



Entente Européenne d'Aviculture et de Cuniculture

EE

Europäischer Verband für Geflügel-, Tauben-, Vogel-, Kaninchen- und Caviazucht  
European Association of Poultry, Pigeon, Bird, Rabbit and Cavia Breeders  
Association Européenne pour l'Élevage de Volailles, de Pigeons, d'Oiseaux, de Lapins et de Cavia

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## Rabbit section meeting

### Friday, 14. May 2010

### Toledo / Spain



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**Standardkommission – Sparte Kaninchen**

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## **1 Opening / Welcome**

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The President, Dieter Plumanns welcomed all delegates to the Rabbit section meeting at 8.40am. A special welcome was directed at the Honorary members: Thérèse Tompers as well as Jacques Witry and Herbert Zens. He complimented FESACOCUR, Teodoro Moreno Rosell and his team for the fantastic organisation of the EE Convention in Toledo.

Apologies for absence were received from; Peter Mickmann – ZDRK, Markus Vogel – Switzerland and Teodoro Moreno, Spain. Astrid Spiri (CH) stood in for Markus Vogel and also took the minutes.

- Urs Freibughaus dropped in to the meeting, see item 17
- Jaroslav Kratochvil, the Vice-President also visited the section meeting
- Michael Straca, President of the Slovak small livestock association attended part of the meeting and gave a brief report about the European Show 2009.

## **2 Attendance**

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27 delegates from 16 countries were in attendance

## **3 Address List**

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See appendix

## **4 Minutes of the EE-section meeting of 22. May 2009 in Ovifat / BEL**

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The minutes were taken as read and accepted unanimously; Markus Vogel was thanked for compiling them.

## **5 Correspondence and Information**

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At the beginning of the year, the terrible news reached us that the roof had caved in of the building in which the Swedish National show was taking place. Our members reacted in great solidarity to the news and provided help and breeding stock for the victims of this tragedy.

Croatia and Italy were putting themselves forward to organise a Judges' seminar. The Standards Committee were of the opinion that these seminars should be held centrally in Europe, e.g. in a 500km. radius round Frankfurt.

Some judges that attend the seminar pay some of the costs privately; therefore the distances to travel should not be too long.

As the next 2 European shows will be held in Leipzig (2012) and Strassbourg (2015), it would make sense to hold the seminars in close proximity of these cities. It will provide an opportunity to work closely with the judges that will also be engaged at these European shows.

Dieter Plumanns thanked the proposers profusely and would like to discuss this matter again at next year's meeting, in view of the abovementioned reasons. He urged the countries to hold Breedspecific European shows and to translate all documentation in as many languages as possible.

Only this way will judges and fanciers alike come to understand the European standard.

## 6 Reports of the Executive meetings

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The Executive meeting was held in Toledo on 13. May 2010 where a lot of time was spent on amending the Constitution and the Show Regulations; an extra Executive meeting will possibly be slotted in this year to complete this task.

Thoughts and suggestions from all affiliated countries would be gratefully received.

The rabbit section was not in favour of adopting the same rules as the other sections and requested independent rules for issuing European champions.

The Executive would like to update the membership statistics of all affiliated countries; the delegates gave Dieter Plumanns their membership totals at the meeting.

### Membership numbers per affiliated country

Land	Abbreviation	Amount
Germany	GER	160'000
Switzerland	SUI	15'000
Czech Republic	CZ	6'000
Holland	NED	4'500
UK	GBR	3'000
Poland	POL	3'000
Luxembourg	LUX	2'400
France	FRA	2'000
Sweden	SWE	2'000
Slovakia	SK	2'000
Austria	AUT	1'800
Norway	NOR	1'000
Serbia	SCG	900
Belgium	BEL	800
Slovenia	SLO	800

Croatia	CRO	500
Romania	RU	400
Italy	ITA	320
Latvia	LAT	200
Russia	RUS	200
Bulgaria	BUL	
Denmark	DEN	
Spain	ESP	
Hungary	HUN	
<b>Total</b>		<b>206'820</b>

## **7 Agenda for the EE- Annual General Meeting of 15. May 2010**

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All delegates had received the invitation for the EE-AGM of 15. May 2010. The President and the Treasurer were up for re-election and standing for a further 3 years.

