

Minutes of the Cavy Section meeting in Ovifat/Waimes, Belgium on 22. May 2009

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The convention Hotel Domaine des Hautes Fagnes

1. Welcome and Opening

Evelyne van Vliet opened the meeting at 8.21am and welcomed all delegates, especially the two new delegates Aldona Czerniakowska from the CCP in Poland and Daniel Perez-Guerra from CECOR in Spain.

Evelyne apologised for the lack of communication in the last few weeks, this was due to her moving house once again.

Evelyne suggested to slightly re-order the agenda, so that the elections could be dealt with as a priority under item 3.

2. Recording Attendance

Evelyne van Vliet, England; Flor Dickens, Belgium; Helmut Sakac, Austria; Petr Tejml, Czech Republic; Priska Küng, Switzerland; Sigrid Tooson, standing in for Christian Koch, Germany; Co Korsuize, Holland; Aldona Czerniakowska, Poland; Daniel Perez-Guerra, Spain and Geert de Clercq, Belgium arrived a bit later.

Apologies for absence were received from Portugal, Slovenia, Russia, Sweden and France.

Nine votes could be cast, of which 5 was the majority.

3. Minutes of the last section meeting in Pula / HR on 2. May 2008

All had received and studied the minutes of last year's meeting. There were no remarks or questions and the minutes were taken as read.

Suggestion: it would be good to compile an International Show calendar on our website; the three major shows from every country (name of the show, date and opening hours, venue and town and a contact address for enquiries).

Please send details to Evelyne by the end of next week.

4. Elections in accordance with article § 12.2 of the Constitution (prioritised agenda item 10)

• 4A Section -President

Vice President, Flor Dickens conducted this election in which Evelyne van Vliet was the only candidate. Evelyne was elected unanimously.

• 4B Section Vice-President

Flor Dickens resigned from the post of Vice President after 9 years. Evelyne thanked him for all his hard work over the years and said she was glad that Flor would remain Belgium's delegate and also a member of the ESKC. She further thanked Flor profusely for the organisation of the first ever Judges' Seminar. Helmut Sakac was nominated for the vacancy and was duly elected.

• 4C Section-Secretary

Priska Küng was nominated for the Secretary's post and was elected unanimously.

5. Elections in accordance with article § 12.6 of the Constitution (prioritised agenda item 11)

• 5A. 5th. Member of the ESKC

Evelyne van Vliet, Flor Dickens, Helmut Sakac, Lena Tysk were up for re-election and were duly elected. For the vacancy two nominations had been received: Petr Tejml (Czech Republic) and Christian Koch (Germany). Petr Tejml is President of the Standards Committee in the Czech Republic and he breeds Peruvians. Christian Koch is President of the German Standards Committee and has been breeding Sells and Abyssinians for many years.

A secret, written vote was conducted and 9 ballot papers were distributed. Seven votes were in favour of Petr Tejml and two votes for Christian Koch. Petr Tejml will fill the fifth place on the ESKC.

6. Elections in accordance with article § 12.4 of the Constitution (prioritised agenda item 12)

• 6A ESKC President

Evelyne asked the meeting if there were any candidates for the Presidency of the ESKC. No one came forward, so Evelyne was re-elected unanimously for the position of ESKC President.



The 10 attending delegates from 9 countries

- **6B ESKC Vice-President**

Petr Tejml was elected as Vice President of the Standards Committee.

- **6C ESKC Secretary**

Helmut Sakac was elected as Secretary of the ESKC.

7. Correspondence

Evelyne had had a lot of correspondence with Poland and Spain with regard to the affiliation proposals to the EE. The organisation of the first Judges Seminar in Belgium had also taken up a lot of correspondence and a regular email contact had started with the Slovak organisers of the forthcoming European Show. Apart from the above, there are many emails from all over Europe containing questions with regard to cavies.

At this point Urs Freiburghaus joined the meeting and delivered the flyers for the Breedspecific European shows in Switzerland.

He was very pleased with the huge turn out of cavy delegates (and promised to organise a bigger room for the cavy section meeting for future years).

He demanded that cavy fanciers in Europe should put more effort into attending the European show, as the cavy participation had been very poor so far (the section overheads are too high with regard to its members and the number of exhibits).

The EE President is hoping for 500 cavies in Nitra and would expect no less than 300.

