

EE meeting – Minutes of GA of the meeting of Pigeons division in Billund (Denmark) on 18th September 2021

Start: 8.15 a.m.

Item 1) Welcome

The welcoming of the delegates and guests was done by the 1st chairman Gustl Heftberger.

Official greeting.

A special greeting was extended to the honorary members of the pigeon division, Jean Louis Frindel (ESKT President) Istvan Rohringer (EE Vice-President), Prof. Schille, from the EE Presidium and Animal Welfare Advisory Board and Zdzislaw Borawski.

Due to the still active pandemic, many nations did not register. On behalf of the EE and the Division, I would like to thank all the officials who came to Billund for the meeting.

The Honorary President of the host country Hans Uwe Christiansen addressed greetings from the Danish Pigeon Federation to those present. He also informed about the joint National Poultry and Pigeon Show in Herning. Also, in Denmark the membership development is unfortunately declining. A big topic is the new conditions for participation in international shows.

Further thanks go to our dear friend Jean Louis for the translations during the section meeting in French and English.

Due to Covid 19, the EE meeting and the international Judges' Meeting in Austria 2020 were cancelled.

The minutes of 2019 were reviewed and supplemented and published with the ESKT minutes in the 3 languages to the delegates and on the website.

A big thank you also to Esther Huwiler as General Secretary for her tireless work in the interest of the European Association and the maintenance of the website.

Unfortunately, Esther will resign as General Secretary at this year's AGM, but hopefully she will continue to look after the website.

Thanks for the translation of the minutes from the Division and ESKT to Jürgen Weichold (English) and Christian Binois (French).

The agenda has been sent to all delegates (as far as they have been published in the EE database) in due time.

Unfortunately, some nations are still not listed at all or very sparsely listed with the National Officials on the database. It is requested that information and invitations of the National Federations are published more than before on the EE website in order to better reach all members.

Due to the very early preparation of the agenda, there are of course always changes or additions that are incorporated later.

Point 1a) Establish the presence:

According to the registrations from Willy Littau, 23 people will attend the section meeting.

The participants come from the following 17 nations. Present: Denmark, Germany, France, Italy, Netherlands, Austria, Bulgaria, Bosnia - Herzegovina, Serbia, Slovakia, Czech Republic, Belgium, Poland, Romania, Portugal and Lithuania.

As a guest nation, a participant from San Marino is present, who wish to be admitted to the GA.

At present, 26 federations are affiliated to the EE in the pigeon division.

Excused absent: Slovenia, Giddings - GB, Legrand (B) - but a representative is present.

Not excused: Ireland, Spain, Russia, Norway, Croatia, Hungary, Switzerland, Sweden. There is no information or participation in the meetings from Spain and the racing pigeon federation in the last 3 years.

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Item 2) Minutes of the 2019 meeting

The transcribed minutes from the Trogir Division meeting were published on the EE website. Through the posting, the delegates had the opportunity to read the minutes and to announce them in the nations. No requests for changes have been made so far, so that the minutes can be approved.

The minutes were approved by the delegates without objection.

The Division protocol should receive more publicity in the national federations, via the national websites or their federation newspapers breeders without internet could also be reached.

Item 3) Communications from the 2 Online Presidium Meetings

Due to Covid 19, normal meetings were not possible, so 2 online meetings were organised via Andy Verelst. I was only able to attend the last meeting.

The BDRG also convened an online meeting with officials from the EE poultry and pigeon divisions. From the EE pigeon division, the ESKT chairman Jean Louis Frindel was asked to participate. A clarifying discussion between the officials of the EE and the BDRG brought clarification in this matter.

The application of San Marino in the pigeon division is about to be accepted.

The federations from Kosovo and Estonia did not submit enough documents. Both nations were put on hold. In Lithuania there are currently 2 federations (poultry). According to the statutes of the EE, however, only one federation is allowed. The National Federation will be asked for clarification.

The agenda included numerous items

The treasurer Willy Littau reports on the current cash position. He also presents the liquidity plan until 2022, which can be used to view the cash flow. A good financial situation was reported at the moment.