## **8 Affiliation of new members**

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The following proposals for affiliation had been received by the EE President:

Rep. of Ireland (Pigeons)  
Romania (Poultry, Rabbits and Cavies)  
Slovakia (Cavies)  
Spain (Poultry, Pigeons and Rabbits)

There are two associations in Spain. This year's EE Convention has been organised by the Spanish association that was not affiliated last year. This caused some inconsistencies.

## **9 EE Judges' seminar in Solenice 9. – 11. April 2010**

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A very successful Judges' seminar was held in Solenice on 9. – 11. April 2010. A special word of thanks was directed at Josef Blokes and his team.

Josef Blokes reported briefly on the EE Judges' seminar: 84 judges and 6 spouses from 15 countries took part. Czech national rabbit breeds were discussed as well as Argentes in various colours. It proved a success to have less animals on site, which provided a better theoretical session.

Erwin Leowsky has recently taken on the portfolio of the EE Judges' seminars within

the Standards Committee. He will try and optimize the seminars; e.g. sex and tattoo numbers must only be looked for and recorded once, which will be better for the animals; they are not handled too much and can remain calm for the duration of the seminar and the time gained through this procedure will be put to better use.

Judging is not the most important aspect of these seminars; exchanging thoughts and experiences between the judges is more important. This could also help towards an understanding that one and the same breed is bred to differing points of emphasis in various countries. An extensive report on this seminar can be found at [www.entente-ee.com](http://www.entente-ee.com). Next year's seminar will be held in Weissenstadt on 25. - 27. March and organised by Erwin Leowsky and his team.

## **10 Reports of the Standards Committee**

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The Standards Committee meeting was held on 13. May.

The following items were discussed:

- Rainer Retschitzegger was elected into the Standards Committee as the successor of Reinhard Seeber.
- Roland Olinger was elected Vice-President of the Standards Committee
- The Committee further comprises 5-7 members, additional expertise can be opted on; currently these include Yvon Weissenbacher (F) and Piet van Lune (NL).
- A proposal was received from Switzerland outlining an amendment to the colour of the claws of Rhöns and Harlequins as being irrelevant in the European standard.  
The proposal was rejected by 4 votes to 3.
- Judges' seminar in Solenice
- Report about the 26. EE European show 2009 in Nitra
- European standard

The new composition of the Standards Committee was confirmed unanimously.

## **11 European standard**

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The concept of the new European standard is completed. Only a few more breed descriptions have to be reworked and brought up to date. We are still short of a few photographs. Currently, there are 143 breeds included. The Standards Committee will have an additional meeting in Hörblach on 27. - 29. August 2010.

New breeds that have been included in the European standard area:

- Slovak Grey-Blue Rex
- Liptauer Blaze

- Slovak Pastell Dwarf Rex
- Nitraner (Ni)
- Slovak Grey–Blue Dwarf Rex
- Slovak Pastel Rex
- Zemplin Rex
- Zobor
- Bearded rabbit
- Stone Rabbit

The UK has requested that the ‚Dwarf hare‘ would be named by its original name of ‚Polish‘. The breed will be known in the European standard as Polish / Dwarf hare.

## **12 Information / Reflection of the European show 2009 in Nitra / SK**

### **Reflection:**

Michael Straca, President of the Slovak Association paid a visit to the meeting and thanked all for the tremendous entry in Nitra. One of the reasons that everything ran smoothly was the close cooperation with Germany; therefore Dieter Meister, Peter Mickmann and Erwin Leowsky were thanked especially for their help and support.

All Czech rabbit breeds were present in Nitra and examined by the Standards Committee. The exhibits were of high quality, benefitting some fanciers, who purchased and exported them.

