

## Minutes of the Cavy Section meeting in Berne / Switzerland 10th. May 2013

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### 1. Welcome and Opening

Evelyne van Vliet opened the meeting at 8.05am and welcomed all delegates and hoped for a good meeting.

She was very sorry that many countries were absent because of the very high costs of this convention. Some countries have to choose between the judgesqseminar and the convention and can only afford one or the other.

Christina Vildershøj is present for the first time, as Denmark has put in for affiliation.

DMK is the biggest and oldest cavy association in Denmark and was founded in 1984. They currently have 265 members, as a group of members split off 2 years ago.

Together with Sweden, Norway, Finland DMK organises the Nordic Championship show in turn.

DMK has 4 sections and Christina is Vice President as well as President of one of the sections.

Harry Beerling is Executive member of the KLN and is responsible for international affairs in Holland and also present for the first time.



## 2. Recording attendance



Evelyne van Vliet, England; Petr Tejml, Czech Republic; Priska Küng, Switzerland; Christian Koch, Germany; Peter Supuka, Slovakia; Harry Beerling, Holland; Kornélia Petrovicová, Slovakia; Christina Vildershøj, Denmark.

Belgium and Poland had sent their apologies for absence due to financial reasons.

Austria is currently without a delegate due to the resignation of Helmut Sakac and their elections are not until next year.

Sweden was absent due to family celebrations.

Other absentees included Portugal, Slovenia, France and Russia; (France has been re-affiliated due to the fact that they had unbroken payment of fees).

There were 7 votes with an absolute majority of four.

An extra item 7A was inserted into the agenda, to enable us to elect a new ESKC member.

## 3. Minutes of the last section meeting in Altotting / D on 18/05/2012

All delegates were sent the minutes of last year's meeting and were taken as read.

Evelyne informed the meeting about the latest discussions between the OMNC and the MFD: a merger between both clubs is a long way off, as OMNC did not agree with some of the conditions, necessary for a merger. This means that OMNC members will not be able to participate in any European shows in future!

Evelyne thanked Priska for the always very prompt delivery of the minutes.

## 4. Correspondence

Spain has more than 1 cavy association. We affiliated CECOR a few years ago, as we were led to believe that they were the original/biggest association. As CECOR never attended any of the meetings and never paid their fees, they were stripped off their EE membership.

As a result ACE, the other cavy association in Spain, showed an interest to affiliate to the EE.

Despite several reminders, ACE failed to submit the relevant documents for affiliation in time.

Neither did ACE reply to any emails that were sent to them by Evelyne.

Badges for EE judges: they are still not available. Evelyne has put together the Excel database, which gives all the required information about seminars and engagements from every individual judge and can be viewed on the EE website. Those judges that do not want to have their name mentioned on the website, should get in touch with Evelyne immediately!

This list will be updated every spring . amendments to be sent to Evelyne by 1. April.

Evelyne had contact with Andy Verelst with regard to a delegate for the cavy section from Belgium. He was fairly positive that someone would be delegated next year.

## **5. Reports of the Executive Meetings of 9/02/2013 and 9/05/2013**

Meeting in Vienna, February :

Holland has offered to host the European show in 2027.

A date has been given for the European show in Herning, Denmark: 9. . 11. November 2018.

Serbia has two small livestock associations; one of them is EE member, but is not active at all.

The other, very active, association is therefore banned from affiliating to the EE. A special concession was made by the EE Executive, so that both associations were able to participate in the European show in Leipzig. Talks were scheduled between the two in Bern, but one party had had a car accident on the way to Switzerland.

The problems in South Tirol have also not been solved yet.

Proposals for affiliation to the EE had been received from Denmark (cavies), Italy (cavies) and Holland (cage birds).

There had been some commotion between the pigeon delegate from Germany and the EE Executive which involved publications in the German magazine. All disagreements had been solved.

The European show in Leipzig had been discussed at length.

Yesterday's meeting:

New Executive members -elections: Gion Gross had been nominated as President causing a vacancy for the post of General Secretary for which Esther Huwiler from Switzerland had been nominated.

The last and the next European shows were discussed.

Peter Supuka wondered whether the cavy section would also be able to organise a Breedspecific European show on an annual basis

The problem is that we do not have as many breeds as some of the other sections to go round and it could be difficult to find nations to host such a show. We could possibly organise one more Breedspecific show in the other year when there is no big European show.

