

FEDERATION CYNOLOGIQUE INTERNATIONALE (FCI) (AISBL)

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Minutes of the FCI General Committee Meeting Zurich, November 4-5th, 2008

Attendees :

Mr H.Müller (CH)	President
Mr K.Reisinger (A)	Vice-President
Mr R.de Santiago (PR)	Treasurer
Mr U.Fischer (D)	
Mr K.Järvinen (FIN)	
Mr S.Stefik (SK)	
Mr M.A.Martinez (RA)	Delegate of the Americas and Carib Section
Mr T.Nagamura (J)	Delegate of the Asia and Pacific Section

Mr Y.De Clercq (B), Executive Director
Mr I.Awashima (J), Interpreter

1. Opening

At 9.30 am, Mr Müller opens the meeting and welcomes all the attending members in Zurich. Mr Hindse informed that he was unable to attend due to professional commitments. The Committee is very happy that Mr Martínez is back after his health problems.

2.a Minutes of the General Committee meeting, Madrid, April 2008 : approval

Page 3, point 3 (started at page 2), meeting of the FCI Breeding Commission: the General Committee instructs Mr De Clercq to turn again to the FCI legal commission and to insist for a meeting to take place. The matter “export pedigree” is considered to be very important.

The minutes are approved by the General Committee.

Follow-up of the meeting

Situation in KUSA : the General Committee takes note of the two letters of KUSA (13 May and 5 August 2008) and appreciate the position taken by our South African member with regard to breed standards. The General Committee looks forward to the future developments announced by the KUSA.

Dentition in Labradors : the answer of the KC (England) is clear : a “regular and complete scissor bite” means that the full dentition (42 pieces) (and the scissor bite) have to be regular and complete”.

Clearance for SV Judges : the matter is not yet settled.

Partnership applications from Viet-Nam : Mr Nagamura indicates that he will visit the kennel club on a date still to be set as the 2008 August visit was cancelled. He adds that he sees this kennel club and Viet-Nam cynology as very promising.

Partnership application from Mauritius Island: Mr Reisinger reads his report on the information he collected about the club. The club is close to our French member, the Société Centrale Canine and is still in an early development process. Mr Reisinger will visit the club in April 2009 and will give a report to the General Committee.

Turnierhundesport : the VDH wrote to the FCI to express their surprise to read that Turnierhundesport should be put under the responsibility of the FCI commission for utility dogs. This sport is a nice combination between dog and man performances. The FCI will turn to the VDH and ask them to set a working group, made up of delegates from countries where this sport is popular, which will then have to report to the General Committee on the situation of this discipline. In the meantime the FCI commission for utility dogs is not allowed to deal with Turnierhundesport matters.

2.b Minutes of the General Committee meeting, Bad Tatzmannsdorf, September 2008 : approval

Page 1, point 3 : a circular about the FCI Statements will be issued. These statements are published in the last issue of the FCI magazine.

The minutes are approved by the FCI General Committee.

Follow-up of the meeting

Distribution of CACIB according to coat colours : study by Mr Järvinen : Mr Järvinen indicates that there is absolutely no FCI rule to establish how CACIB are to be distributed. This distribution depends on the members which are the “owners” of the breeds and it seems to just be the result of “tradition”.

Many breeds have different breed colours and several CACIB and Mr Järvinen prepared an excellent file, per group of the FCI Breed Nomenclature. Long discussions take place and it is finally decided to refer the point to the FCI scientific and standard commissions, requesting a report from both and to then turn to the countries of origin concerned.

Health in breed standards : conclusions of the working group : no conclusion was sent as the decision made by the FCI General Committee in Bad Tatzmannsdorf (addition in all breed standards of a paragraph about the eliminating and disqualifying faults) will be commented by the FCI standards and scientific commissions. This decision is indeed closely related to the work of the working group. Mr De Clercq indicates that he did not yet give the instruction to amend all the breed standards, pending on the discussions to be held by the two commissions.

