



Sparte Kaninchen

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1 Opening / Welcome

At 8.05am, the President, Dieter Plumanns welcomed all to the section meeting. He mentioned some highlights since the last meeting in Piestany: especially, the 5. Judges' Seminar in the High Tatras, 11.-13. April 2008.

All delegates briefly introduce themselves.

Apologies for absence had been received from Norway and Rumania.

Urs Freiburghaus paid a brief visit to the section meeting.

2 Attendance

22 delegates from 14 countries were present.

3 Address List

See appendix

4 Minutes of the EE-Meeting at Piestany/SK on 18. May 2007.

These were taken as read with thanks to Dieter Plumanns.

5 Correspondence and Information

The letter from the French Association was mentioned. Dieter Plumanns had received some invitations.

All delegates were requested to notify the President of any new breeds or colour varieties.

6 Report of Executive Meetings

Dieter Plumanns mentioned the most important subjects that were discussed at the Executive meetings; one of which was the EE Presentation in the EU lobby in Brussels. Reports and documents can be obtained in three languages from Urs Freiburghaus.

The forthcoming European Show in Nitra had been discussed in depth.

A discussion with regards to more than one small livestock organisation in any one country wanting to affiliate to the EE was ongoing.

Urs Freiburghaus had been a guest speaker at an agricultural fair in Barcelona.

7 Agenda of the Annual General Meeting of 3. May 2008

Postscript; Rumania will be officially affiliated at the AGM on 3. May 2008, as it was only a member of the rabbit section, which is not possible.

8 Affiliation of New Members

A proposition for affiliation had been received from Russia. This association had around 220 – 300 members and is still in its infancy. Shows are held in Moscow as well as St. Petersburg.

9 EE-Judges' Seminar

- The amount of attendees was very good. The Slovak organisers had done a marvellous job.
- A report will be published on the Rabbit section's homepage.
- It is very important, that the speakers always highlight the important points, such as: Ear length / Stance / Eye Colour / Markings –e.g. stops in Dutch rabbits, not only seen from above but also underneath / special colours and under colours.
- In future, all judges that attend the Judges' seminar will be issued with a certificate.
- Next Judges' Seminar will be held in **Salzburg/A on 8.-10. May 2009**
- Reinhard Seeber gave the first details of the programme and looked forward to a good attendance.
- Appeal to all affiliated countries: at least one judge has to attend from each country!

10 Standards Committee Report

The first meeting of the newly elected EE-Standards Committee took place on 1. May 2008.

Information

- Holland; the following breeds were standardised in the Dutch standard: Tan (feh), Dwarf Angora (Red-Eyed White), Dwarf Lop (Himalayan, Chinchilla, Chinchilla Broken), Polish (Otter, Himalayan), Dwarfs (Butterfly black/white, blue/white, chocolate/white)
- Jo Vanhommerig is President of the Dutch Standards' Committee.

EE-Standard

Is a uniform EE-Standard utopian? This question was asked by Dieter Meister. An in-depth discussion followed. The EE-Standard should replace various standards of all affiliated countries.

Every delegate aired his own opinion:

Switzerland; bone structure, change from 8 positions to 7 is a great challenge.

A swift change will be impossible; the fanciers have to be convinced first. 30 rabbits at the Swiss Buck show will be judged according to the EE-Standard for the first time in 2009.

France; – it must be the goal and it will not be impossible. The latest standard was published in 2000. All positions and points have already been synchronised with the EE-Standard.

Germany; the way is our goal. Most rabbit fanciers cling to conservative attitudes. The EE-Standard has to be put together in such a way that the fanciers will take a liking to it. Every time, the German standard is revised, the EE-Standard is taken into consideration. „A door that is opened slowly will also close slowly“ –quotation from Peter Mickmann. The breeders have to be considered –we must make it clear to them that the breeds' specific features will not be changed. It is important that many shows will start judging according to the EE-Standard. The German standard is based on the EE-Standard.

