

Minutes of the Meeting of the EE Section Pigeons (EESP) at Berne/CH on May 10th 2013

Item 1: Address of welcome

Sectional chairman August Heftberger welcomes all delegates and guests at 8 o'clock.

A special welcome is extended to all honorary members present in the pigeon section Dr. Werner Lütthgen, Jean Louis Frindel, Hans Schipper, Istvan Rohringer, Prof. Schille . the latter also as representative of the EE-Board- Alois Kirchhofer and Frederico Voltolini. André Legrand is absent due to health issues.

Further words of welcome are extended to the representatives of the host country Erwin Bär and the delegate of the FCI, Horst Menzel.

Another warm welcome goes to the new representatives of Bulgaria, Mr. Petkov and Mr. Velev.

Jean Louis Frindel and Thomas Hellmann have agreed on translating the minutes to French and English respectively.

A sincere thank you was in line for Christian Binois for translating various documents to French. Secretary Hans Schipper provided the preliminary legwork to make the documents translatable.

In order to shorten the duration of the meeting, the delegates will from now on receive all important documentation with regards to the sectional meeting 2 weeks prior the meeting by either postal way or via email.

Item 2: Presence:

21 nations plus the FCI have sent delegates to Berne. 40 persons are present in the meeting.

Countries present: Bosnia-Herzegovina, Denmark, Germany, France, Great Britain, Italy, Croatia, Netherlands, Austria, Poland, Romania, Bulgaria, Switzerland, Slovakia, Slovenia, Czech Republic and Hungary.

Announced but not present: Belgium (Absence explained), Russia, Spain and Serbia (proxy present).

Sweden and Norway have explained their absence.

No communication was received from Macedonia and Ireland.

The EE Section Pigeon currently has members from 25 countries.

Item 3: Minutes of the 2012 Meeting at Altötting/Germany

The minutes of the 2012 sectional meeting at Altötting/Germany were published on the website of the EE.

Due to this the delegates were able to take insight in the minutes and publicize them in their nations. No changes required, motion to carry the minutes seconded and approved.

TOP 4: Communications

European Animal Health Strategy

The EE Subcommittee for Animal Health is currently dealing with this subject. Prof. Schille asks the delegates about the situation in their home country. The EU draft affords 2 possible categories. The difference between the two categories is the possible human consumption or its absence. The countries were requested to supply information about their necessity for PMV vaccination, availability of vaccines etc. Prof. Schille records the answers, the Subcommittee for Animal Health will inform about the outcome.

Results from the EE-Board meeting at Gallbrunn/Austria on February 9 2013.

- The Dutch Small Animal Breeders Federation (KLN) has tendered a bid for hosting the 32. EE-European Show in 2027.
- Requests for joining the EE: Denmark and Italy want to join the cavies section, the Netherlands want to join in the bird section and possibly also Denmark in the bird section.
- Review of the 27th EE-European Show Leipzig. Without any doubt this EE-European show will go down in history as the world's biggest show of small animals in recorded history. The scare of a possible outbreak of H5N1 during the show was pretty serious. Laboratory results proved however that it was a lesser pathogen of H5N2. The running of the show was not harmed by this in any way and could proceed normally.
Unfortunately not everything went smoothly at Leipzig. Several thousand entries had to be turned down. Since the 5th pavilion was not available, the single-decked set-up of the show was impossible. This resulted in parts in rather narrow aisles between the cages. Some judges had major issues with applying the EE-judging system. Unfortunately the intended minimum punctuation for the European Group Champion of 376 had not been fixed in the show rules.
Despite some problems and issues . in view of the sheer dimension of the EE-European Show they were only minor glitches and the show as a whole is regarded as a success.
- On the occasion of the EE's 75th anniversary at Berne, a commemorative booklet will be produced about its history.
- The draft version of the EE judges badge is ready. Basic requirements on how to achieve this badge are still to be devised.

Results from the EE-Board meeting at Berne on May 9 2013

The agenda of the AGM comprises 15 items, some of which are reruns of the Altötting AGM.

The most important results:

- *EE AGM at Berne*. A total of 23 nations have sent delegates to Berne.
- *Situation South Tyrol*. After the inception of a South Tyrolean Federation all sections are said to have adhered to the national federations?
- *Problems with quality of rings*. Member nations of the EE are not obliged to order their rings with the German company Stengel. Rings of other producers must comply however with the EE specifications.
- *Admission of the Romanian Poultry Federation*. Work in progress.
- *Situation with the second Serbian Federation*. There is still a lot of dissent between the two federations in Serbia. Supposedly there is now also a third group willing to start a new federation, written consent to join has already been received by 50 clubs. EE President Gion Gross will convene at Berne with Ratko Ivankovic from Serbia.
- *The Macedonian Fancy Pigeon Breeders Federation* wants to have the Macedonian Dunek included in the EE list of Pigeon Breeds (EEPB). Referred to the ESCP.
- *The Dutch Small Animal Breeders Federation (KLN)* has applied to host the 32. EE-European Show.
- *Croatia* tendered a bid to be the host country for the EE General Assembly in 2019.