Federación Canófila de México and WUSV: Mr de Santiago informs that the matter is not yet settled. He was invited, he adds, to attend a meeting in Mexico together with the presidents of both organisations. It is however impossible for him to attend.

The General Committee will be waiting for the outcome of the meeting but makes it however clear that they will support their member, the FCM, and follow any decision they (FCM) will take. A letter will be sent to the WUSV.

New title of International Show Champion (C.I.E – Int.Sh.Ch) : Mr De Clercq informs about the different cases which could happen taking into consideration all the exceptions which have been granted by breed or by countries over the years. A circular informing clearly about the different options for the title will be issued in November.

3. Minutes of the meetings of the commissions : comments

Standards, Tel Aviv, Feb 2008

No comment

Scientific, Tel Aviv, Feb 2008

Page 2 : it is indicated that Mr Villalobos did not yet submit the list of abbreviations.

Standards and Scientific, Tel Aviv, Feb 2008

Page 3, Mr Järvinen gives more details about why the two breeds mentioned were merged.

Show judges, Amsterdam, Feb 2008

Page 2 : the wording “small countries” is considered particularly inappropriate

Shows, Amsterdam, Feb 2008

Page 2 : Mr De Clercq indicates that there have been very few answers to the query of the FCI about the laws regarding ear cropping and tail docking. The circular will be re-sent.

Shows and show judges, Amsterdam, Feb 2008

No comment

Utility dogs, Louvain-la-Neuve, March 2008

No comment.

Mr De Clercq reports on his talks with the reps of the American Working Dogs Federation (AWDF) and their concern about their participation in the future FCI Championships for Utility Dogs following the signing of the letter of understanding by the AKC and the FCI. Mr De Clercq indicates that the AWDF has been a regular and an excellent competitor for the last couple of years and that they have excellent relations with our commission for utility dogs. The General Committee confirms that the AWDF will still be allowed to take part in this prestigious event, besides a possible AKC team.

Continental Pointers, Nerevazka, April 2008

The General Committee is happy to note that an AKC team will compete in the European Cup.

British Pointers, Reims, March 2008

The General Committee reiterates its feeling that to work with British Pointers doesn't have to be considered as a professional and business activity. The use of the word "hindrance to the labour law" seems to show that the handlers' activity is really regarded as such by the commission. The General Committee regrets, in addition, that the Commission did not take into account the new rules with regard to the participation of national teams in the European Cup and will consider the possibility to take measures should this be repeated.

Sighthounds Races, Oude Pekela, June 2008

No comment

Ferretting dogs, Vienna, Feb 2008

Page 3, any other business: "this exception applies to Asian countries because they do not have a working tradition". The General Committee underlines that this applies to the countries of the Americas and the Caribbean section too.

Spaniels, Stockholm, March 2008

The General Committee would like to have the list of the absentees and the countries where the attending delegates come from.

Herding dogs, Gumpoldskirchen, April 2008

MM Fischer and De Clercq once again underline the excellent work of this commission and mention that the first CACIT trial took place in France in observance of the new FCI rules.

Sled dogs, Paris, April 2008

Mr De Clercq informs about the very first and positive meeting of this commission. No comment.

Breeding, Bern, May 2008

No comment.

Agility, Helsinki, Feb 2008

No comment. The General Committee is informed that the last meeting of the commission (late September) was held as usual in the frame of the World Agility Championship but regrets that the invitations were sent directly to the delegates and not via the FCI Office. It is however decided to consider it as an official FCI meeting on an exceptional basis.

4. Proposals of the commissions

Show Judges

“A judge is not permitted to accept an invitation for a World or Section show without at least being partially reimbursed for his expenses. The official daily fee including travel days is mandatory. The reimbursement should include a percentage of the travel costs and expenses as well as the hotel accommodation”.

