

## Minutes of the Cavia section meeting on May 19, 2023 in Sofia, Bulgaria



### 1. Opening, greeting

Lena welcomes the members present in Sofia.

Eric Animal Welfare Advisor, who already had meetings in the standard commission yesterday, reports from his commission in the divisional meeting. Since Bosnia, many topics have been discussed in four online meetings. One of the main issues is bird flu. Vaccination is a priority to protect the animals that the breeders keep at home and also to make exhibitions possible again. The EE Board discusses proper housing for the endangered animals so that these animals can participate. Further decisions were made as to which animals would be excluded from the shows for overtyping and the standards commissions were involved yesterday. E.g. in Holland some rodents have been blacklisted which cannot be exhibited. This is because of zoonosis. Eric has a list and can provide it to the Cavia branch. There are activists in Germany and Holland who want to ban the killing of their own animals. It must always be performed by a veterinarian. Important successes in terms of transport law, the arguments were placed in Brussels and it looks like mass transport will be possible again. For example, poultry farmers can meet at the transport collection point and there a veterinarian can issue a certificate for all animals together. It also seems that the sale of animals, especially at EE shows, and their return transport to the buyer's country is possible again. The show vet confirms that the transport certificate is still valid and this would make onward transport possible. Lena thanks for the important information. Eric asks about the skinnies and Lena replies that we will discuss this in the division meeting. Eric confirms that the Animal Welfare Advisory Board has no problem with the skinnies in general, but the Cavia division needs to be aware of the image they want to present to the outside world, even more so when the skinnies are accepted for big shows. Eric gives the example of Germany. Then when a country

has clear papers and information about a breed and those who are interested hear the same statements over and over again, then it comes across as credible and is more likely to be accepted. Another tip from Eric is that if we know and can document the year of origin of the skinnie, then it will also become apparent that it is not a new breed. Lena confirms that the division will prepare a document for the upcoming meeting.

## **2. Determination of Attendance**

Lena Tysk, Luc De Donder, Tom Erik Feragen (Norway Guest), Drazen Bilicic (Croatia Guest), Brigitte Silberbauer, Petr Tejml (Guest Standard Commission President), Annette Creutzberg, Eva Bednarova and Andrea Kroftova and the delegates participating online. These are Carina Stjernman (Sweden guest), Patrick Staniec, Samuel Boucher, Zaira Sabattini, Daniel Banasiak and Melanie Polinelli. This is the first hybrid meeting in the cavia division at a convention. total are

Eleven delegates from affiliated countries (Sweden, Belgium, Austria, Denmark, Slovakia, Czech Republic, Germany, France, Italy, Poland and Switzerland) are present. Petr Tejml (President of the Standards Committee) and Drazen Bilicic from Croatia, Tom Erik Feragen from Norway and Carina Stjernman from Sweden are guests here or online.

## **3. Correspondence and Notices**

Spain would like to confirm membership next year by your presence. Ukraine would also like to become a member in person next year. Lena helps a lot with the papers and those involved are halfway through the work.

Lena and Luc had a lively exchange because of the breed specific show in Belgium.

## **4. Minutes of the EE meetings**

- a) Konjic (Bosnia-Herzegovina) of 05/27/2022
- b) Online from October 20, 2022

Konjic's minutes and the online meeting are acknowledged. There are no changes or comments from those present. Today's minutes will again be written in three languages.

## **5. Elections**

There are elections this year. President, Vice President, Secretary and new members in the Standards Committee. Lena asks those present if anyone would like to be president and thanks them for confirming their election. Annette is elected Vice President. Andrea takes over the secretariat for the next election period. Melanie makes her position available because she cannot guarantee personal attendance. Annette ran for the standards committee. Those present confirm the choice of Annette. At the moment Petr is keeping a waiting list for the standard commission and when a place becomes available new members can be elected.

