

FEDERATION CYNOLOGIQUE INTERNATIONALE (FCI) (AISBL)

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English

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Minutes of the FCI General Committee meeting Amsterdam, Raad van Beheer Offices, 4-5 April 2016

Attendees:	Mr R.de Santiago (PR)	President
	Mr G.Jipping (NL)	Vice-President
	Mrs C.Molinari (PT)	Treasurer
	Mr T.Jakkel (HU)	
	Mr M.A.Martinez (RA)	
	Mr K.Järvinen (FI)	
	Mr J.Hindse (DK)	Delegate of the European Section
	Dr JL Payró (MX)	Delegate of the Americas and Caribbean Section
	Mr A.B.Santos (PH)	Delegate of the Asian and Pacific Section
	Mr Y.De Clercq (BE)	Executive Director

At 9.00 am, RS opens the meeting by thanking GJ for having been able to host the meeting in Amsterdam instead of Brussels at so short notice, following the terrorist attacks in Belgium. He suggests, and the members of the GC approve, to always have an alternative place for our meetings. This might unfortunately be necessary in the future.

1. Minutes of the FCI General Committee meeting, Zagreb, November 2015 : approval

The minutes are approved without any change.

It is agreed that the Youth Group will have a short presentation to the General Committee in Moscow, on the occasion of the World Dog Show.

CM insists on the way to get travel costs reimbursed by the FCI. She asks all the members of the GC to book their flight as early as possible in order to get cheaper flights.

GJ comments that the amended regulations for Junior Handling are now approved by all: show commission and General Committee. They have been published and have been well received by the public.

The presentation «Recommendations regarding welfare, well-being and protection for dogs worldwide» will be sent back by RS to the FCI Office and CM for a last revision. They will then be made available on our website.

The FCI pins were sent to all the NCO's presidents and the all-breed judges are now applying for them at the FCI Office. More pins will be ordered for the other judges (else then all-breed) and will be sold via the NCO. The price per unit will be 5€.

Follow-up: report by S.Stefik, official observer for the 2016 World Dog Show

The members of the GC thank Mr Stefik and will wait for his second report, provided after the extraordinary GA of RKF.

2. Minutes of the meetings of the FCI Commissions + proposals: comments

- *British Pointers, Vitry-le-François, Mar 2015*

MAM indicates that Argentina was allowed to compete at the European Cup.

- *Agility, Bologna, Oct 2015 and Zaragoza, Feb 2016*

This commission does a good job and the GC is happy to see that Agility is getting more and more popular.

Proposals of the FCI Agility Commission

1. *Confirmation of the increase of the entry for the Agility European Open in France from 40 € to 45 € (for both days) and from 30 € to 35 € (for one day only).*

The General Committee takes note. It is not for them to decide but for the Commission.

2. *Confirmation of the new elected board members, with specific duties.*

President: Christa Bremer.

4 vice-presidents with specific duties: Wilfried Claes, Marco Mouwen, Bernd Hüppe, Paolo Meroni.

The General Committee takes note and congratulates the 5 elected people.

3. *Confirmation of an international judges' seminar, which will be held from the 18th until 20th of November 2016.*

The General Committee takes note.

4. *2019 or 2020: application from Brazil to host the FCI Agility World Championship. Having in mind the low participation in South Africa years ago, the General Committee is asked for their comments.*

The General Committee does not consider it its business to make an official decision. They share the concern of the commission and recommend not to organise this very important event in Brazil if there is no official guarantee that the attendance will be sufficient. Further contact should be taken with Brazil.

5. *Possibility to use a specific ruling of the FCI Show Regulations stating that FCI judges are allowed to officiate at FCI-sanctioned events only.*

The General Committee has a long debate about that point. Their conclusion is that even though the Show Judges regulations prevent FCI judges from officiating at non-FCI events, this ruling could be challenged by any court for being against EU legislation. Consequently, the FCI Agility judges are not prohibited to officiate at non-FCI events. The matter will be referred to the FCI Show and Show Judges commissions and their regulations should be revised too.

DS suggests that all new judges could voluntarily sign an official commitment stating that they recognise the FCI as the only world canine federation with which they will cooperate.

