



Minutes of the 80th General Assembly of May 12th 2018 in Kolding / DK

President:	Gion Gross
Minutes:	Esther Huwiler
Attendance:	116 delegates with 89 voting cards
Guests:	6 (sponsors, guests from «Kleintier News», Lithuania and Portugal)
Start:	08:35 o' clock
End:	11:45 o'clock

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Introduction

President Gion Gross is glad that finally there was another year with poultry at our exhibitions. It was quite impressive that the poultry breeders did not just hang their heads after the bird flu season 2016 and have remained faithful to poultry breeding. They were rewarded for this in the past showing season and were allowed to show their animals to a broad public. But also, all other sections have received at numerous exhibitions "the reward" for their breeding work and vigorously recruited for their species and breeds. For this he is very thankful because without our shows, small animal breeding would be dead. What this would mean, we are well aware of, others, however, hardly.

Imagine there were no more rabbits breeds and no more poultry breeds. How then would the industrial breeders still breed their hybrid lines, if they would have to do without our gene potential? How would our politicians want to brag about biodiversity and living cultural assets, would there not be any more pigeon and cavy breeds? And where would the zoos and animal parks get their very rare birds if they could no longer obtain them with our bird breeders?

In our free time, we are doing an immensely important job. We know that - but how do we teach that to those who make the laws that make our work more and more difficult?

But if we "stay tuned", keep inviting the leading people to our events, trying to talk with them and defending ourselves against unnecessary, even nonsensical, laws and regulations, then that is certainly a path that can be successful.

„Nid lugg la gwünnt“ – is what they say in Swiss dialect. It means as much as : if you keep persisting, you will be successful!

With well over 100 registered persons from 28 countries our expectations were not quite fulfilled. All the more we want to be happy about all who came here. Welcome to you all!

The presidium proposes to insert the confirmation of the election of the chairman of the rabbit section as item 9.3 on the agenda and to elect the reserve auditor and a second auditor under item 9.4.

Decision: *The proposal of the presidium is unanimously accepted.*

1. Opening, welcome

A special welcome goes to the honorary president Urs Freiburghaus and the honorary members present.

Also specially welcomed are:

- Ditlev Duus from Denmark, our second oldest honorary member
- Main sponsors: Jürgen Vedder and Karin Janssen of Mifuma
- Gold sponsor: Fred Stengel of Horst Stengel
- Martina Gerker of Kleintiernews

The following persons were excused:

- Adi Rudolph, Germany, honorary member
- Franz Schuster, Austria, honorary member
- Hans Ulrich Schmid, Switzerland, honorary member
- Hans Zürcher, Switzerland, honorary member
- Jaroslav Kratochvíl, Czech Republik, honorary member
- Rudi Möckel, Germany, honorary member
- Markus Vogel, President 'Kleintiere Schweiz'
- Edin Jabandzic, Bosnia
- Hrvoje Mucic, Bosnia
- Sanel Dedic, Bosnia
- Sergio Pompa, Italy
- Slovakia, all sections (because of new elections on April 28th 2018)

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.

Since the last General Assembly in Eger many of our members, who have stood up for our cause and with whom we were allowed to cultivate sincere friendships, have left us forever.

As representatives for all of them, our honorary members Jacques Witry from Luxembourg and former chairman of the poultry section and honorary chairman of the BDRG, Wilhelm Riebinger, are named. And shortly after our conference in Eger, the chairman of the Rabbit section and Presidium member Erwin Leowsky died completely unexpectedly.

In gratitude we commemorate all our dead members with a minute's silence.

Gion Gross would like to thank the translators Jean-Louis Frindel and Urs Lochmann, who once again accepted this challenging task.

2. Recording attendance

Total attendance:	116
Voting cards:	89
Absolute majority:	45

Election of the vote counters:

Decision: *as vote counter are unanimously elected:*

- Peter Zuffa, Slovakia
- Klaas van der Hoek, Holland

3. Minutes of the General Assembly of May 27th 2017 in Eger

Decision: *The minutes of last year's General Assembly were unanimously approved off and the author, Esther Huwiler was thanked.*

4. President's report

Decision: *The president's report was unanimously approved off. The Vice-president Istvan Rohringer thanked him for his exceptional work during the entire year.*

5. General secretary's report

Decision: *The general secretary's report was unanimously approved off. Gion Gross thanked her for her devoted work during the entire year.*

6. Report of the section chairmen (Poultry, Pigeons, Birds, Rabbits, Cavy)

The chairman of the sections reported about their meetings. We refer to the section minutes for more information.