The rabbits section looks back on a very successful European show. The President thanked Milos and Peter Supuka for their enormous commitment as well as all those who spontaneously helped with the putting together of a secretariat. Fanciers from four nations worked out the European Championship totals manually.

The single tier penning was very well received as it enabled the exhibits to present themselves at their best –let’s hope this can be realised again at future European shows!

### **Ban from showing**

One exhibitor was dissatisfied with the points’ totals of his exhibits and demanded that they were re–judged. Although this is not possible at a European show, aforementioned exhibitor found an incorrect way to change the award cards. Dieter Plumanns noticed this and reported it. After hearing the exhibitor, the ZDRK banned this person from participating in the 23. Bundes–Rammerschau and the 30. Bundeskaninchenschau. The Standards Committee and the Rabbit section are in agreement that this exhibitor should also be banned from showing at the next European show. The EE Executive, in the absence of adequate EE rules, referred the

matter to the ZDRK to monitor whether the ban will be obeyed.

**Verdict:**

- The show regulations will have to be amended; e.g. a right to object will have to be added, so that an exhibitor can raise objections to grave violations of the rules.
- An office for filing objections will have to be established at the next European show.
- A Head Judge can only sign award cards that are fully completed.
- A collection card has to be made for every collection, that is filled in by the judge to determine the European Championship.
- Four judges will form a group in order to achieve an balanced judgment.
- Three groups (12 judges) will be served by one Head Judge.
- Juvenile exhibits will in future be incorporated into the main rabbit show again.

### **13 Breedspecific European shows 2010**

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Dieter Plumanns reported on the first Breedspecific European show for Dwarf rabbits, Polish and Dwarf English that was held in Utrecht (NL) on 28. – 30. January 2010. The large majority of exhibits came from the Netherlands, Germany, Belgium, UK, Czech Rep. and Sweden. Despite the fact that judging on points was only introduced in the Netherlands a mere two years ago, all judged to the European standard and did a very good job.

In comparison to what is usual in the Netherlands (points' totals are usually lower), the Dutch judges in particular had done a sterling job at this show. Future organisers of Breedspecific European shows can only benefit from the experiences of this show in Utrecht.

**Further Breedspecific European show in 2010:**

- Werte (D) on 29.9. – 03.10.2010 Dwarf rabbits, Dwarf Rex, Dwarf Fox, Dwarf Satins and Dwarf Angoras
- Bastogne (B) on 08.10. – 10.10.2010 Belgian Hares and Polish

The schedules are available.

Thérèse Tompers requested that each country is sent an official invitation in writing, as not everybody has access to the EE website. The section's committee is in the throws of updating the postal address list and took this request on board.

## **14 Which of your standardised rabbit breeds have so far not been incorporated into the European standard / EE Breed list 2010**

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### **Non standard breeds from the UK:**

- Polish
- Lionhead
- Cashmere Lop
- Miniature Cashmere Lop
- Miniature Lion Top
- Beveren (colours: brown, white, black, blue and feh)
- British Giant
- Hulstlander
- New Zealand black and blue
- Siberian
- Sussex
- Magpie
- Minirex (max. 2 kg.)

A list containing all incorporated breeds will be sent to all countries by the end of August. The Standards Committee should be notified about breeds that are not listed.

Yvon Weissenbacher would find it interesting if all countries would compile a list of the breeds that exist in the countries which are not included in the European standard. This list could then be added to the European standard as an appendix.

## **15 Information about future EE conventions**

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- 2011 – Hungary, Balatonalmadi, 2. – 5. June 2011
- 2012 – Germany, Altötting in Niederbayern, 17. – 20. May 2012
- 2013 – Switzerland, 9. – 12. Mai 2013 – 75. anniversary EE

## **16 Ailments & Welfare – report from the Sub-Committee**

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Dr. Joseph Rey-Bellet represents the rabbit section in the sub-committee. Dr. Peter Supuka (SK) has succeeded Dr. Hippe.