It is first stated that no amendment can be brought in the rules until December 2012. In addition, the wording “is not permitted” is regarded as being far too strong. It is added that according to the Show Regulations, “all normal travel expenses to include real kilometrage (reimbursement to be decided by the FCI General Committee, a minimum of 0.35 €/km), parking, train, bus, taxi, flight (a reasonably priced economy ticket including a cancellation insurance – if possible - and an option for changeability), as well as meals during travel to the show, incurred by a judge have to be reimbursed immediately on arrival or **following whatever previous arrangements made with the organiser.**” Consequently it is up to the judges to accept or not the conditions which are stated in the judging contract sent by the organisers;

“Ask the standards commission to translate all the standards into the FCI languages from the original language”

The General Committee turns down this proposal which is not considered realistic.

Shows

To amend the appendix to the FCI Show Regulations so that the paragraph about the quota of judges who are allowed to officiate at World and Section Shows be the same as the paragraph in the FCI Show Regulations

The General Committee agrees.

Shows and Show Judges

A paragraph concerning judges fee and petrol costs should be put in a separate appendix to the regulations. Whenever general costs rise, it would then be easier to adjust as it would not be linked to the Show and Judges Regulations which can be only amended every five years”.

The General Committee agrees.

“The standards must be followed concerning ears and tails : if the standard says normal tails/ears, dogs with docked tails and ears should not be allowed to be shown. FCI will ask every country of origin to include in the standard a description of how uncropped/undocked ears and tail should be carried even though they may themselves be allowed to crop or dock”

First of all the General Committee reminds that the circular 85/2002 provides for the position to adopt insisting on non discriminating the dogs, no matter what the standard says. The General Committee decides to wait until a good number of members have reacted to the circular about the laws in force in the different countries (see page 2, minutes of the FCI show commission in Amsterdam). In addition the commission is asked to give indications as

to what breeds are particularly concerned as most standards of the British and FCI (Germany, France, etc.) breeds have already been amended.

Mr Stefik indicates that the laws which are currently in force in different countries can be changed so as to allow, again, ear cropping and tail docking.

Ask the General Committee how to control that 2/3 of the judges panel are FCI judges

Mr De Clercq indicates that most lists of the show results are systematically checked to make sure that the quota is respected. Until now, not a single country broke this rule.

Procedure about confirmation of CACIB and RCACIB

Mr De Clercq informs about the procedure which has been applied for decades and which, indeed can seem heavy and long. He however insists that some countries wait several months or years (or sometimes do not even react) before they confirm if a dog is pure-bred or not. The whole system will be revised in 2009 to speed up the procedure (mainly the processing of show results).

Ask the General Committee to accept the European judges guide as the worldwide judges guide of FCI and to pay the annual fee for updating the FCI-NO judges.

Mr De Clercq informs about Mr Hindse's reaction who suggests that each judge should pay the annual fee (1 Euro). However, the General Committee believes that as long as this guide does not include all the judges from **all** the sections, it cannot be considered to be the official FCI judges guide. It is reminded that the original idea was to develop this site, progressively, including the judges from the other sections. The proposal is turned down.

Breeding commission

In the hip and elbow dysplasia X-rays, the dog's identification must be checked by the veterinarian and must be marked to the x-rays. The results must be read in the country where the dog's owner lives. The read-out of the results must follow the FCI standard procedure. In case of controversial read-outs, the FCI hip dysplasia commission makes the final decision

It is decided to wait for the final and definitive proposal of the Scientific Commission with regard to the HD protocol. Mr De Clercq informs of Mr Hindse's position.

There must be one responsible person for the ownership of the kennel name and that this responsible person must live in country where the kennel name is issued. The same must also apply the ownership of the dogs. This person should be the first in list of owners.

The General Committee agrees. The amendment, which would be added in the FCI Standing Orders, has to be approved by the FCI General Assembly.

In the FCI Breeding rules the last sentence of the "SELECTION OF THE STUD DOG" point 6 should be omitted. This sentence is contradictory with the last paragraph of point 18. "STUD BOOK REGISTRATION OF A LITTER".

The General Committee agrees. The sentence will be deleted. Mr Järvinen is in favour of allowing the double mating.

If any DNA test should be performed, the identification of the dog must be checked as with any health test protocol and the test result certificate must be offered

The General Committee agrees. The Breeding Rules will be amended accordingly.