Gion thanked 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 thanked 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:

Balance on 31.12.2016:	EUR	74'353
Total income:	EUR	23'885
Total expenses:	EUR	28'634
Balance on 31.12.2017:	EUR	69'604

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.*

Urs Freiburghaus reports on the status of the sponsor search. Since the last meeting he was able to find some new sponsors. Special thanks go to the main sponsor Mifuma and to the gold sponsor Horst Stengel, both of whom are present at the meeting. Urs Freiburghaus describes the other sponsors. All are posted on the homepage.

Gion Gross thanks Urs Freiburghaus for his brilliant performance. He asks everyone to communicate contacts of possible sponsors to him or Urs Freiburghaus.

Gion Gross presents and explains the liquidity plan until the year 2022.

9. Elections

9.1 Election of the vice-president

Decision: *Istvan Rohringer is unanimously and with a big applause re-elected for another term.*

9.2 Election of the general secretary

Decision: *Esther Huwiler is unanimously and with a big applause re-elected for another term.*

9.3 Confirmation of the election of the rabbit section chairman

The rabbit section had elected Rainer Retschitzegger as its chairman the day before. According the constitution the general assembly must confirm this election.

Decision: *Rainer Retschitzegger is confirmed unanimously and with a big applause.*

9.4 Reserve auditor

Yvon Weissenbacher stops as auditor as prescribed by the constitution.

Wolfgang Vogt gives back his function since he was elected in the section's board the day before.

Igor Cegovnik takes over the function of first auditor.

Decision: *Markus Eber from Germany is unanimously elected as second auditor.*

Decision: *Jean-Maurice Tièche from Switzerland is unanimously elected as reserve auditor.*

10. Honours

Zdzislaw Borawski from Poland and Joseph Rey-Bellet from Switzerland were proposed as honorary members. Both of them have contributed tremendously for small animal breeding and their organisations.

Decision: *Zdzislaw Borawski from Poland and Joseph Rey-Bellet from Switzerland are unanimously and well-deservedly accepted as honorary members.*

11. Proposals

The presidium proposed to increase the membership fee from EUR 110 till EUR 150.00.

Decision: *The proposal was accepted with 55 votes YES to 14 NO.*

12. Acceptance of new members

Esther Huwiler informs about the different membership applications.

Turkey, poultry: last year a few delegates were present as guests and we had some informative talks and all necessary documentation was provided. Mr. Ömer Kilicoglu and Turan Ocaktürk briefly present their organisation.

Decision: *Turkey was unanimously accepted in the poultry section.*

Lithuania, rabbits: They applied for membership last year but since some documents failed and no representative was present at the meeting, they couldn't be admitted. Edmundas Reimerys is now present as a guest on this meeting and brought the failing documents with him. We will keep in touch with him and will probably be able to accept their application next year. The presidium decided however they can exceptionally participate in Herning.

Decision: *No questions or objections.*

Portugal, pigeons: The application arrived in December 2017. The organisation «A.P.C.» was founded in 2015 and has 51 members. To get to know them and to answer any questions we've invited them as guests at this meeting. It is nice that Mr. Marc Ryon is present. We'll keep in touch with him.

The presidium decided to grant this organisation an exception so they can expose their 4 national pigeon breeds on the Europe Show if Willy Littau, the show director, agrees.

Decision: *No questions or objections.*

Portugal, poultry: Application arrived in October 2017. The organisation «ALCAC» was founded in 2011 and has approximately 80 members. We've invited them as guests to this meeting but didn't receive an answer. Also no one showed up so we cannot decide on membership.

Decision: *No comments.*

San Marino, pigeons: The application arrived on March 16th 2018 so we'll have to decide in 2019.

Serbia, new umbrella association: As often informed, there were several federations in Serbia which is against our statutes. In Eger all of them signed an agreement to dissolve their federations and to found a new

common federation. Some of them honoured the agreement. Meanwhile the new federation was founded and all the necessary documents were delivered. So two proposals were voted :

Proposal 1: Termination of the membership of the Serbian umbrella association.