Gion and EE secretary attend the division meeting. Gion greets those present. The divisions are the heart of EE. Without divisions, there is no need for EE. Gion thanks the delegates for their work. Our whole hobby is in danger because of animal rights activists and laws that make life difficult for us. Cavies are not that threatened yet. The countries should defend themselves against nonsensical laws and the EE defends them at European level. Gion demands that the delegates talk to the politicians! The EE talks about the advisory board with European politics. He encourages delegates to support the Advisory Board if he asks you to do so. Gion thanks you in advance for your cooperation.

Gion is looking forward to the large attendance at the GA and before lunch a photo is taken of the delegates present.

Janine Jehl asks the delegates to check the address list and write down the name and address of the umbrella organization. This is very important for the statute change due to the law change. If you have any questions, please contact the secretariat.

## **6. Reports of the Presidium meetings**

The address lists were also discussed there. The Animal Welfare Advisory Board has taken its presence on the Standards Commission and Eric is much more cooperative in working together. Lena is very happy about the support from Eric and the animal welfare advisory board regarding skinny, satin etc. The rules for the European show were a big topic. Above all, Lena made an important input regarding the cages. The plastic dividers are important and the room needs to be at least 15 degrees and no warmer than 25 degrees. Furthermore, the compensation of the judges was discussed. The judges have not yet been appointed.

## **7. Agenda of the General Assembly of May 20, 2023**

Norway and San Marino will present themselves tomorrow and we hope they will be included.

Tomorrow the EE President will also be elected and Gion will make himself available for another three years. Willy Littau hands over the till. Lena met the German candidate delegate. The division thanks Willy for his tireless great work for the division and his commitment.

The executive country of the next conference will also be determined tomorrow. At the moment the conference is planned to be held in the Czech Republic.

## **8. Admission of New Members**

Lena calls on the delegates present, if they know countries that would like to become members of the EE, to forward them to Lena. Lena is happy to help the Cavia Clubs on the long administrative path to admission to the EE.

In the presidium meeting, Lena asked whether only individual clubs could be members in order to be able to take part in the shows. But this was rejected.

## **9. Report of the Standards Commission meeting of May 18, 2023**

### a) European standard

Petr reports on the agenda of the standards commission. Three members were present, Lena, Eva and Petr.

The minutes were created immediately after the meeting and sent to the delegates via Messenger. An email will follow.

Three adjustments were made in the standard:

1. US Teddy
- 2nd Dutchman regarding the missing stop on the leg
3. Skinny pigment spots is an easy mistake

The regulations for breed-specific European shows have been revised. The changes are marked in green and have been sent to the delegates via messenger. The original regulations are from 2015 and were outdated in some points.

1. Article 1 point f animal welfare because of temperatures and plastic partitions
2. Exhibitors can only exhibit from countries that are also members of the division.
3. The show animals must not be older than five years and must be at least three months old and weigh 500 grams
4. The judge cannot exhibit at the show himself, at least not on the same day
5. Judges compensation has been adjusted.
6. There is a BIS for the whole show from the three categories (long hair, smooth hair and textured hair) article 9 point c
7. The requirements for Champion and European Champion have been adjusted.
8. The conditions for champions and masters have also been adjusted for young exhibitors.

The list of breeds will be revised in the division meeting and made available to the delegates, including the classification of the breeds into the three groups that can be distinguished. A new group name may need to be found for the Satins and Crested. The name for this group is then determined under Miscellaneous. This name will be adapted and supplemented in the standard and in the regulations for breed-specific exhibitions. New: rough hair and other variants

The Standard Commission is supplemented with Annette and currently has seven members.

Please read the rest of the information in the log.

Luc asks if skinnies can be exhibited in affliges. Lena can only answer this question in October and this is too late, so her answer is «no».

Europe standard points have been adjusted. See above.

b) New inclusions of breeds / colors in the countries  
No new races have been added to the standard.