In the case of rare breeds the gene pool could be extended by cross-breeding, this should be done so that the country of origin/standard is first consulted

The General Committee reminds that this point was already addressed in 2000 and a circular had then been issued. It will be circulated once again.

There must only be one pedigree and only one export pedigree, which should also contain the name of the owner of the dog. The Standing orders (article 8-10) should be followed.

The General Committee confirms that no matter how many times a dog is exported, it should have one single export pedigree. It is up to the member which confirms the export to stamp the original pedigree with a note stating "certified export pedigree".

Standards Commission

- The following standards and several standards amendments are approved : Berger de Brie, Epagneul Français, Cão de Serra de Aires, Cão da Serra da Estrela, Cão Castro Laboreiro, Rafeiro do Alentejo, Podengo Português, Perdiguero Português, Cão de Agua, Dogue de Bordeaux, Xoloitzcuintle, Afghan Hound, Norfolk Terrier, Norwich Terrier, King Charles Spaniel, Cavalier King Charles Spaniel, Bullterrier and Miniature Bullterrier, Havanese, Berger de Picardie, Grand Anglo-Français blanc et noir and Chien Français blanc et noir.

- The following standards are returned to the Standards Commission : Old English Sheepdog, Whippet and English Setter.

- No decision is made about the amendment in the standard of the German Shepherd Dog (HD and uneven testicles) as the General Committee will wait for the results of the next meeting of the standards and scientific commissions scheduled to take place mid November.

- The proposal about crossing different varieties is postponed to the next meeting.

- The other proposals are discussed.

- *Amendment to the Nota Bene text in the standards:* the text can be sent to the show commission although it already partly appears in the show regulations
- *Standard procedure to call meetings:* the General Committee approves. It is pointed out that this procedure is already applied.
- *Additional text in the heading "faults":* the General Committee approves but it will first be checked if it is not contradictory with the new amendment voted by the General Committee in September 2008. In addition, the Committee will wait for the result of the next meeting of the scientific and standards commissions.
- *Disqualifying faults:* the General Committee will wait for the result of the next meeting of the scientific and standards commissions.
- *Merging of breeds:* the General Committee approves this decision and find it wise and beneficial.

- *Breeds with a genetic blue or brown coat colour.* the General Committee appreciates the document and agrees to circulate it to all the members and contract partners.

FCI British Pointers Commission

- Requirements for the making up of a national team "dog/owner/handler" at FCI Championships

Further to a long discussion, the FCI General Committee expresses its dissatisfaction at the commission's position and threats of legal steps to be taken in case the commission's position is not adopted.

It is reminded that the non-mandatory commissions are advising bodies. The final decision of the General Committee is that the handlers can handle as many dogs as they want however for one single country only.

- Requirements for the title of C.I.B.

The final decision of the General Committee will be as follows : for a dog to be eligible for the title of International Beauty Champion, it has to comply with the following requirements :

- 2 CACIB in a minimum of one year and one day, under two different judges and in two different countries
- a "very good" in a national CACT or international CACIT field-trial or alternatively a "second prize" in a national CACT or international CACIT water and field hunting test or alternatively a second prize in a national CACT or international CACIT multiple hunting test.

This measure will apply from January 1st, 2009.

Sizes of Pointers and Setters

The FCI General Committee indicates that the breed standards are not matters under the sphere of responsibility of the commission.

It is finally pointed out that the liaison agent between the FCI General Committee and the commission is still willing to attend the commission's meeting provided that he is available.

FCI Continental Pointers commission

- Requirements for the making up of a national team "dog/owner/handler" at FCI Championships

The General Committee decides to apply the same requirements as for the commission for British pointers : the handlers can handle as many dogs as they want however for one single country only.

- Requirements for the title of C.I.B.

The decision of the General Committee is the same as the one for the commission for British pointers :

- 2 CACIB in a minimum of one year and one day, under two different judges and in two different countries

- a “very good” in a national CACT or international CACIT field-trial or alternatively a “second prize” in a national CACT or international CACIT water and field hunting test or alternatively a second prize in a national CACT or international CACIT multiple hunting test.

