has currently no cavy judges, although there are 4 breeders who are being trained in the Czech republic. They request that they can train their own judges themselves, as this would be a quicker procedure.

The EE cannot solve this problem, but will come up with ideas and advice.

The cavy section should ideally work out a system of examination, so that new judges could sit these exams and pass in order to become EE judges.

16. European show to be held in Leipzig (D) from 7.- 9./12./2012

Christoph Günzel paid our section meeting a visit and gave us all initial information with regard to the next European show in Leipzig, 7. / 9. December 2012. He hoped that as many fanciers would participate in the show ; there is room for 100'000 animals.

Hotels have to be booked as early as possible, as there are not many rooms available in the vicinity of Leipzig.

Evelyne requested that the cavy section has its own contact person within the Leipzig organising committee with whom we can liaise about all matters concerning our section. She further re-iterated that the cavies are not to be staged in the same hall as the poultry, waterfowl or cage birds because of the stress it causes the cavies. Rabbits would be ok. The cavy section would again like a double stand to be used by all participating countries plus an office next to the stand where all administration could be dealt with.

The cavy pens must be 50 x 50cm size (because of the plastic inserts, that have been specially made for this size pen).

Christoph Günzel gave Evelyne his email address; she will forward all information to him that we already have on paper.

The entire organisation of the cavy entry will be undertaken by the cavy section.

David Marshall has offered to take the entry and put together the catalogue. Urs has offered for the team from Etziken to be in charge of the accounts (will René and Rösli Karpf have time and the opportunity??).

Evelyne expects „team Nitra“ to be present in Leipzig to run the cavy section. It is unclear whether we will run our own sales office again, as certain requirements have to be fulfilled in Germany before big sums of money can be dealt with.

Our greatest problem is food for the exhibits, we cannot risk there being no food or too little again. It would be best if a local cavy club could supply our food. Christian thought that that should be possible.

We would also like to make a nice enclosure with cavies. Christian will organise this.

On this occasion, we would also like to have a stand that will sell cavy related items; it will be a challenge to sort out the money matters at the end, but we want to show the public more than just rows of pens.

17. Information by the 'Internet' Sub Committee

Hans Zürcher would like more information about national shows. All material for the website has to be sent to Evelyne, who will then forward it to Hans Zürcher.

Helmut had set up a website that could be linked to the EE website.

It was decided that Helmut could send his material directly to the webmaster and copy Evelyne in.

Request to all countries: list your three biggest shows in the next 12 months with date, venue and possibly logo and send to Evelyne for publication on our website.

The judges' list must be updated on an annual basis. Please all information to Evelyne by 1st. July 2011.

18. Ailments

No particular ailments in the affiliated countries.

19. Suggestions and Requests

Plastic inserts in Etziken? Paid for by the cavy section, storage for now in Switzerland?

Transport to Leipzig with the animal group transport from Switzerland?

Or transport by „courier“ paid for by the Leipzig show organisation. (The show organisers can decide whether they want to organise their own plastic inserts or whether they want to use ours).

The meeting decided that the cavy section will pay the €150 for the plastic inserts from Etziken.

Over from last year: dividing the longhairs into two classes: clipped and unclipped. Evelyne has received no comments. A proposal will be put together for next year's convention, enabling the affiliated countries to discuss and vote on.

20. Any other business

None.

The meeting was closed at 15.10pm.

Priska Küng, 3.6.2011

Homework:

Every country to send date / venue / place of the 3 biggest national shows to Evelyne by 1. July.

Correct and amend Judges' lists and send to Evelyne by 1. July.

Evelyne will send out all information and material with regard to next year's convention to all affiliated countries by 1. April 2012.