A discussion starts about the behaviour of some FCI judges on social media. This matter is already on the agenda of the next meeting of the show judges commission.

6. *Junior Agility European Open 2017 to be organised in Luxemburg.*

The General Committee takes note. It is not for them to decide but for the Commission.

7. *Agility World Championships 2017 to be organised in Czech Republic (Liberec).*

The General Committee takes note. It is not for them to decide but for the Commission.

8. *European Open 2018 to be organised in Austria.*

The General Committee takes note. It is not for them to decide but for the Commission.

9. *Agility World Championships 2019 to be organised in Finland.*

The General Committee takes note. It is not for them to decide but for the Commission.

10. *To issue a circular again making it clear that an agility judge (national/international) is:*

- a) *not allowed to judge abroad without an official request from the inviting NCO to the judge's NCO. Without the consent of his NCO, the judge is not allowed to accept any appointments abroad.*

The system remains as it is now: the NCOs decide whether or not their approval is required. It is agreed to add sections to the FCI Judges Directory for the other disciplines (Agility, Obedience, Utility, etc.). Once it will be effective, the Directory will be considered an official platform.

- b) *An agility judge (national/international) is not allowed to judge non-FCI sanctioned events.*

The point was discussed earlier

- c) *If an agility judge (national/international) does accept any such appointments, with or without the consent of his NCO, he will be struck from the list of international agility judges and his NCO will be informed.*

Having in mind the position of the General Committee, that point needs no further discussion.

- d) *Events sanctioned by the AKC and KC are exceptions but still permission must be given by the NCO of the judges.*

Approval of the General Committee. They reiterate that it is up to the NCO to give clearance to their judges or not.

It is not considered necessary to issue a circular. These decisions are published after the General Committee meeting.

- *Sighthounds Races, Vantaa, June 2015*

GJ reports on some internal conflicts related to the measuring of dogs. He however recommends to wait for their next meeting to take place where this matter should be settled.

- *Retrievers, Konopiste, July 2015*

The proposal on page 4, point 9 is accepted even though it was not sent in the appropriate format.

- *Spaniels, Peccioli, Nov. 2015*

It is commented that cold game is accepted
Page 2: no approval from the FCI is necessary.

- *Standards, Thuin, Nov. 2015*

No comment.

RS will discuss the possibility to have more than 1 annual meeting with the new president of the commission, Mr J.Nallem.

Proposals of the Standards Commission

Amended standards

Gordon Setter, Dunker, Drentse Patrijshond, St Bernard, Bichon Frisé, Japanese Chin, Japanese Terrier and Finnish Spitz are all accepted. The English wording in some paragraphs of the Bichon Frisé (shoulder) and Japanese Chin (forequarters and hindquarters) will be slightly revised.

The GC thanks warmly MAM and the Federación Cinológica Argentina which provides, free of charge, all the translations of the standards into Spanish.

- *Scientific, Thuin, Nov. 2015*

No comment.

YDC informs about the procedure which was used to elect the new President. Dr K.Sainio was appointed President of the FCI Scientific Commission.

- *Standards and Scientific, Thuin, Nov. 2015*

RS insists that the procedure for the recognition of new breeds (provisional and definitive) has to be re-considered as soon as possible. YDC informs that the matter was referred to the Standards Commission which will meet in the next days. To require a 20-year national recognition prior to applying for international recognition is considered far too long. The recognition of AKC-CKC and KC breeds will also have to be discussed by the commission.

Page 2, "miscellaneous": YDC indicates that the FCI website is updated and all information approved at the 2015 General Assembly were uploaded last year.

Proposals of the Standards and Scientific Commissions

Provisional recognition of the Prague Rattler and Bohemian Shepherd Dog

YDC informs that K.Sainio is in touch with CMKU to finalize the file.

Provisional recognition of the Lancashire Heeler

The General Committee follows the recommendation of both commissions: the breed is recognized. Country of origin: England - Country of Patronage: FCI. The decision applies from May 1st, 2016. MM Hindse and Järvinen will inform NKK about the decision.