Honorary President Urs Freiburghaus reports on sponsorship. Only with great difficulty has he managed to retain the current sponsors. Tierwelt- Schweiz will stop its sponsoring. Smisdon (the ring producer from Belgium wants data from the national federations) Urs gives up his function. A successor is being sought. Sincere thanks are expressed to him for his efforts.

New substitute auditor: Thom Laming, NL

The 30th Anniversary Show 2021 in Tulln (Austria) has been cancelled due to the unfulfillable requirements of our authorities.

The EU's planned regulation on the movement of animals to shows does not apply to markets and sales shows of small animals. Prof. Schille informs that this regulation 20/20, 688, will have many negative effects for the EE and the affiliated associations. It has not only been planned since spring but will apply from October 2022. The postponement was achieved by us (national small animal breeding associations) but is not yet off the table. We were not aware of the draft regulation beforehand. This regulation means a step backwards of the European association. It means that every time an animal crosses a border within the EU, it must have an official certificate from the district or county veterinary office. A certificate, as previously provided by the family veterinarian, is no longer sufficient. This means for us in particular:

- 1. certificates cost more money than before,
- 2. it negatively influences the willingness to participate in international exhibitions
- 3. hinders the exchange of animals in Europe and is against biodiversity.
- The official veterinarians of the countries are burdened with a great deal of work (in the certificate the entire stock must be checked for health status). Prof. Schille asks the delegates:
 - National associations must protest against this regulation in Brussels
 - Join forces with the veterinary offices to protest
 - It is of existential importance for the EE.
 - Section 69 for racing pigeons has already been repealed.
 - More information will be given at the AGM.

August Heftberger welcomed the President and the Secretary General of the EE who had just arrived. Both addressed greetings to those present. President Gross

stressed the need to fight for the further improvement and amendment of Regulation 20/20. The outgoing GS Esther Huwiler thanked for the good cooperation during her past term of office. Ms Jeannine Jehl from France will stand as a new GS at the AGM.

- The President went on to report that the new EE database would make membership administration much easier, and a large part of the paper forms would no longer be necessary. However, even the new membership registration is only as good as it is fed with data from the national associations. Unfortunately, according to EE secretary Esther Huwiler, the support of numerous federations is lacking; it is a pity that the officials participate so poorly.

Proceedings of the EE Conference:

A total of 29 nations sent 110 delegates or participants to Billund. This means a very good participation. The organiser Willy Littau is warmly thanked.

Thom Laming is nominated as substitute auditor.

The EE meeting from 22-26 May 2022 will take place in Mostar, Bosnia-Herzegovina.

30th Anniversary European Show 12-14 November 2022 Kielce Fair (Poland).

The NL Federation has returned the 32nd EE Show 2027. Problems with Covid, veterinary technical problems, increased hall costs and increasingly older and fewer employees were the reasons. The division chairman was of the opinion that the organisation of EE shows is becoming more and more difficult. Breed-related European shows involve less effort but are also influenced by the new EU veterinary regulations. Prof. Schille interjected that there will still be RE shows, but they will be more expensive for the breeders and smaller overall.

Information of the division:

Pigeons wearing foot rings without the EE mark will not be judged at shows and will receive 0 points.

There were also such rings in 2020, at the moment such rings are circulated from China.

The training meetings for PR are also important in the future to avoid mistakes or differences in interpretation.

Only through such international judge meetings the breeds and the judging guidelines will be standardised.

It was suggested at this PR meeting that such judge training could also be more effective at the national level.

Members of the ESKT would be willing to give lectures at these seminars. Unfortunately, this proposal is not received by the nations.

The International PR Conference 2022 will take place from 16-18 September near Vienna (Hotel Pyramide Vösendorf).

The contract for the 30th EE Show with the Polish Federation is available.

Item 5) Agenda of the General Assembly of September 18.

the items of the agenda were placed in the meeting folder for everyone.

Item 6) Approval of European Breed Shows

8-09 January 2022 Swiss Pigeons

08-09 January 2022 Italian Pigeons

20-22 January 2023 Oriental Roller, Persian Roller, Debrecen Roller, Sisak Roller, East Slovakian Roller, Birmingham Roller, Regensburg Tumbler and Cluj-Napoca Tumbler

The motions to hold RBES put to the vote above were approved by the delegates at the Division meeting.