Aldona Czerniakowska was sure that there would be quite a few Polish exhibits as Slovakia is quite near to Poland.

Urs Freiburghaus further explained how the 3 Breedspecific European shows to be held in Switzerland in 2011 had come about –he has taken the Presidency of the show. The first details about the show are as follows: Friday – penning; Saturday morning – judging; the show will be opened for the public on Saturday afternoon when the catalogue with full results will be available. A social evening is held on Saturday evening. The show is open on Sunday as well.

He distributed the flyers and promised that all entry forms, schedules etc. will be at next year's convention. He is hoping for 1.000 cavies at the show and challenged notably Germany and Austria to a high participation.

8. Report of the Executive meetings of 14.2.2009 and 21.5.2009

Meeting in Nitra: the Executive visited the exhibition centre and looked at the infra structure at the February meeting.

There would be a proposal from the Executive to change the Constitution in such a way that, under very special circumstances, a second association from a country that is already affiliated to the EE would be able to join the EE. The proposal had come about after problems in countries such as Spain and Serbia (pigeons). Any association from one country that is the sole representative of that country would get 2 votes at the AGM, whereas those countries with two associations represented would have one vote each. The second affiliated association would have a trial period of 6 years in which it would have to prove to be active and worthy of EE membership, i.e. participate in all conventions and the European shows.

Offers for Breedspecific European shows must be applied for by 31. January of the previous year in writing to the President of the section, so that the organisation can be discussed at the following convention.

To avoid any conflicts, it is forbidden to hold Breedspecific European shows between 1. September and 31. March of the year in which a European show is held.

Judges: a slight amendment in the Constitution was made for those judges that either retire or are eliminated from the panel in their home country, but continue to serve on breedclub panels. These are excluded from judging any shows anywhere within EE territory.

A discussion followed about Herbert Janssen, who was expelled by the MFD from their judging panel. As a consequence, Mr. Janssen cannot judge in any country which is affiliated to the EE. A list of expelled and banned judges should be published, so that all countries are aware of who can be invited to judge their Shows.

All delegates were asked to send a list of all their judges, divided in A, B and C judges plus what languages these judges can speak.

Judges' Seminar: all attending judges were requested to pass on all the information, gained at the Seminar, to all their fellow judges at home. From 2010, each country can bring an unlimited amount of judges to the Seminar.

Convention in 2012 will take place in Bavaria /D (Altoetting), European Show 2012 will be held in Leipzig. Probable date: 8. /9. December.

The Regulations for Breedspecific European shows have to be amended, so that all Regulations more or less read the same across all sections.

Report by the Sub Committee for Animal Health and Welfare: there are many problems to be solved with regard to the veterinary specifications for the show in Nitra.

The EE-President is still chasing sponsorships for the EE; so far he has accumulated around €7.000 annually. Unfortunately, he has the times against him.

The British Waterfowl Association has expressed an interest in affiliation to the EE. Efforts are made to see whether the BWA can be affiliated through the British poultry association. The same applies to the pigeon association of Ireland.

France has offered to host the European show in 2015 in Metz.

Future conventions:

2010: Toledo, Spain from 13. – 15. May

2011: Hungary from 2. – 5. June

2012: Bavaria, Germany from 17. – 20. May

2013: possibly Switzerland to celebrate 75. anniversary of the EE from 9. – 12. May

Only judges, that have attended the EE Judging Seminars, are allowed to judge at European shows from now on.

It is proposed to issue judges, that have attended either 4 seminars, or 2 seminars plus 1 judging engagement at a European show, with a cloth badge to wear on their coats. The section presidents will keep an attendance record book, listing all judges that have attended seminars.

9. Agenda of the Annual General Meeting on 23.5.2009

See above.

New affiliations: Cavy associations from Poland and Spain; rabbits from Poland and cage birds from Greece. In the event that the Constitution will be amended to allow more than one association of any one country in any one section, pigeons from Serbia and rabbits from Pustertal will also affiliate.

10. Report of the Standards Committee (ESKC) meeting

There were only 3 ESKC members in attendance plus Petr Tejml and Sigi Tooson as guests. A new breed will be accepted in the European standard if it is fully standardised in at least 3 affiliated countries; therefore the Lunkarya was included. The new pages will be printed and sent to all delegates. The Russian association is very disappointed that Skinnies cannot be shown at the European show.

