Minutes of the 79th General Assembly of May 27th in Eger / Hungary

President: Gion Gross
Minutes: Esther Huwiler
Attendance: 119 delegates with 92 voting cards
Guests: 4 (guests from Turkey)
Start: 08:35 o’ clock
End: 11:15 o’ clock

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Introduction

The president Gion Gross labels the year gone by as a very bad year for small animal breeding. Diseases killed a lot of animals and because of the prohibition of shows and the obligation to keep birds inside, we’ve lost a lot of breeders.

He calls out to us to stop complaining about it because it doesn’t help us. It is not wrong to look at the past but it is much better to look at the future.

The German poetess Ricarda Huch wrote:

„The one that looks back at the past has surrendered. Who lives and wants to live must look at the future”. How right she was. And therefore we don’t want to be discouraged and strongly believe things will improve again.

Small animal breeding has known many depths but every time rose again. Breeders that live their hobby with passion will not be discouraged by these situations.

The fact that all of you here came to Eger proves that you all belong to this kind and he kindly thanks everyone present for this.

However one look back must be taken today on the year gone by. But today we mostly want to set course for another successful future for the Entente Européenne and with these thoughts the president declared the GA of EE officially opened.

1. Opening, welcome

The president Gion Gross warmly welcomes all the delegates to this 79th general assembly of the Entente Européenne in Eger / Hungary. A special welcome goes to the honorary president Urs Freiburghaus, the organiser of the meeting, the honorary members present and the presidium.

With approximately 130 participants the expectations were fulfilled. This is very gratifying and proves the interest in our organisation. Gion Gross thanks everyone, especially for all the hard work that has been done in the different countries for the well-being of small animal breeding.

The agenda for the GA was published on the website and distributed to everyone.

Decision: there are no requests for changes in the agenda.

The following persons are excused:

- Adi Rudolf, Germany
- Dieter Meister, Germany
- Dr. Sergio Pompa, Italy
- Dr. Lothar Heinrich, Germany
- Franz Sturmberger, Austria
- Hans Ove Christiansen, Denmark
- Hans Zürcher, Switzerland
- Micky und Guy Tompers, Luxemburg
- Peter Mickmann, Germany
All those who could not attend this meeting because of health reasons we wish a quick recovery and we hope to see them again at next year’s meeting. Unfortunately several members who worked for our cause and with whom we’ve established profound friendships passed away since last year. Representing all of them, our honorary members Robert Boechat and the president of the pigeon section for many years, Dr. Werner Lüthgen are mentioned and all the deceased members are remembered by a minute of silence.

Gion Gross sincerely thanks the translators Jean-Louis Frindel and Urs Lochmann who, once again, took on this challenging task.

2. Recording attendance

Total attendance: 123
Voting cards: 92
Absolute majority: 47

Election of the vote counters:

Decision: as vote counter are unanimously elected:
- Stefan Röthlisberger, Switzerland
- Rainer Retzschegger, Austria

3. Minutes of the General Assembly of May 7th 2016 in Vienna

Decision: The minutes of last year’s General Assembly is unanimously approved off and the author, Esther Huwiler is thanked.

4. President’s report

Decision: The president’s report is unanimously approved off. The Vice-president István Rohringer thanks him for his enormous dedication.

5. General secretary’s report

Decision: The general secretary’s report is unanimously approved off. Gion Gross thanks her for her devoted work during the entire year.


The chairman of the sections report about their meetings. We refer to the section minutes for more information.
Gion Gross thanks the chairman, their secretaries and the members of the standard commissions for their devotion.

7. **Report of the chairman of the Animal welfare and health committee**
   The report of Prof. Dr. Joachim Schille is noted and will be published on the EE website. Gion Gross thanks Prof. Dr. Schille for his very important duty.

8. **Treasurer’s and auditor’s report**
   The treasurer, Willy Littau, informs the assembly about the finances:
   
<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Balance on 31.12.2015:</td>
<td>EUR 87'821</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total income:</td>
<td>EUR 12'747</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total expenses:</td>
<td>EUR 26'215</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

   Yvon Weissenbacher reads out the auditor’s report which certifies an immaculate job by the treasurer and recommends approval of the treasurer’s report.

   **Decision**: The financial report and the auditors’ report are unanimously approved and the treasurer and the presidium are discharged.

   Gion Gross presents and explains the liquidity plan until 2022.

9. **Elections**
   
   9.1 **Election of the president**
   
   **Decision**: Gion Gross is unanimously and with a big applause re-elected for another term.

   9.2 **Election of the treasurer**
   
   **Decision**: Willi Littau is unanimously and with a big applause re-elected for another term.

   9.3 **Reserve auditor**
   
   **Decision**: Wolfgang Vogt from Germany is unanimously elected.

10. **Honours**
    
    There are no proposals for new honorary members.
11. Proposals
The presidium decided not to make any proposals to the general assembly despite the fact that last year a modification of the EE constitution concerning the voting rights was envisioned.
There were also no proposals made by the members.