Decision: *The proposal was unanimously accepted.*

Proposal 2: Acceptance as a member of the new federation «Association of small animals breeders clubs of Serbia»

Decision: *The proposal was unanimously accepted.*

According to the statutes, the following members are deleted because they didn't pay their membership fee for several years.

- Macedonia, pigeons
- Russia, poultry
- Hungary, birds

13. Information on EE-meetings

2019 May 29th – June 2nd Croatia

Vladimir Pavin presents the next meeting and welcomes everyone to Croatia.

The next meetings:

2020	May 20– 24 th	Czech Republik
2021	May 12 – 16 th	Austria (EE Show)
2022	May 25 – 29 th	Bosnia and Herzegovina
2023	May 17 – 21 th	open
2024	May 08 – 12 th	Czech Republik (EE Show)
2025	May 28 th – June 1 st	open
2026	May 13 – 17 th	open
2027	May 05 – 09 th	Holland (EE Show)

14. Preview on the Europe Show 2018 in Herning/DK

Willy Littau informed us about the next Europe Show in Herning / DK.

Arrival of the animals, November 6th 2018

Judging, November 7 + 8th 2018

Opening, November 9th 2018

Visiting, November 9-11th 2018

Information will be published on the following websites :

<http://europaschau2018.eu> and our homepage <http://www.entente-ee.com>.

Gion Gross and Prof. Dr. Schille warn the countries to check early what the conditions are to cross other countries. It is best to inform the customs beforehand of the time and place they wish to cross the border to avoid any problems. Third countries should check if sanitary certificates need the signature from the own vet or from an official state veterinarian.

Prof. Dr. Schille pleads to the countries to check in any case which vaccines are used. If these are not accepted in the countries you have to cross it might be possible that transport will be denied (unfortunately this already happened).

Andy Verelst explains that Laughing doves will be exposed only in the poultry section.

Gion Gross ask to make serious promotion so the Europe show in Denmark will be a success. Willy Littau guarantees an impeccable organisation.

The Europe Show 2021 will not be held in Wels but in Tulln. Our Austrian friends already started with the preparations of this event.

The Czech federation proposed to take over the organisation of the 2024 Europe Show, either in Prague or in Brünn. This proposal was accepted.

The presidium thinks it would be best that the 2030 Europe Show will be decided at earliest in 2021. Chances are high that people who claim the organisation now wouldn't be available anymore in 2030.

The next Europe shows:

2018	09.11. – 11.11.	Denmark
2021	19.11. – 21.11.	Austria
2024		Czech Republik
2027		Holland
2030		open

15. Suggestions and requests

Urs Freiburghaus indicates that the Scientific Poultry Station in Sinsteden is not only important for Germany, but that every country benefit from their researches. He wants to support this initiative and will send a letter together with the BDRG to every country with the request for financial aid. Gion Gross supports this idea and stresses the importance of this institute for the whole of Europe.

16. Miscellaneous

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.

Hans Schipper and Ernestin Grun are participating for the last time at the EE-meeting and were given a worthy farewell. Hans Schipper thanks for everything and wishes everyone present all the best.

Gion Gross thanks everyone for their active participation and also for the discipline so that we could finish all our business within the available time.

Gion Gross expresses his thanks for all the many invitations to happenings that he accepts whenever possible. Unfortunately, this is not always possible because of lack of time. The earlier the invitations arrive, the bigger the possibility that we will be able to send someone.

Also, he thanks for all the magazines he receives and reads with great interest – but often doesn't understand. In this case he still enjoys all the wonderful animal pictures.

A very warm thank you goes to our friend Willy Littau, who organised this annual meeting together with his co-workers impeccably and that way proved us we can look forward to a very well organised Europe Show.

There are no objections against the way the general assembly was held or the way the voting was organised.

Gion Gross is looking forward to the new EE-year and especially to the Europe show in Herring which will be the biggest 'small animal party' in Europe. He hopes to meet everyone in Herring.

Closure of the meeting: 11:45 o' clock

Oberrüti / CH, May 15th 2018

President



Gion Gross

General secretary



Esther Huwiler, Minutes

Translation of Andy Verelst