The main task for the sub-committee throughout 2009 was to simplify veterinary regulations. Some countries had intensified their welfare laws lately. This process will continue once the law about battery hens will become effective in 2011.

Even housing rabbits on their own is being discussed at the moment; we will therefore have to monitor these discussions and take part in them before the laws are

passed, as they are hard to amend once they have come into force.

There were no official occurrences of VHD in Switzerland throughout 2009 and 2010 – this does not mean that the disease has gone, though and the decree is to continue vaccinating all rabbits. No further progress has been made with Enterocolitis.

Joseph Rey Bellet requested from all countries that any changes in health and welfare are reported to the sub committee, because only with your help can the sub committee operate fully.

## **17 National Shows – where and how many exhibits?**

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- **Belgium:** 21.–23. January 2011 in Bastogne, 1200 rabbits
- **Germany:** 29–30 January 2011 Bundesrammlerschau in Rainberg / Düsseldorf 12`000 rabbits plus federal show of 3000 rabbits
- **England:** 4.–5. September 2010 in London, 1500 rabbits / January 2011 in Harrogate, 2000 rabbits / 9.+10. October 2011 in London, 2000 rabbits
- **France:** 12–13 November 2010 International show in Mühlhouse, 1500–3000 rabbits
- **Italy:** 25–31. October 2010 National show in Cremona, 1500 rabbits
- **Croatia:** 10.–12. December 2010 in Virovitica, 300 rabbits
- **Latvia:** 9.+10. July in Riga, 200 rabbits  
beginning of November also in Riga, 400 rabbits
- **Luxembourg:** 15.–16. January 2011 19. International small livestock show in Luxembourg, 1500 rabbits
- **Netherlands:** 21.–22 January 2011 National show in Nieuwegein, 5000 rabbits
- **Austria:** 18.–19. December 2011 Bundesschau in Wels, 4000 rabbits
- **Romania:** end of November National show St. Nikolaus, 400 rabbits  
International Euro Regional show for Hungary, Romania, Serbia and Croatia, 400 rabbits
- **Switzerland:** 6.–8. January 2012 National Buckshow in Freiburg, 4500 rabbits
- **Slovakia:** end of August National Young Stock show in Nitra, 2000 rabbits  
December National show in Nitra, 2000 rabbits
- **Czech Rep.** 3–4. September 2010 in Uherske Hradištko National Young Stock show, 4000 rabbits  
12.– 14. November 2010 National show in Lysá nad Labem, 3000 rabbits

### **Urs Freiburghaus dropped by**

and thanked all delegates for their attendance. The rabbit section has been operating very well for years for which he thanked the section's committee. He reported briefly on what is keeping the Executive busy and on the forthcoming AGM of Saturday, 15. May in Toledo.

## **18 Internet**

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Each section has been asked to appoint a contact person to deal with the EE Website. The rabbit section appointed Dieter Plumanns and Markus Vogel. Yvon Weissenbacher offered himself for all translations into French, Piet van Lune in English and Josef Blokes in Slovak. The section also asked all affiliated countries to translate all official announcements into other languages as well. Josef Blokes put himself forward immediately to translate texts into czech.

## **19 Elections**

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See item 10, Report of the Standards Committee.

## **20 Suggestions and Requests**

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A request was made that Switzerland will provide chocolate in future „to sweeten“ the meeting.

## **21 Any Other Business**

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The first ever European Championships for Kanin Hopp will take place in Wollerau, Switzerland on 29. and 30. October 2011. Further information can be found at [www.kaninhopschweiz.ch](http://www.kaninhopschweiz.ch)

Dieter Plumanns thanked all delegates for their active involvement in the meeting and wished them all a continued pleasant stay in Toledo.

Meeting was closed: 12:40pm  
Toledo, 14. May 2010

Stand-in Minutes Secretary

Astrid Spiri