12. Acceptance of new members
There are no proposals for the acceptance of new members despite the fact that some membership applications were received.

**Finland and Russia, Rabbit section:** applications received but both countries are already members.

**Lithuania, Rabbit section:** the application was not complete and despite a notification nothing further was received.

**Turkey, all sections:** The federation is relatively new and we hardly knew it. They are present as guests on this meeting and brought a lot of information with them. We will stay in touch and probably next year we will propose their acceptance in the poultry section. For the other sections they will maybe present a new application in a later future.

13. Information on EE-meetings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>May 09 – 13(^{th})</td>
<td>Denmark</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Willy Littau presents the next meeting and welcomes everyone to Denmark.

The next meetings:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>May 29(^{th}) – June 2(^{nd})</td>
<td>Croatia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>May 20– 24(^{th})</td>
<td>Czech Republic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>May 12 – 16(^{th})</td>
<td>Austria (EE Show)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>May 25 – 29(^{th})</td>
<td>Bosnia and Herzegovina</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2024</td>
<td>May 08 – 12(^{th})</td>
<td>open (EE Show)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2027</td>
<td>May 05 – 09(^{th})</td>
<td>Holland (EE Show)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2030</td>
<td>May 29(^{th}) – June 2(^{nd})</td>
<td>Czech Republic (EE Show)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

14. Preview on the Europe Show 2018 in Herning/DK
Willy Littau informs us about the next Europe Show in Herning / DK.

**Arrival of the animals, November 6\(^{th}\) 2018**
**Judging, November 7 + 8\(^{th}\) 2018**
**Opening, November 9\(^{th}\) 2018**
**Visiting, November 9-11\(^{th}\) 2018**
More information will be found on the website of the Europe Show: http://europaschau2018.eu or on the website of the EE: http://www.entente-ee.com.

We are looking forward to a lot of animals, participants and visitors in Denmark.

15. Suggestions and requests

None.

16. Miscellaneous

Urs Freiburghaus, our honorary president, is responsible for EE - Sponsoring. He edited a sponsoring document which will be published on the EE website.

With Mifuma he found a big main sponsor that will contribute EUR 8’000 / year for the next 5 years. The participants thank Urs Freiburghaus with a big applause. Before the end of 2017 he wants to find other sponsors for at least another EUR 4’000 / year during 5 years.

He asks everyone to provide him with contact information of possible sponsors. We will make promotion for the sponsors, amongst others on our website.

Urs Freiburghaus emphasized that the EE will not compete with the member countries for sponsoring.

Esther Huwiler asks who of the delegates present has received a mail from her with the invitation for this meeting. This is only a minority. As announced on the GA in 2016, only those who are entered in the electronic membership system will receive a personal invitation. The day before the GA (as in the last two years) she visited the section meetings and informed them once more how important it is that functions in the member countries which might be of interest for the EE or its sections should be entered in the system, eg. chairman, treasurer, delegates, judges, standard commission members etc. She pleads again that all the responsible persons enter these data, especially with the next Europe Show in mind so all the necessary people can be contacted. Besides she’d like to send everyone a personal invitation for next year’s meeting by email.

The Facebook group „EE-Members“ counts 859 members at the moment. It is allowed to make promotion for shows, share pictures etc. There is however an important rule, all texts should be published in German, English or French.

The general secretary points out that the mail address on her cards is no longer valid. The actual mail address is to be found on the EE website.

Esther Huwiler thanks everyone for the invitations to events and the many wonderful gifts she got from different countries such as calendars, chocolates, coffee mugs, magnets and spirits.
The president asks all the participants to share the information they’ve received during the meeting in their own organisations and to write about the meeting in their respective magazines. Besides this he invites everyone to regularly check out the website http://www.entente-ee.com, since important information will be published there regularly.

Furthermore he asks everyone to support the general secretary by filling out the electronic membership administration and to keep it up to date.

Andrea Klaus from Hungary is participating for the last time at the EE-meeting and is given a worthy farewell.

Gion Gross expresses his thanks for all the many invitations to happenings that he excepts whenever possible and also for the many federation magazines that he receives.

A big thank you goes to everyone for the active participation but also for the discipline that allowed us to finish our business in due time. He also thanks the presidium members for the good collaboration and also the translators Jean-Louis Frindel und Urs Lochmann.

Gion Gross thanks Istvan Rohringer, the Hungarian federation and its president Antal Uhrner and the entire team for the flawless organisation of the meeting. A special thank you goes to Nora Rohringer, who was the director of the event and tried constantly to fulfil all the wishes of every participant.

There are no objections against the way the meeting was presided or the way the votes were organised.

Gion Gross looks forward to the new EE-year, to many good encounters and lot of challenges that we will overcome together.

He hopes to see everyone again next year in Denmark and closes the general assembly 2017.

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Closure of the meeting: 11:15 o’clock

Oberrüti / CH, May 31st 2017

Esther Huwiler
General secretary

Translation of Andy Verelst