A long discussion was held once again about the contrasting philosophies throughout Europe about colour and coat qualities in longhairs; in some countries the coat colour is totally unimportant, whilst in others colour and markings are of a high priority. A compromise must be reached, if the cavy section wants to continue to accept these breeds at European shows. We cannot disqualify all exhibits that are not top grade colourwise, whilst they have top quality coats. Evelyne proposed the following: „colour has a total of 10 points in the standard –up to an absolute maximum of 5 points can be deducted to penalise for colour or markings. This way the exhibit is heavily penalised for failing colour or markings, but not disqualified (there is no limitation on how many points can be deducted per position).

The distribution of colour is the biggest problem and we cannot just mindlessly deduct points at random. A proposal was made to put exhibits, that do not fully fulfill the standard requirements, into an AOC section (like it is done in other sections). It was also suggested to have a category of „mixed colours“ for a limited time. Evelyne asked all exhibitors to make sure that the colour of their longhairs came as close to the standard as possible.

Josef Demeter and Matthyas Jaroslav, the organisers of the European Show in Nitra dropped by and informed us about the preparations and organisation of the show. Schedules and entry forms would be distributed later on. They requested information about provisional numbers of exhibits and the contact details of all contact persons.

11. European Standard

133 Standards were sold since last year; the accounts were being put together. Helmut hat reprinted the standards with better picture quality; he is also able to reprint the standard in small quantities.

Every year, Evelyne is given 1000 Euros for the Standards Committee. So far, this money has been saved to fund the printing of the aforementioned standard.

We have around 5000 Euros in the kitty, that can now be used to fund other projects. We could sponsor and train up and coming judges in countries that cannot train their own judges with a maximum of 2 candidates per country. It was decided to sponsor up to 2 candidates per country for the next 5 years with 100 euros.

Helmut made the following proposal: to hold the seminar in a central location (Vatterstätten, near Munich in Germany) every year. That way countries, that are further removed, could be paid out travelling expenses for attendance.

12. Affiliation of New Members

Our prospective new members, briefly introduced their associations:

Aldona Czerniakowska, Polen : the Polish association (CCP) was formed in 2004/2005 and comprises around 50 breeders. They have organised many shows, judged by foreign judges. Most shows are linked to other shows or events.

Daniel Perez-Guerra, Spain: the Spanish association (CECOR) was officially formed in 2006 after a long drawn-out registration process. CECOR comprises around 60 members, 20 of which are active breeders and exhibitors. 4 shows have been organised with foreign judges. CECOR has its own website and a regular magazine is in the making.



Our 2 news delegates: Daniel Perez Guerra of CECOR, Spain and Aldona Zcerniakowska of the CCP in Poland

13. Report Breedspecific European Show in Twello /NL in June 2008

A total (European Show, National show and sale stock) of 700 cavies were entered from 9 countries. Evelyne thanked the Dutch organisers profusely for their efforts and the smooth organisation. There were 15 European champions (photos on the Webseite, in the Archive)

14. Discussing the Regulations for Breedspecific European Cavy shows

Due to the pressure of the agenda, this item was pushed to the end. If running out of time, it will be postponed to next year's convention.

Evelyne will mail the current regulations to all delegates; those who wish to make comments or alterations, please get in touch before next year's meeting.

15. Discussing the Breedspecific European Shows in Etziken/CH, 14./15. May 2011

Flyers were distributed for the Breedspecific European shows in Switzerland. The show will comprise 3 European shows (Smooth, Coated and Longhairs) alongside of which a show will be organised by the Cavia Verein for pets and castrated boars. Evelyne urges all delegates to start spreading the word about this show immediately. Regular updates and information about this show can be found on www.cavia-meerschweinchen.ch.yu. It was recommended to transport the cavies countrywise in group transport.

16. European Show in Nitra/SK from 20. - 22. November 2009

The cavy section will be responsible for the administration and organisation of all cavy entries. Entries' closing date is 1. October 2009 (a month later than for the rabbits, poultry and pigeons). All entries are collected by the contact person in each country and then sent on to Evelyne

Heinz Stephani from Switzerland will process the entries using the same software as for the cage bird entries. The entry fees have been halved to €6 per exhibit and the catalogue and administration have been kept at €12 to encourage a better entry of cavies.

Penning is on the Tuesday. Evelyne will be responsible for feeding, supported by a team of helpers.