Peter Supuka offered to host a Breedspecific show in 2016.

It would be sensible to attach a Breedspecific show to an existing national show in the host nation. The great advantage of Breedspecific shows is that the exhibits do not have to be at the show for 5 days. A vote was held to organise two Breedspecific shows every 3 years: 6 votes in favour and 1 vote against.

## **6. Agenda for the Annual General Meeting of Saturday 11/05/2013**

Apart from the elections and new affiliations, the other items on the agenda were routine.

## **7. Report of the ESKC (Standards Committee) Meeting**

Christian Koch reported on the brief meeting from the previous day with only 3 ESKC members present, (Lena was absent and Helmut had resigned). KLN from Holland had proposed to nominate Jan Schop for the vacancy.

If possible, we would like to extend the ESKC by another 2 members to have 7 in future. Evelyne suggested that these members should come from as many countries as possible rather than more members from one and the same country.

Christian had not yet received any items from Helmut (Standard and lists of unstandardized breeds). This was the reason that the ESKC meeting did not carry on with the revision of the standard.

Next year the German and English texts will be compared and the English version be updated.

Rita Ribeiro passed her EE-judges exam in Leipzig. Christian Koch and Lena Tysk conducted the examination. Rita is the very first EE trained cavy judge.

Christian is currently training some rabbit judges in Switzerland to become cavy judges. Upon passing their exams, they will be able to judge cavies throughout Switzerland.

## **7A. Election of a new member of the ESKC (Standards Committee)**

Jan Schop (NL) was unanimously elected as the fifth member of the Standards Committee. We will welcome him next year at our meeting. Evelyne will inform KLN.

## **8. Newly standardised breeds or colours in the affiliated countries**

When an affiliated country fully standardises a new breed or colour, it will have to notify Christian Koch by 1. April at the latest (even if the breed/colour is already in the EE standard, as we would like to know what is going in the affiliated countries).

## **9. European Standard**

Christina asked whether the EE standard is uploaded on the EE website. Priska explained how it could be found.

Evelyne will inform Hans Zürcher that Priska will email him the German version of the EE standard.

We decided last year that we wanted to upload a photo from each breed from every affiliated country on the EE website. So far no photos had been received. The plea for photos was therefore repeated. Please email as many photos from all standardised breeds as possible to Evelyne by 1. September 2013. Only photos without texts (such as copyright, names or stud names) will be accepted!!

## **10. Report of the EE Judges seminar in Prague (CZ) on 16.-17./03/2013**

A super seminar, totally different from any of the others, was held in Prague earlier in the year. The seminars are getting better every year. 33 judges from 10 countries were present.

These get-togethers are very important for the information exchange between all the countries. Andreas Reinert (D) did a fantastic presentation on Satins, which sparked off a great discussion about OD. Satins have been removed from the Swedish standard. Please notify Christian of any cases of OD.

Denisa Vitkova (CZ) did a great presentation on Cresteds.

Quite a portfolio has been built up over the years of all the presentations. It would be good if these could be uploaded onto the EE website (as a PDF file, so that people can only look at them and not copy or use them). All authors to be contacted to obtain permission to publish.

## **11. EE Judges Training**

Next year's Judges seminar will be held in Putten, Holland from 14. . 16. March 2014. The rabbit section will hold their seminar at the same venue and date. Evelyne will liaise with the Dutch organisers with regard to entry forms, programs etc.

Andreas Reinert (D) will hold two lectures on genetics on the Saturday and Sunday mornings. These lectures will be translated into English beforehand and be delivered by Jan Schop in a separate room.

Agoutis, Argentés, Solid Agoutis, Tortoise & Whites and Tricolours are the breeds that will be discussed.

The 2015 seminar needs to be held in the country where the European show will take place in that year, i.e. France. The cavy section is struggling with contacts in France. Therefore Evelyne organised that the cavy section could get together with the rabbit section again for this occasion, possibly on the third weekend in March.

The venue for 2016 will be discussed at next year's meeting.

## **12. Proposals**

None had been received.

All proposals to reach Evelyne by 31. December, so that they can be discussed and voted on at the following convention.

### 13. Affiliation of new members

Denmark and Italy.

We hope that France will take part at the conventions from next year onwards.