## **10. EE Judges Training in 2023-2024**

In 2023 the judges' training will take place in Affligem together with the breed-specific European show. This on Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning. Rosettes are presented and Daniel B. presents his Skinny/Werewolf study. Daniel confirms that he will attend the judges seminar and prepare a presentation.

In 2024 the judges' training in the Czech Republic may take place again together with the EE show. Luc suggests first waiting for the experience in Afflige and then deciding whether we should do it in the Czech Republic right away. Petr and Andrea have had a brief discussion and suggest that the seminar be merged with the EE show again, since the conference is also held in Prague and otherwise we would have to travel to Prague three times.

## **11. meeting of breed-related European shows in Affligem / B from 24.-26. November 2023**

Luc created a presentation for the show. All details have been clarified. Deliveries can be made on Fridays from 1pm to 8pm. Saturday morning exhibition evaluation with catalog submission by noon, Saturday afternoon seminar and then breeders' evening, Sunday morning seminar, after lunch from 3 p.m. cage animals, tidy up and then departure.

List of judges has not yet been created. Each judge judges about 50 animals depending on the number of entries.

Luc quickly needs the number of participants in the seminar (registration deadline July 1, 2023). The number of registrations for the exhibition is of secondary importance at the moment. Sweden needs the list of judges soon so that the judges can be invited. Lena asks the delegates to let the judges know the date and ask them to keep the date free.

## **12. Discussion of the European show in 2024**

14-17 November 2024 is currently the selected date, but this is not fixed yet. The exhibition location is about 1 hour outside of Prague. Andrea will write the name later. A rabbit and guinea pig exhibition is planned. Possibly other small animal specialty clubs will be invited. Andrea is very happy that the Czech club can also take over the organization. The EE has proposed a registration fee of EUR 12 per animal.

## **13. Diseases**

Daniel has a phone call to the vet this morning in Warsaw and Warsaw District. The topic was a required vaccination. Daniel had to explain that guinea pigs cannot be vaccinated against rabies. Daniel had to move the show to his garden for a short time and therefore there probably won't be many shows in Poland until this situation improves and simplifies.

## **14. Questions, suggestions and requests**

Annette asks if there is an entrance control in the Czech Republic. Andrea confirms this.

Luc also confirms this for the breed-specific European show in Affligem. Sick animals are placed in quarantine.

The division receives the compensation of Euro 500. This year they will be made available for the breed-specific European Show, including last year's Euro 100, Luc will receive Euro 600 for the seminar and exhibition in November 2023.

The Europe standard has been changed so that the standard created by some countries in 2004 now belongs to all member countries.

Each member country should only work with the EE standard and no longer with its own standard. Lena would like to change that, that member countries are still allowed to use their national standard and the EE standard as an additional standard. A chief judge will also be added. 97 points and higher and 0 points must be countersigned in front of the chief judge. This has been practiced for a long time and is now written down in the rules. The EE Badge is awarded to judges who have judged three seminars and one EE show. Lena will also write this down in the rules.

There were two innovations in the rules for the EE standards commission: how many members should be there. Now it says five to seven and now it's five or seven members. Lena wants to keep an odd number. Expenses from EUR 1000 and now EUR 500.

Lena asks the delegates to review the regulations so that all documents are up-to-date by next year's conference at the latest.

Lena wants to update the website. All delegates should submit a picture of their choice. If you don't do this, Lena will find a picture online and will use it. Lena would like to do this by mid-June. Only the photo and the email will be mentioned on the website.

## **15. Miscellaneous**

Again, please update the list that Lena received from Jeanine as soon as possible and don't forget to add the umbrella organization.

According to yesterday's decision by the standards commission, the standard will only be revised in English. Each country is responsible for the translation in compliance with copyright.

Lena and all delegates thank Sandra and Melanie for their years of work as secretaries in the commissions.

Lena ends the division meeting and is looking forward to seeing everyone again in Affligung in November.

June 4, 2023  
Melanie Polinelli  
Secretary Cavia department