The requirements for the final recognition, which cannot take place until 2026, will be studied at that time, according to the proposal that will be made by the Standards Commission (see above point).

The KC will be asked if they keep an open studbook for the Lancashire Heelers. In addition, the General Committee agrees with the principle of having eye and patella examinations for the breeding stock but insists that it is a decision that has to be taken by each FCI national canine organisation.

Utility Dogs, Delémont, Sept. 2015

JH makes some comments about the disqualification of the French team, which was accepted (prohibited training methods).

3. Minutes of the FCI Executive Committee meetings

Amsterdam, December 2015

The matter of ANKC membership is discussed. It is agreed to deal with it later in details (letter of ANKC to be answered) and to have the ANKC Chairman attending the FCI Executive Committee meeting next June in Thuin so that a final decision be taken by the General Committee next October.

The minutes are approved.

Hong Kong, February 2016

The matter of « urgent decisions » is discussed. Upon RS's proposal, it is agreed that for all "urgent" matters, the decision should be taken by RS (or Executive Committee), sent to the members of the General Committee giving them 3 days to answer. If no answer, the decision is considered approved.

Different comments are asked on several points (meeting with WUSV, case of a KC-registered Boxer prevented from being shown and bred in different FCI countries, etc.).

The General Committee accepts the proposal of the Executive Committee to delete the word "air" in the following paragraph of the FCI Show Regulations. This decision will apply to shows to be held from January 1st, 2017. The ruling will now be as follows:

The FCI will only authorize CACIB shows to be held on the same day provided that these events are held at an ~~a~~ distance of at least 300 km.

4. Proposals of the Commissions

Show Judges Commission

1. Checking procedure in case of alleged incorrect nomination of FCI group and all-breed judges

The General Committee considers it a good idea. However this would mean one full-time employee at the FCI Office, which is currently impossible. In addition, the FCI Office should not be converted into a Police Station.

2. Information from NCO regarding their list of judges

*2a. To amend the FCI Standing Orders, Art.11 as follows: "A judge can appear on the judges' list of a member or contract partner only if he has his legal residence in the country in which this member or this contract partner has its head office. Furthermore, a judge can appear on one FCI judges' list only. The members and contract partners must publish their updated judges' list (name, address, email, phone number, qualifications, languages spoken, **and year of nomination for his/her first breed**) on the **FCI Judges Directory** and on their Internet website. In addition, this updated list has to be sent to the FCI General Secretariat every year. It is up to the members and the contract partners to decide whether or not to publish their working judges' lists on the Internet and send them to the FCI General Secretariat or not".*

Approval. The point will be on the agenda of the next General Assembly.

2b. To issue a circular requiring FCI members to use the FCI Judges Directory as their official list of show judges from 1st January 2018 latest.

Approval.

3. Organization of a Congress for FCI Show Judges, every 2 years in one or two countries.

The General Committee considers it a very good idea. They however request an even more detailed and precise budget. In addition, they would like to know the number and names of the expected speakers, the contents of their presentation, the schedules.

There is however a general consensus that it would be more efficient to hold these congresses in the frame of a major event (World Dog Show, Section Show, French Championship, German Bundessieger) or of the commission's annual meetings. The audience would definitely be larger.

Show Commission

To add the following in the Standing Orders, Art 10 "Events"

The international all-breed shows and international trials where FCI awards (CACIB, CACIT, CACIAG, CACIL, CACIOB) are granted come under the aegis of the FCI. All documents and catalogues related to the above events must carry the FCI logo. The FCI logo must be visible at all these events.

At all World Dog Shows and Section Shows, the FCI logo and the FCI flag must be visible, including at the main entrance and in the main ring.

*As a result of the change the following text should also be added in the **APPLICATION FORM** "WORLD DOG SHOW (WDS) and SECTION DOG SHOWS (SDS)":*

*PRESENCE OF FCI LOGO AND FLAGS (in a central and "strategic" place, **including the main entrance and the main ring**).*

Approval. The matter will be referred to the 2017 General Assembly.

