

**Report of the International Judge meeting  
at September 16 - 18 2016 in Sursee /Switzerland**

This meeting was organized by the Swiss Association for Poultry and Pigeon Breeders at the very appropriate Campus Sursee.

The president of the EE Section Fancy Pigeons (**ESFP**) welcomes all participants. Specially the president of the EE Standard Committee for Pigeons (**ESCP**), Jean Louis Frindel, EE honorary president Urs Freiburghaus, EE secretary Esther Huwiler, EE vice president Istvan Rohringer, president of the Swiss Pigeon breeders Association (STV), Erwin Bär, the president of the Swiss Association for Pigeon Judges, Claude Schneider, Prof. Schille, president of the EE-Committee for Animal Welfare and the EE honorary members Reiner Wolf, Federico Voltolini and Vladimir Pavin. The impressive presence of 74 participants from 15 nations (.A, B, BIH, BRD, CH, CZ, F, H, HR, IT, LIT, NL, PL, SK, SRB ).

Kindest thanks to the organizers of this meeting Erwin Bär and Claude Schneider for their effort. In cooperation with Jean Louis Frindel an very interesting program has been realized. Also thanks to JLF for the translation in English and French.

Jean Louis Frindel explains the activities of the ESCP and EE-Delegates from the question " Who does what?".

Nations shall report standard changes and/or completions to the ESCP for both implementation into the ESCP European standard file and recording in the ESCP Bulletins. The Standard Defining Authority ( SDA ) is responsible for the standards of all national breeds and standard changes.

The ESCP decides about EE recognition for breeds and recording into the EE-breeds List (ELFP). ESCP the competent committee inside the ESFP.

For recording of new breeds the Form for application shall be used.

This is at the EE site in the internet: [internet.entente-ee.com](http://internet.entente-ee.com)

New colours may be recognized by the national standard committee without permission of the SDA.

Standard text shall be recorded in conformance with the *ESFP regulation for the European Standard* ( EE Internet site Pigeons regulations ). New breeds shall distinguish from existing breeds in at least two direct visible characters.

Jean Louis Frindel and Philippe Hudry / F present a Power Point presentation with detailed explanation about *stance and attitude* and controversial ideas for colours in different languages.

Stance is defined for every pigeon breed, is part of the Overall Impression of the pigeon, shall be qualified and be recorded on the comment card.

Its importance is in the Order of Importance in the standard.

Formulation of remarks on the comment card should be in the sequence of the birds characters and actual level of breed quality and / or colour.

A literal translation from one language into another is not always possible.

Major faults shall no longer be qualified with more than 92 points.

Birds showing a major fault in a main character with 90 points.

Breeders should not breed with such pigeons.

EE-secretary Esther Huwiler thanks for the invitation to this interesting event.. She asks participants for more or better use of the EE-Internet data base.

Claude Schneider presents the *origin of the Swiss pigeon breeds* extensively. Swiss pigeons were mentioned first in 1582. The Thurgau Elmer is described in 1777. Swiss breeds became popularity in Germany and France.

Special character, remarkable for Swiss breeds is the waving shape of the head, the high situated peak crest and closed neck comb.

The judges Heinrich Niederklopfen and Julmy Alexis give a detailed presentation of all Swiss pigeon breeds. Details can be read in the standards.

At this meeting main issue is *animal welfare*. Passionated veterinary in pigeon breeding, Claude Schneider reports about more or less pronounced characters in view of signification "*Torment breeding*". Claude Schneider divides them in three categories:

Category 1. extreme characters : Following his explanation, no impact for any pigeon breed.

Category 2. Based on Animal Welfare directions, strong and pronounced characters at more positions are under control. Judges and special clubs are pointed out that these special characters could lead to exaggeration

Category 3. Most inconspicuous characters are acceptable in view of pigeon welfare.

Prof. Dr. Joachim Schille re presented Animal Welfare in Germany.  
Due to the long, however interesting issues, the meeting closed at 18.00

The ESCP President  
Jean Louis Frindel

The ESFP president  
August Heftberger