Review of the 27. EE-European Show Compare notes of the EE-Board meeting above.

Preview of the elections 2013:

It is the turn of the EE-President and the EE-Treasurer to be elected.

The current EE-President Freiburghaus will not be available for another term of office.

The current EE- Secretary General Gion Gross has presented his candidature for the office of President.

Switzerland has presented a candidature of Ms. Esther Huwiler for the office of EE Secretary General.

Treasurer Willy Littau runs for another term of office.

EE-Auditors: Helmut Sakac (A) steps down. Peter Zuffa (CZ) is to stay until 2014, Erwin Bär (CH) moves in.

Substitute auditor is Roland Ohlinger (Lux).

In 2012 EE-Vice President Kratochvil steps down.

EE-General Assemblies

EE General Assembly 2013, a special AGM on the occasion of the 75th anniversary. The Swiss have had a number of ideas and have spared no expenses to make this AGM a special event.

EE General Assembly 2014, May 29 . June 1 Sarajevo, Bosnia-Herzegovina

EE General Assembly 2015, May 13 -17 Metz, France, due to hosting the EE-European Show

EE General Assembly 2016, Austria, Talks with the RÖK have already been initiated

EE General Assembly 2017, Hungary, Talks already initiated

EE General Assembly 2018, Denmark, due to hosting the EE-European Show

Communications from the EE-sections:

- A justified complaint from England about the quality of the pigeon rings supplied by Stengel of Germany. Especially with the darker colours blue, green and grey the legibility is very poor due to lacking contrast. Stengel was present at Altötting, the complaint has been forwarded. There were talks about future colours of bands for better legibility. Poland provided sample colours with good legibility. Pigeons **without EE-ring at shows are not to be judged**.
- International Judging Seminar at Haus Düsse, Bad Sassendorf/Germany: The Sectional Chairman extends his gratitude for organising the event. About 60 people participated. Unfortunately the technical part took place in the same venue for pigeons and poultry. Due to the noise level it was very hard to follow the individual discussions.
- This year's International Judging Seminar will take place on September 20-22 at Sibiu/Romania. Organiser Vlad Hadarau handed out information material.
- The Sectional Chairman suggests that in future a more centrally located place should be picked. The location should be situated in a circle of around 800 km around a central point, like Frankfurt/Main in Germany. Several options are discussed. When hosting the event together with the Section Poultry, costs are lower.
- Italy wants to host the International Judging Seminar in 2014.
- In 2015 the EE-European Show will be held in France which is why the International Judging Seminar will also take place there on the third weekend of September, jointly with the Section Poultry.

Item 5: Agenda of the AGM

The agenda of the AGM was given to each delegate with the AGM folder. No questions raised.

Item 6: Review of the 12 European Shows for Specific Pigeon breeds in 2011/2012

- Sadly it has to be reported that some show managements have failed to supply the Sectional Chairman with the requested documents (report & show catalogue) after each show.

This makes the task of the EE-treasurer difficult to claim the due EE-share (0,50 Cents/animal) from the shows.

- In the show season 2012/13 the EE-Board has approved one European Show for a Specific Pigeon breed as an exception. The exception was the centenary of the German Specialty Club and the 50-years anniversary of the European Club for English Pouters and Pigmies. The show was extremely well organized, an example to be followed. 111 breeders from 12 countries showed just under 2000 English Pouters and Pigmies. 27 judges from 8 countries officiated, 22 European Group Champions (EGC) and 17 European Single Bird Champions (ESBC)