Show and Show Judges Commissions

1. Obligations for non FCI-judges officiating at FCI shows

Approval on the following amended wording for the Regulations for FCI Dog Shows, Art.9c: All the judges, including those from countries that are not members of the FCI, must under all circumstances follow the FCI breed standards when they are officiating at shows which have been sanctioned by the FCI. The FCI standards for the breeds which will be judged by judges who do not come from FCI members must be sent to them by the organiser who has invited them in due time before the event. **The rules regarding the general duties of a show judge, his travel insurance and his behaviour mentioned in the FCI Show Judges Regulations also concern the judges from non FCI members. They have to follow these rules and regulations."**

2a. Proposal to have a general discussion at the General Assembly about the members which do not follow the FCI regulations and how to react.

The General Committee takes note but they want the Statutes of the FCI to be followed: any full member has the possibility to put forward any proposal to the General Assembly.

2b. To organise a meeting between FCI General Committee and the VDH to discuss the matter of the 50€ fee for the judges, which the VDH does not want to implement.

The General Committee indicates that the VDH position is not against the FCI regulations. If however the VDH chooses not to follow the rule of the 50€ (fee for judges), this must be clearly indicated in the invitations sent to the judges.

3. Country of nomination of a judge: amendment of Art.10 of the Regulations for FCI Dog Shows

Agreement on the following wording: the country that should appear on the show programme is the country where the judge's FCI license is registered.

4. Physical and mental health of a judge: amendment of Art.9, "general duties of a show judge" of the Regulations for FCI Show Judges regulations

Agreement on the following wording: judges must be fit in order to judge the breeds they are assigned, paying respect to the dogs and the exhibitors.

5. How to judge cropped/docked dogs

The point was discussed earlier by email, before the meeting and circular 8/2016 (7 March 2016) speaks for itself. It is also agreed that the measure applies to CACIT events too and not to shows exclusively.

5. Balance Sheets 2015

CM makes a clear presentation on the major differences between 2014 and 2015. The members ask several questions, all of them are answered clearly. YDC is allowed to open a saving account in another bank in order to spread FCI money over different institutions.

The Balance Sheets and Profit and Loss Accounts, showing a benefit of 30.138 € are approved.

6. Proposals of the members

Egyptian Kennel Federation: requirements for the title of CIB

The following requirements will apply

- 4 CACIB (in Egypt only or in different countries)
- 4 different FCI judges
- 1 year between 1st and last award.
- No working test for breeds of groups 3 to 8.

At 5.30 pm, RS closes the first part of the meeting.

At 9.30 am the next day, RS opens the second part of the meeting, same participants.

Before going to the next point of the agenda, RS informs that he asked JLP, President of the FCI Americas and Caribbean Section, to visit the facilities of the 2017 World Dog Show and General Assembly in Quito (Ecuador). JLP reports on his visit. A long discussion is held as the General Committee has the feeling that the current situation strongly differs from the one presented in 2015 at the General Assembly in Budapest where AERCAN won the right to organise both events. There are clear concerns about the capability of AERCAN to perform the task they were given. It is agreed that the FCI lawyer will turn to AERCAN in order to get their official position whether or not to organise the world dog show and/or general assembly.

It is agreed that J.Hindse will be the official observer of the FCI World Dog Show 2018 in Amsterdam.

7. Miscellaneous

1. ANKC membership

The answer of ANKC (Australian National Kennel Council) to the FCI regarding the conditions for their future membership in the FCI is discussed in detail. The FCI will answer and call the President of ANKC to a meeting in June this year with the Executive Committee (Thuin, FCI Office) and a final decision will then be made by the General Committee on the occasion of their next meeting, end October.

2. CKU vs AKC/NGKC + 2019 World Dog Show

RS informs that AKC has put an end to their business relations with NGKC (National General Kennel Club) in China. FCI will assist CKU in their talks with AKC to have their pedigrees recognised. The FCI (RS and DS) will send a letter to AKC.

RS informs about the discussions he held with official representatives of CKU (Shanghai, March 2016) about the 2019 World Dog Show. The halls are fantastic. RS then shows the strategic communication plan of CKU for the next years. The presentation is appreciated and will be sent to the FCI members. CKU will be asked again to keep the FCI informed about any action CKU is taking.