This measure will apply from January 1st, 2009.

- Amendments in the Official Rules and By-laws for International Field-Trials and Hunting Tests for Continental Pointers

The suggested amendments are adopted and effective immediately.

- Minimum requirements for the education of judges eligible to officiate at international CACIT events

The General Committee approves and these requirements will be sent to all the members and contract partners.

FCI Commission for Sled Dogs

- Size of the Siberian Husky

The General Committee takes note of the request but notes that the breed standards are not a matter for the commissions.

- Qualified working judges to award CACIT

The General Committee indicates that the first step to take is to have rules elaborated for the international competitions of the sled dogs.

FCI Commission for Utility Dogs

- To award the CACIT at Mondioring events

All the members of the General Committee confirm that they have received a letter from the president of the commission about Mondioring. It is indicated that according to the different information which were communicated, the discipline would have been amended and could now be acceptable for the CACIT to be awarded. However, before making a decision, the General Committee wants to see a demonstration of Mondioring. It could take place in the frame of the next meeting of the Committee next March.

At 5.00 pm the President of the Swiss Kennel Club (SKG), Mr P.Rub, together with a member of the SKG Board of Directors, give a very interesting overview of the new situation about dog breeding legislation in Switzerland.

At 6.00 pm, Mr Müller closes the first day of the meeting.

At 9.30, Mr Müller opens the second part of the meeting which is attended by the same people as yesterday.

5. Minutes of the meeting between the FCI Executive Committee and the Kennel Club, Brussels, April 2008

Mr Järvinen indicates that the KC will be holding specialty CC shows (for English breeds and with English judges exclusively) in Ireland and in Germany. The matter will be referred to the KC for comments as it goes against the yet to be signed letter of understanding.

The draft of letter of understanding is discussed by the General Committee. The KC will be informed. It is made clear that the KC pre-requisite stating that a dog has to be a UK Champion before it can apply for the title of Int.B.Ch must be removed. English owners are allowed to turn directly to the FCI Office to apply for the title.

Mr Järvinen is asked to provide the General Committee with the agreement which exists between the Nordic countries and the KC.

6. Situation with the Canadian Kennel Club

Mr Martinez reports clearly on the different solutions he envisaged and his correspondence with the CKC. It is decided to invite the CKC reps to Buenos Aires as soon as possible to find a final solution to the situation of CKC all-breed judges officiating at FCI shows. The permission given to CKC judges to judge at FCI shows will be extended beyond December 31st, 2008 if Mr Martinez, mediator, finds it necessary.

7. Situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina

From all the documents received, it is clear that both parties still did not find an agreement. The General Committee decides that if by December 31st, 2008, Bosnian-Herzegovinian cynologists do not speak with one single voice, the contract partnership will be terminated and Bosnia-Herzegovina will be excluded from the FCI.

8. Miscellaneous and Correspondence

Letter of Mr Scheibler, President of the FCI legal commission : protection of the FCI logo, CACIB and RCACIB

Further to a letter from Mr De Clercq to the FCI legal commission about the protection of the FCI logo, the CACIB and RCACIB, Mr Scheibler sent a clear proposal and description of the future steps to take for a worldwide (the FCI logo is already protected in the European Union until 2015) registration of the logo, CACIB and RCACIB. The General Committee is in favour of the procedure and an estimate of the total costs will be asked before a final decision is made.

Observer of the 2011 World Dog Show in Paris

The FCI General Committee suggests that Mr Denayer, President of the Société Royale Saint-Hubert, acts as observer. In case Mr Denayer would not accept, Mr Schwab, Secretary General of the Union Cynologique du Grand-Duché du Luxembourg, will be asked.

Observers and places of the next Asian and Pacific Sections shows

2009 : Taipei, Mr Santos (Philippines Kennel Club)

2010 : Bangkok

2011 : Seoul

2012 : Manila

English Dachshund shown in Ireland

Mr De Clercq reports on the case of a Dachshund, registered as a Miniature Dachshund by the Kennel Club (England) but shown as a Kaninchen in an international show in Ireland. The dog was assessed and measured by FCI judges. However the Irish Kennel Club has removed all titles and qualifications because the dog is registered as a Miniature (the KC does not recognise the Kaninchen variety) but shown as a Kaninchen.