Belgium; it is very important that the breed clubs are consulted in the revision. International experiences within the Rex club show that this procedure is very beneficial. This way, the breeds can only get stronger. It should also be considered

to have the EE-Standard printed in more languages, to increase its acceptance in as many countries as possible.

Czech Republic; the process has to be a slow one. Discussions amongst breeders has shown that many breeders are beginning to accept the EE-Standard.

Luxembourg; only young stock shows should be judged on points. The first step would be a uniform assessment card. The revision should take less then 5 years and a uniform standard should be realised within 10 years.

Austria; the common road is noticeable. There is a clear difference in Austria between new breeds and existing breeds –this is a first in the direction of Europe.

Verdict – All have the same thoughts –so, let’s get started.

Task; every Standards‘ Committee member will go over the EE-Standard. Factual and editorial mistakes must be noted and listed for the Standard Committee meeting. All notes are to be sent to the Secretary, who will compile a long term agenda, based on themes. All notes to reach the Secretary by 30. August 2008. Good quality photos (colour / under colour / markings / etc.) will be of great benefit.

Decision Awards

The show organisers have to instruct all judges about how to award all specials and monetary awards. In the event that 2 or more exhibits score the same amount of points and have the same word comments, the following procedure should be followed to find the winner:

1. higher points in position one (1. Type and Shape)
2. higher points in position three (3. Coat)
3. higher points in positions four (4.), five (5.) and six (6.) (Breed Specific) in total.

This has to be changed in the next revision of the EE-Standard.

26. European Show in Nitra

The Show Contract was signed by the show organisers and the European Association. A discussion took place about the fact that 15 judges would be allocated to every head judge –a number that was perceived as far too high. A lot will depend on the amount of exhibits. Another discussion took place about pen sizes. The measurements for the dwarf and small breeds (50x50X45) are too small! Bigger pens are needed and it is imperative that only exhibits that weigh less than 2.5kg will be housed in pen sizes (50x50X45).

Decisions for Nitra;

- Czech Butterfly and Small Butterfly will compete in the same classes.
- The tattoos bearing the club details have to be overwritten with the pen number. This 2007 decision was not incorporated in the Show Contract. It will be amended before the European Show.
- A proposition was made; to rethink this situation once more.
Verdict: the tattoos bearing the club details have to be overwritten by the pen number with a black marker. This postscript has to be added to the schedule and the entry forms!
- 8'000 - 10'000 rabbits are expected at the show

11 European-Standard

Dieter Plumanns reminded all, that breeds that are nominated for inclusion in the EE-Standard will have to be shown in Nitra, so that they can be assessed by the EE Standards Committee.

12 Which breeds of rabbits in all affiliated countries have not yet been included in the European Standard or EE Breeds' List 2008

- Belgium; Bearded rabbit (2007), Polish (2009) were incorporated in the Belgian standard.
- England; a new breed is being created, more information to follow.
- Switzerland; all their breeds are in the EE-Standard. Conclusion; large breeds are bred in dwarf sizes (Animal Welfare Act). New Show Regulations are being prepared that will allow breeds, that are not in the Swiss standard to be judged according to the EE-Standard.
- Germany; all their breeds are in the EE-Standard. New colour in Dwarf Lops.
- France; Havana (wish: correct place in classification in the EE-Standard), Dwarf Lop Rex, Dwarf Himalayans.
- Croatia; Croatian weissgrannen and schwarzgrannen (ca. 5.5kg).
- Luxembourg; all breeds are in the EE-Standard.
- Russia; black/brown (large breed - weight 5.0-6.0 kg), an original meat rabbit. Observation: Russian judges are given certificates in Slovakia, so that they can judge in Russia.
- Slovakia; Chinchilla Gigantis blue.
- Slovenia; new small breeds.

All those countries that do not have a standard of their own, should, if possible, judge according to the EE-Standard or at least use the same structure.

13 Breedspecific European Shows 2008

No proposals had been received. The Rex show in 2008 had been withdrawn.