Alessandro Segnini (ANAC Italy) & Christina Vilderhøj (DMK Denmark)

### 14. Report from the 27. European show held in Leipzig (D) from 7.-9./12/2012

We will have to draw some very important lessons and conclusions from the last European show. We cannot afford to make the same mistakes again and we never want to be treated as badly again as we were in Leipzig.

The show was a resounding success, the cavy entry was phenomenal, mainly through the fantastic support of the MFD. The quality of the exhibits was also very good. The cavy display from MFD was beautiful. Christian was asked to convey our heartfelt thanks to the MFD.

The cavy country stand was meagrely supported by some countries.

Judging performances were great . all judges were very uniform in their verdicts.

The %or sale+section was once again perfectly organised. Unfortunately, we were not allowed to pay out all vendors at the end of the show, as all monies had to be handed over to the show organisers, which has resulted in the fact that 6 months later some countries have still not received this money.

Communicating with the show organisers was very complicated from the beginning. Most of the time Evelyne and Christian received no replies whatsoever to their emails.

The cavy section committed itself to organising their own show; Evelyne had sent examples of the cavy entry forms. We were subsequently given the rabbit entry forms in Altötting, which were no good to us. Eventually we had to make our own and send them on to all delegates.

Also the show programme was not suited to the cavy entry and amendments had to be made.

This never happened, so that David Marshall had to put together his own show programme when the entries were closing.

In future, handwritten entry forms will not be accepted; experience shows us that some of these are illegible. Entry forms have to be filled in on the PC and translated into English; all entry forms to be checked and sent in correctly by the contact person. Christian suggested to develop an %n-line+entry form for all entries.

David did a super job under very difficult circumstances and ignorance of some procedures.

Evelyne had been on the receiving end of a lot of criticism at the February Executive meeting.

Amongst other things that she was accused of was:

that the cavy section had made an excessive loss at the European show;

that the cavy section had left behind a huge amount of rubbish, etc. etc.

Evelyne took full responsibility for everything and apologised profusely. When she looked at the %vidence+photographs again, once home, she realised that the rubbish had been left behind by the commercial stand that was situated opposite the cavy pens and was nothing to do at all with the cavy section!!

Evelyne had felt very unwelcome both at the European show and the Executive meeting and is wondering whether the cavy section should continue to support the European shows under such circumstances.

Some of the problems arose through the fact that the section had said that it would organise %everything+and then did not actually organise %everything+(B-Bogen), delivery of European Master and Champion certificates were therefore delayed.

It is quite clear that in future contracts have to be drawn up in which all details are included and then signed by both parties.

Evelyne had informed the Executive that the cavy section is different from all other sections and that we have different needs. A lot of our requests were refused, without anyone being bothered to check whether they were feasible or not.

David was criticised by the Executive too and Urs Freiburghaus even suggested to appoint Petra Ludwig-Bauer to run the entire organisation of the European show from now on instead of Evelyne.

David would be willing to organise the entries etc. again next time. Claudia Kittel's presence at the next show is uncertain as she might be emigrating.

Christian suggested to hand over the entire organisation of the cavy section to the show organisers of the next European show and to make sure it ran parallel to that of the rabbit section.

However, in the past the cavy section had encountered many mistakes, as rabbit people have no idea about cavy entries, breeds and colours. Therefore Evelyne was not much in favour to go down that route again.

Peter Supuka thought that it would be easier to let the rabbit people be in charge than to recruit new people.

Evelyne thought that some problems had been caused by personal differences and Priska added that some problems arose from a lack of communication between show organisers / Executive/Evelyne/David.

It was decided that no decisions would be made at this moment in time and to get in touch with the show organisers in Metz as well as the EE Executive as to what they have in mind.

The most common problems involve: entries / plastic inserts / feed.

Priska commented that we had too much feed in Leipzig and that we should have had more than one delivery. Evelyne said that she had requested more than one delivery and that the bags were bigger than she had anticipated. It was decided that we will only feed the covies carrots in future. (some exhibitors feed their own covies anyway).

We need a separate quarantine station in future where we can place ailing and sick exhibits.

Ideally, the cavy pens must be erected in an area free from draught and we need an information board which will feature job lists and feeding rota, to avoid some people being put upon all the time. This board can also be used by fanciers and people to post messages,

Further problems arose because not all helpers were issued with badges and/or food vouchers.