The Czech Republic have 250 pens, but unfortunately they measure 40/40cm. –it was decided several years ago that for the European shows, the pen measurements are a minimum of 50/50. Water bottles have to be supplied. The Czech Republic and Austria have 250 and 260 respectively. Helmut will supply absorbant mats for judging.

Evelyne appealed for help with feeding etc.:

Priska will be present all week. Evelyne had been informed that there was someone from Holland, who would be present all week. Helmut will be there from Tuesday until Thursday, as well as Saturday and Sunday. Andrea and Petr from the Czech Republic will be present all week.

Evelyne distributed the schedules and entry forms =unfortunately a mistake had been made on the show

organisers behalf in that the age categories had been left off. This now means that we can only categorise according to sex.

The list for contact persons was filled out. Schedules and entry forms can also be downloaded from the EE website.

Like in Leipzig, the cavy section will have one double-sized (8 x 3m.) stand, in which all cavy associations that have entered will be able to promote their association. All items donated to the stand are free of charge –NO ITEMS CAN BE SOLD FROM THE STAND BY ANYONE!!! Evelyne will bring a national flag for each participating country.

We will also need some photos, posters and other decorative material for the stand.

17. Report EE-Judges' Seminar in Retie/B 14./15. March 2009

Flor Dickens was thanked once more for organising the Judges' Seminar –Sigi Tooson was thanked for her prompt delivery of the minutes. Evelyne will distribute these. A report plus photographs can be found on the EE website: www.entente-ee.com.

23 judges and 1 trainee judge from Portugal were present.

Longhairs were presented and discussed by Jens Lindgren and Lena Tysk from Sweden on the Saturday, and on the Sunday, David Marshall presented the Tans and Foxes.

The PowerPoint presentations will be kept in the section for possible future use as judges training material.

Too many people left too early on the Sunday morning, more or less walking out of the seminar. This will not be allowed at the next seminar –all participants have to stay until at least lunchtime.

The problems with regard to colouring in coated breeds was discussed extensively at the seminar as well. There was a slight problem with communication, as apparently one afternoon was conducted primarily in English.

Ideally more than one person should do the interpreting.

Part of the seminar was too country-specific and not objective enough. Lessons have been learnt from this first seminar.

The next seminar will be organised in Cheltenham, England on 20. and 21. March 2010. More information will be available soon.

Initial program will include: discussing US-Teddies (Sigi Tooson volunteered to tackle the Teddies in 2 languages) and Rex (Evelyne will find someone to present this breed).

The maximum participation of only 2 judges per country has been dropped: each country can bring as many (trainee) judges as they want.

18. EE-Judges' Training

Guidelines for a training course for trainee judges:

A sub-Committee has to be formed to organise the training of judges for those countries that have no judges of their own.

We are looking at a course duration of around 5 years (C, B and then A judge for all breeds). We desperately need literature, books and papers for study material. Those countries that possess such things, please forward to Evelyne. Do genetics and veterinary knowledge become a part of the training procedure?

All candidates have to attend the March Judges' seminar at least 5 times; then time could be made on the Sunday afternoon for more specific training and examination. If any of our EE judges should be judging in a foreign country, the trainee judges should booksteward for them throughout the show and the second day could be used to do some further training.

Evelyne will send on the guidelines, she received from Portugal.

Sub Committee Judges' Training: Evelyne van Vliet, Petr Tejml, Helmut Sakac, possibly Christian Koch? (Sigi will ask him)

The Czech Republic will organise a show in August with Judges' training, at which candidates from other countries can take part.

19. Information from the „Internet“ Sub-Committee

The webmaster has requested that as much information as possible is posted onto the EE website; he is also appealing to us to have all our information translated into french. This is quite difficult, as those delegates who would have time, cannot speak the language.

20. Ailments

Some advice from Petr with regard to the dosage of Stronghold as a treatment for lice: 0.05 ml for adult cavies.

21. Suggestions and Requests

Collection: Petr feels that a collection should only include exhibits of one breed and the same colour; so far, in some breeds we have accepted different colours. It was decided that in Nitra only collections can be shown of one and the same colour.

Helmut showed the latest comment cards from Austria with carbon copy and advertising.

22. Any Other Business

None

The meeting closed at 17.04pm

Priska K ng, 22.5. 2009

Secretary