Finally, FCI will produce a logo showing their clear opposition to the Yulin Festival.

3. Sanctions against 2 members

One of the members committed to paying all its debts early next week. It is agreed that if the money due to the FCI is on the FCI account by next Wednesday, the suspension will be lifted. If not, the suspension will be confirmed and the FCI will inform its members.

The other member will be assisted by most countries of its section to cancel their debts. As long as this is not done, the suspension is confirmed. The FCI will inform its members.

4. Email from A.Hedhammar

The General Committee takes note of A.Hedhammar's position. RS will answer to him.

5. Request from C.Guintard (Standards Commission): book as tribute to R.Sporre-Willes and R.Triquet

The General Committee is against the principle of paying the translation into English of the book (approximately 15.000 €). The General Committee however agrees to give an amount of 5.000€ for the production of the book provided that it is in English. In addition, the FCI would like to have 100-150 copies in order to send it, as a gift, to their members. The General Committee has no objection against some FCI personalities to write in that book in their capacity of FCI official.

6. RKF vs UKU

The General Committee agrees on a final wording. A circular will be issued in the next days.

7. Report on 2015 WDS (Milan): N.Schwab

The General Committee appreciates the report and thanks Mr Schwab. Now that Mr Schwab has resigned from his position of Vice-President of the FCI Show Commission after many years, it is agreed to reward him with the FCI pin on the occasion of the 2016 September dog show in Luxemburg. RS will give the pin to Mr Schwab.

8. Report on 2015 Asia and Pacific Section Show (Taiwan): A.Hudono

The report is considered a bit short and not really elaborated. Mr Hudono will be asked to give more comments and details on the different sections of the report.

9. Report on 2015 Americas and Caribbean Section Show (Chile) : W.Cespedes

The observer did not use the official form. The FCI Office will send it to him so that he can use it and send it to the FCI, filled in, again.

10. Dates and places of the next meetings

As discussed earlier, RS asks to identify alternative places for the different meetings to come.

2016

General Committee

30-31 October: Paris (if not, Madrid)

Executive Committee

14-15 June: Thuin (if not, Amsterdam)

6-7 September: Thuin (if not, to be determined)

2017

General Committee

10-11 April : Prague (if not, Madrid)

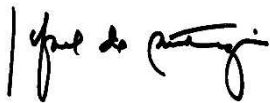
Executive Committee

22-23 February, Ancona (instead of 6-7 February, Madeira) (if not, to be determined)

8. Any other business

- **Stefan Stefik's case is discussed again.** The General Committee is surprised to see that while S.Stefik has complied with the requirements of the agreement, SKJ does not seem to have done so. The FCI Office will write to Slovak Kennel Club (SKJ) and JH will travel to Bratislava to put an end to the situation.
- **The position of ZKwP forbidding participation of Polish cropped/docked (born after 1/1/2012) to their international dog shows from 1/1/2016** is accepted by the General Committee as it is a decision which is the logical consequence of a Polish law prohibiting dog cropping/docking in Poland.
- **RS reports on the meeting with the new President of WUSV.** The atmosphere was excellent. WUSV and FCI reiterated their will to keep working together in the respect of the cooperation agreement between both organisations. WUSV committed to answer the letter of the Raad van Beheer regarding the results given by NCO judges who are not members of WUSV. In addition, the FCI will investigate with its members about their domestic problems regarding German Shepherds. The results will be discussed on a case-per-case basis by FCI and WUSV.
- **Following the death of a Hungarian judge at the Luxemburg Dog Show,** the General Committee recommends the implementation by all show organisers of emergency procedures.
 - **Final recognition of the Russian Toy (Ruskiy Toy)**
Following the request of RKF, the General Committee agrees to appoint 2 experts of the breed who will be in charge of checking the status of the breed at the 2016 World Dog Show. The FCI will ask RKF about the judging schedule of the Moscow WDS.

At 1.00 pm, RS thanks all the General Committee members for their positive input. He wishes all of them a nice and safe trip to their home country.



R.de Santiago
FCI President



Y.De Clercq
FCI Executive Director