14 Discussing the Regulations of Breedspecific European Shows

Are the Regulations for Breedspecific European Shows acceptable? This question was posed –should certain things be amended (financial contribution)?

- Holland, January 2010 – Breedspecific European Show for Dwarf rabbits (accepted unanimously)
- Switzerland, open Rhön Club Show in November 2009.

The Regulations will remain as they are.

15 Information about future EE-Conventions

- 2009 – Belgium, Namur, 21.-24. May 2009
- 2010 – Spain (venue not definite yet), 13.-16. May 2010
- 2011 – Hungary, Budapest, 2.-5. June 2011
- 2012 – Germany (Nürnberg or Leipzig)
- 2013 – Switzerland, 75th. Anniversary EE

16 Ailments & Animal Welfare – Sub-Committee’s Report

The Health and Animal Welfare Sub-Committee had met on 1. May 2008 in Pula, chaired by Dr. Schille

Excessive type was an issue that was discussed. Animals like that must not be condoned any longer and include English Lops and Dwarfs (some weigh less than 1kg –breeding and birth problems). Excessive types are also common in the poultry section.

The annual meeting with the powers that be within the EU was held in conjunction with the EE-presentation in Brussels. Legislation is being drawn up to differentiate between commercial and hobby animals and such venues as shows for purebreds and small livestock markets. As regards European Shows, preparations are also being made to ascertain that all countries involved have the same veterinary regulations.

The EU is developing a project for an animal welfare strategy bearing the name „Prevention is the best Cure“. <http://www.Europa-EU> (discussion partners are veterinarians, breeders and international organisations). The EE is preparing a proposal requesting financial support with an aim to hold seminars on these themes. The rabbit section was asked to forward their thoughts and ideas on this subject to Dr. Schille so that a module can be put together on rabbit diseases. What needs do the affiliated countries have? Possible topics would be VHD, Entero Collitis, Certification, Digestive disorders etc.

- France; the commercial sector has done a lot of research and seminars are constantly being held.

VHD / Myxomatosis vaccinations for the European Show in Nitra were also discussed. A definitive reply from the state veterinary authority is imminent.

Dr. Willhelm Hippe suggested that all rabbits should be vaccinated against VHD.

17 National Shows in the affiliated countries – Where and how many entries?

- Czech Republic in Prague-Letnany, 21.- 23. November 2008
- France, 13./14. December 2008 in Strassbourg
- Latvia, July 2008 around 200 Kaninchen, November 2008 around 2'000 rabbits
- England shows in September 2008 and January 2009
- Holland in January 2009 with around 8'000 rabbits
- Swiss National Buck show in Basel 9.-11. January 2009 around. 4'500 rabbits
- Luxembourg, National Show, 17./18. January 2009 with international participation
- Belgium, 17.-20. January 2009 including a small Euregional show
- Austria, 13./14. December 2008 in Wells around. 5'000 rabbits. A new V-card has been created
- Croatia is still working on the organisation of a bigger show
- Slovakia, every year two to three big shows are organised with around 10'000 exhibits
- Slovenia has no National Show, but a Supertrophy Buck show and a Pair’s show.
- Russia in St.Petersburg 21.-23 November 2008 in Lenexpo-Super Pet with around 300 rabbits
- Germany – the National Show in Bremen was a big success. There were 29'500 rabbits. Peter Mickmann thanked all visitors and fanciers.
- Germany, 21. National Buck Show, 24./25. January 2009 in Kassel.

18 Internet

Please send all links of affiliated associations and details of big shows to the secretary.

19 Suggestions and Requests

- Discussions about accommodation in Nitra.
- Germany; pelt sewing groups have been expanded to incorporate craft and creativity groups. Rabbit Hopp is promoted especially amongst youngsters with a view to recruit new members.
- Valuation of rabbits as pets of children and adults in Germany.

20 Any Other Business

None

The meeting was closed at 12pm.

Pula, 2. May 2008

The secretary

Sig. Markus Vogel

Markus Vogel

Trans. Evelyne van Vliet