Item 7: European Show for Specific Pigeon breeds 2013/14

- 01.- 03. 11. 2013 Damascenes at Frankenau (D)
- 09.- 10. 11. 2013 Polish Lynx at Stadt Grästen (DK)
- 09.- 10. 11. 2013 Strassers at Gyomaendröd (H)
- 10.- 11. 11. 2013 Starwitzer Pouters at Poznan (PL)
- 16.- 17. 11. 2013 Silesian Croppers at Hofheim (D)
- 01.- 30. 11. 2013 Hungarians and Maltese at Bekescsaba (H)
- 13.- 14. 12. 2013 Italian Owls at Bulle 1 (CH)
- 07.- 08. 12. 2013 Debrecen Rollers at Dabas (H)
- 13.- 14. 12. 2013 Swiss Pigeon Breeds at Bulle 1 (CH)
- 19.- 22. 12. 2013 Starlings at Reinheim-Zeilhard (D)
Danzig Highflyers (D)
- 02.- 05. 01. 2014 Brunner Croppers at Osthofen (D)
- 04.- 05. 01. 2014 Timisoara Tumblers at Dachau (D)
- 11.- 12. 01. 2014 Arabian Trumpeters at Neukirchen-Vluyn (D)
- 11.- 12. 01. 2014 Jacobins at St Avold (F)
- 11.- 12. 01. 2014 Mondain at Jepsheim (F)
- 10.- 12. 01. 2014 Giant Homer + Homer breeds at Lysa nad Labem (CZ)
- 15.- 16. 11. 2014 Iberian Pigeon Breeds at Gaggenau (D)
- 20.- 21. 11. 2014 Starwitzer Pouters at Lutherstadt Wittenberg (D)
- 23.- 25. 01. 2014 Dutch Croppers at Nieuwegein (NL)

Item 8: 27. EE-European Show at Leipzig on December 7-9 2012

- With 33.541 pigeons . 1628 of which by junior breeders . a record participation.

17 Nations participated, only pigeons from Italy were missing, though they had been announced. 27.737 pigeons were shown by German exhibitors, representing 82% of the entries.

240 judges from 14 different countries officiated.

The show management deployed 15 over-judges plus 3 members of the Grand Jury.

- On both judging days there was a very nice atmosphere in the halls, not only where temperatures were concerned but also among the judges.

- Unfortunately the lowest limit for obtaining the title of European Group Champion (EGC) was not applied, which resulted in some EGCs with a lower punctuation.

Sadly some breeds which corresponded to the minimum number required for obtaining a title were left out during judging

Totally 734 EGCs for Seniors and 44 EGCs were awarded.

Item 9: Report of the Standard Commission

Jean Louis Frindel reports, compare minutes of ESCP-meeting. Concerning the following items:

- Item 3b. The sectional meeting approves the inclusion in the ELFP of breeds from BG, BIH, CZ, E, HR und SK. Condition: the lacking formal documentation has to be sent to JLF.

- Item 3d English Modena: British delegate Graham Giddings says that the Club AGM will deal with the standard in October. JLF stresses the urgency by the French NPA . they will print a new standard in Summer.

- Item 3e: The ESCP has revised the standard of the Bohemian Swallow, this new standard is accepted by the Czech Republic, the breed will be included in the ELFP.

- SK asks to include the Bratislava Highflier in the ELFP. Standard was handed out, birds to be presented at Sibiu.

Item 10: EE- List of Pigeon Breeds (ELFP), date 2013

Hans Schipper and Jean Louis Frindel will put the ELFP up to date- To be published on the EE website.

Item 11: Presentation of the Section Pigeon on the internet

- Jean Louis Frindel, Hans Schipper, and Christian Binois have published several documents in the 3 EE-languages on the website, Thomas Hellmann has helped with the translations.
- To ease the burden of EE-webmaster Hans Zürcher, Thomas Hellmann will support him.
- The uptake of clubs and organisers of breed specific European shows to use the EE-website for publicizing their show is still very poor. Hardly there is a more inexpensive way to publicize one's show.

Item 12: Directory of Delegates

Unfortunately the annual reports with the data of the national federations have been very slow to come, sometimes missing completely.

9 nations have failed to provide the necessary reports. Therefore it was not possible to update the directory properly. No emails were returned though, a sign that there have been little changes.

Item 13: Directory of the national standard commissions

We can only update what the member nations communicate to us. In some cases the head judge was listed mistakenly as head of the standard commission.

The form for 2014 has been modified in order that the delegates, the head judge and the standard commission can be named individually.

Item 14: Calendar of Shows 2013/14

We are still lacking dates of national shows from numerous countries.

Item 15: Applications from the member countries

Italy has tendered a bid to host the International Judging Seminar 2014. The event will take place in Northern Italy.

Item 16: Miscellaneous and group photo.

Discussion ensued over the new EE-judges badge.

How to obtain it:

1. Participating in 3 International Judging Seminars.
2. Judging at one EE-European Show
Or alternatively at 2 breed-specific European Shows.

Examples were given from the bird section and also from the Racing Homer world on how Judging Seminars and Training Sessions are held.

The question whether the badge is to underline the qualification of judges was answered in the affirmative.

There have been doubts about whether the participation in 3 International Judging Seminars and judging at one EE-European Show or 2 breed-specific European shows would be enough to prove that the candidate in question is a suitable and versatile judge. No agreement was reached, deferred to Sibiu.

Session adjourned at 15.10 h.

Hans Schipper
EE-Secretary Section Pigeons