Item 7) Review of RBES 2020

Due to the Covid 19 pandemic all RBES had to be cancelled.

For the following breeds the RBES 2021/22 will be postponed, if the official requirements can be fulfilled.

Aachen Schield Owl, 6 + 7. 11. Rinderunion Krefeld (D)

Starwitz Cropper, 30. + 31. 10. Löbau (D) postponed to 5-7. 11. 2021 Carlau

Danish Cropper+ Danish Goldfinch 13-14.11.2021 in Neumünster (D)

Arabian drum pigeons, 8-9 January Ibbenbühen (D)

Chinese pigeons, 14-16 January Nachterstedt (D)

Swiss pigeons, 8-9 January Thun (CH)

Italian Pigeons, 8-9 January Thun (CH)

Show Season 2023

Lahore, 28/29 January St. Avoird (F)

Silesian Croppers, 18-19 November Hofheim (D)

these were unanimously approved by the delegates.

Item 8) Report of the Standard Commission for Pigeons (ESKT)

This was compiled by J.-L. Frindel for the years 2019 - 2021 and published on the EE website.

The Division Chairman thanked the members of the ESKT. Animal welfare-related tasks and problems are also included. He emphasised that animal welfare does not stop at national borders.

Jean Louis informed the delegates about the busy and harmonious ESKT meeting of the previous day.

The minutes of this year's ESKT meeting (2021) will be published in the new Bulletin and on the EE website.

Item 9) Breed index for pedigree pigeons

Jean Louis Frindel and Georg Sattlecker will update the list after the meeting and publish it on the EE website.

Item 10) Presentation of the pigeon division on the internet

Jean Louis Frindel and Christian Binois have put numerous documents in 3 languages on the website of the EE Pigeon Division.

Regulations are now only published in three languages.

The organisers of breed-related European shows already use this opportunity frequently. A more cost-effective advertising than on the EE website on the Internet is hardly possible.

All organisers of RBES are requested to provide advertising material in the form of flyers, invitations or the like for the website I will gladly forward these to the webmasters. After the end of the show, if available, the catalogue, pictures or the title holders will also be published on the website free of charge.

This has already worked quite well at the last RBES.

I hope that this will continue in the future.

For the pigeon division, Zfrd. Sattlecker Georg supports the editing of the website.

Point 11) Show calendar 2019/20

To send the documents of shows directly to the EE webmaster.

For 2021 numerous exhibitions are planned, whether these can be carried out is still uncertain.

Please send the posters or invitations in time to the EE Webmaster or to me by e-mail.

The address list of the delegates addresses of the National Standard Commissions and the National Judges Chairpersons must be kept up to date on the EE database.

The organisers of the international judges' meetings depend on the EE database for the invitations.

Therefore, it is absolutely necessary to register all officials so that they can also receive all information from the EE.

EE invitations will only be made according to the information in the database.

Each nation should assign a person to keep the database up to date. This is the only way to send information to the right places.

Item 12) Preview 30th European Show 09. 14. November 2022 in Kielce Fair (Poland)

Information will be given in the following GA.

Item 13) Proposals and reports of the countries

Presentation of the Portuguese Federation by Marc Ryon again. This was already done at the EE meeting 2019 in Croatia. Unfortunately, due to Covid, everything was cancelled.

Standard Commission of Austria with new regulation: rings from 2022 are no longer marked with A but with AT. In addition, for all breeds with the colours tiger and piebald, tiger-pied was recognised. This is to accommodate the breeders in the show business.

Item 15) EE judge's badge

The next badges will be presented at the Intern. Training Conference 2022 in Austria. The regulations and the necessary form can be found on the EE website under the pigeon section. www.entente-ee.com

Applications must be sent to the Division Chairman by 31 August 2022.

He emphasised the 5 years deadline. The badges are not valid forever.

5 years after receiving the EE PR badge a training visit is required.

Item 16) Miscellaneous

No applications were received about national exhibitions.

Item 17) Group photo

August Heftberger thanked the delegates for their attendance and active participation. For the future meetings he asks for the same numerous participation and cooperation.

End of the section meeting 11.30 a.m.

Spartensitzung 11.30 Uhr