Priska suggested to compile a list with all things that were wrong at the last European show.

Christian had already brought a list and handed it over to Evelyne; she will collate all points.

Outstanding issues include:

Sweden and Slovakia are still waiting for the money of sale stock.

The costs of hay and the display had been deducted from Germany's sale stock money

No country had so far received their E prizes.

Some privately donated specials had gone missing, so were not awarded.

Vice President of Leipzig, Christoph Günzel had approached Evelyne to discuss these issues whilst we were here in Berne.

Some entries had been made on the rabbit entry forms and therefore lacked the information whether the longhairs were clipped or not. These boxes also remained mainly unticked on the correct forms. Verdict: both clipped and unclipped longhairs will be entered and shown in the same class in future.

The 800gr. minimum weight will have to be discussed again, as some exhibits did not have this weight. Discussions were rife as some exhibitors had left their underweight charges at home, whilst others brought them to the show. This topic will be discussed at next year's ESKC meeting.

## **15. Discussing the 28. European Show to be held in Metz (F) in November 2015**

See above.

The transport of the plastic inserts must be organised!

Evelyne will send us the checklist before the next convention, so that we can amend and extend it together.

## **16. Discussing the Breed Specific European Shows for 2014 and 2017**

15. to 18. May 2014 in Quadrath-Ichendorf, near Cologne, Germany.

Penning on Thursday, judging on Friday, show open to the public on Saturday and Sunday.

The Breedspecific European show will be hosted and held in conjunction with the National show. Contact person is Petra Ludwig-Bauer. Information will be published regularly on the website of the MFD. It should be possible to make entries online. Information will be translated by Evelyne. Entries to be made by exhibitors directly (not via contact persons).

All delegates to promote this show from now on. Christian will send us all flyers by the end of September at the latest, so that we can distribute them at our shows this winter.

Judges and reserve judges must be booked. Christian and Petra will decide who is judging, according to the criteria we have drawn up (attendance judging seminars etc.).

Judges expenses have to be agreed beforehand and no later than at the judges seminar next March. Contracts need to be drawn up and signed by both parties.

Peter Supuka will host a Breedspecific show in Nitra in conjunction with their National show, which will also entertain rabbits, poultry, pigeons etc. at the end of November 2016.

2017 possibly in Denmark?

The date will have to be three weeks away either side of the annual EE Convention.

## **17. Information by the Internet Sub Committee**

Evelyne will write and publish on the web a report on the Judges seminar in Prague and update the Judges List.

The minutes of this meeting will also appear on the website as soon as possible.

A plea to all delegates: please write a small report on your national/biggest show and send to Evelyne straight after the show, accompanied by some photographs.

Also send some good photos of all breeds and colours to accompany the EE standard on the website. Evelyne will clarify with the webmaster whether we can have separate pages for these photos.

## **18. Ailments**

Priska had great problems with streptococci in her exhibits that came back from Leipzig.

Some exhibits had died as a result of catching pneumonia (possibly of the continual draught) in Leipzig.

Other than that no specific problems in the countries.

Sweden mentioned great problems with ringworm last year. Some (non Swedish) exhibits in Leipzig had ringworm; unfortunately these were sold and landed up in other countries.

Christina had a presentation and photos of ringworm on her laptop and offered to show it to us all after lunch at 1.30pm.

## **19. Suggestions and Requests**

None.

## **20. Any Other Business**

Priska informed the meeting that she was not sure whether she would be able to attend next year's convention. She will let us know by 31. December whether she will come.

Evelyne would very much regret if Priska could no longer attend and be the section's secretary.

Evelyne suggested to put together job descriptions for all positions in the section and the standards committee, accompanied by dates of what needs to be done by when.  
Evelyne requested that the delegates would relay all the information from today's meeting to all their members at home, to keep them fully informed about all things European Association.

The meeting was closed at 1.50pm.

Priska Küng, 10.5.2013

**Homework:**

- **Photos of good examples of all breeds and colours to be sent to Evelyne by 1. September 2013**
- **Send information (name, venue, address and date) of the 3 biggest shows in your country to Evelyne by 1. June**
- **Send a judges list of your nation (correct as per 2013) full name and email address only to Evelyne by 1. June**
- **Evelyne will send all documents appertaining to the meeting by 1. April 2014.**