The FCI will ask for the evidence of the assessment and measurement and will then turn to the Irish Kennel Club to lift the disqualification if the dog does appear to be a Kaninchen.

Lhasa Apso shown at the 2006 in Poznan (world dog show)

Mr De Clercq reports on the incident which happened in Poznan. The CACIB was given to a dog and removed later during the day because the dog bit the judge during the BOB competition. Since the results of the CACIB competition were made public (on a board in the ring) , the General Committee agrees that the CACIB has to be confirmed.

9. Any Other Business

Situation in Moldavia

A new president was elected. All legal and relevant documents were provided. It however seems that the president is/was the president of another association, considered to be a dissident one. This is not acceptable and the General Committee decides to suspend all relations with Moldavia until the situation is clarified. Mr De Clercq will turn to the club. In the meantime, it is decided to remove the approval to award the CACIB at the December event.

FCI finances and world financial crisis

Mr De Clercq informs that following meetings with the two main institutions where the FCI has invested, it was guaranteed that there would be no loss of money since the amounts originally invested are protected. The opinion of an external audit will be sought to confirm the bank's statement.

Show Regulations

Mr Stefik indicates that the descriptions of the Progeny and Breeder Classes should be re-considered. It is however reminded that the rules cannot be amended until 2010.

Magyar Vizsla and distichiasis (single or multiple hair arising from the free eye lid margin).

Mr Fischer indicates that the breed standard states that distichiasis is an eliminating fault. However, it seems that this problem does not exist in the breed. The letter will be sent to the MEOE (Hungary) for consideration and possible deletion of this particular point in the standard.

10. Next meetings

26-27 March 2009: the General Committee is pleased to accept the invitation of the Union Cynologique du Grand Duché du Luxembourg.

28-29 July 2009 : Brussels

General Assembly : Monday and Tuesday, 5-6 October 2009

General Committee meeting : Sunday 4 October 2009 and after the General Assembly

World Dog Show : 8-9-10-11 October 2009

11. Relations between the FCI and Eukanuba

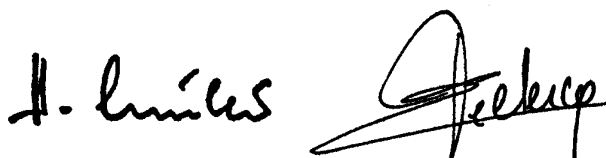
Mr Kalenik, rep of Procter and Gamble, reports on the meeting held at the FCI Office with Mr De Clercq and Mr Reisinger. He indicates that the cooperation contract will be extended for another 5 years and the financial contribution of Eukanuba to the FCI will be increased. Eukanuba wishes to have a good visibility in 2011 and will prepare a special budget for this. Different projects are being studied, among which the preparation of a judges manual, based on the model of the Asian Kennel Union. Mr Kalenik also reports on the next Eukanuba World Challenge for which Eukanuba got a great response from FCI members. Finally he points out that Eukanuba would be happy to see, in the future, the EWC as a regular and official FCI show (included in the official FCI Show Calender) where an official FCI title could be given.

The General Committee agrees that the contract be examined and signed by the Executive Committee if considered correct.

At 4.00 pm, Mr Müller thanks all the members for their very active cooperation and wishes all of them a safe return home.

Outstanding points

- Meeting of the FCI Legal Commission, page 1, Mr De Clercq
- Turnierhundesport : creation of a working group, page 2, Mr De Clercq
- Meeting with CKC : page 10, Mr Martinez
- Observer for 2011 World Dog Show, page 10-11, Mr De Clercq
- Situation in Moldova, page 11, Mr De Clercq/Reisinger
- Situation with Eukanuba, page 12, Mr De Clercq/Reisinger



H.W. Müller
President

Y. De Clercq
Executive Director