

FEDERATION CYNOLOGIQUE INTERNATIONALE (FCI) (AISBL)

Place Albert 1er, 13, B - 6530 Thuin (Belgique) Tél: ++32.71.59.12.38 – Fax: ++32.71.59.22.29, internet: <http://www.fci.be>

English

CIRCULAR 37/2018

5/06/2018

Minutes of the FCI General Committee meeting Seville, February 28 – March 1, 2018

Attendees:	Mr R.de Santiago (PR)	President
	Mrs C.Molinari (PT)	Vice-President
	Mr T.Jakkel (HU)	Treasurer
	Mr G.Jipping (NL)	
	Mr M.A.Martinez (AR)	
	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 9.30 am, RS opens the meeting by welcoming the General Committee members. He points out the heavy agenda and hopes that the meeting will be fruitful.

1. Approval of the minutes of the General Committee meeting, Leipzig, November 2017

No remark. The minutes are approved.

GJ informs that he will remain the liaison person between the FCI GC and the following non-mandatory commissions: Sighthounds Races, Dog Dancing and Flyball.

2. Dates of future General Committee meetings

22-23 May, 2018, Budapest

6-7 Nov, 2018, Thuin

20-21 Feb, 2019, Helsinki

General Assembly 2019

Sat 27 Apr : GC meeting + sections meetings

Sun 28 and Mon 29 Apr: General Assembly

Tue 30 Apr : club shows

Wed 1 May to Fri 3 May: WDS

3. Approval of the minutes of the commissions meetings + proposals : comments and approval

- *Scientific, Paris, April 2017*

As a general rule, it is commented that the commission is an advisory body to the GC. They are not allowed to make decisions but recommendations.

YD comments that the recommendation for new criteria for the recognition of new breeds is under construction.

Brachycephalic syndrome: the GC expects some feedback from both commissions regarding the length of the muzzle vs the length of the skull. KJ insists that it is an important matter as threats to ban some breeds exist in Scandinavia and could extend very quickly to the rest of Europe. It would be useful to create a working group to deal with this matter (examples of breeds: French bulldog, Boston Terrier, ...).

The opinion of the GC is that any exaggeration of the ratio « length of muzzle vs length of skull » is undesirable. RS appoints KJ to have a personal meeting with the president of the Scientific Commission, Dr K.Sainio, before the commission's meeting, mid-April, this year.

- *Standards and Scientific, Paris, April 2017*

No specific comment.

- ***Proposal of the Standards and Scientific commissions: provisional recognition of Seguggio Maremmano***

The breed is approved at provisional level following the recommendation of both commissions. The breed standard will be sent to the Board members for approval.

- *Obedience, Uetliberg, May 2017*

Point 17.6 : the GC wonders which « other disciplines use their own flag”. There is only one official FCI flag and the commission is welcome to use it.

- *Breeding, Sochi, May 2017*

The President of the FCI Breeding Commission, Mr L.Gorjao, is let into the meeting. The minutes are commented together with the proposals (see below).

- ***Proposals of the Breeding Commission***: L. Gorjao reports.

1 and 2: Amended regulations. Several FCI members do not follow (yet) the amendments of the FCI Standing Orders (indication of the type of coat, the colour and the size on the pedigrees) and of the International Breeding Rules (pedigrees and export pedigrees). The FCI Office will again issue a circular.

3. Guidelines for limited registration. The Breeding Commission will consider a list of criteria whereby a dog should/could be registered with a «limited registration ». That list should be, to the greatest possible extent, applicable to a vast majority of the FCI members.

4. White Swiss Shepherd Dogs (347). L.Gorjao is asked to insist for the meeting between the members concerned to take place. Doubts are however expressed regarding the final result. It is commented that so far, only the Netherlands and Russia have complained. The circulars 77/2007 and 32/2013 remain valid.

5 and 6 : the two matters (coat colours nomenclature and HD screening results) were referred to the Scientific Commission in November 2016. The commission will discuss them at their next meeting, this April.

Mr Gorjao then reports that some FCI members accept -in their databases- pedigrees issued by organisations which are not affiliated to the FCI. The GC requests clear evidence and will then turn to the FCI members concerned. The matter will then have to be discussed later.

7. To allow a litter to be registered in a country different from the breeder's country of legal residence. The GC turns down the request.

8. Recognition of a ridgeless variety in the Rhodesian and Thai breeds. It is genetically impossible to avoid that variety to appear but to cross them together causes dermoid sinus. The commission would like the GC to discuss with the two countries concerned (South Africa and Thailand) and with the Scientific commission. Some figures to demonstrate the occurrence of the disease are requested. Scientific studies seem to show that the gene causing dermoid sinus is clearly present in dogs with a ridge. The Scientific Commission will discuss this matter in their 2018 meeting. The conclusions of the 2017 and 2018 Scientific Commission will be sent to the two countries concerned, with cc to the Scientific Commission.

9. Joint meetings of the breeding, show judges and shows commissions. The Breeding Commission regards it as a good idea. The GC is not against. The system applied with the Show and Show judges commissions, or with the Standards and Scientific commissions could be applied.

10. Exchange breed's database between FCI members. There will be a new EU law about data privacy in force from 25th May 2018. It will then be illegal to publish some private data. The proposal is turned down. The FCI Office will have a special education session about this very problem mid-March.

11. Websites with pedigrees data and databases of various canine tests. Same reason as above to turn down the proposal.

Following the request of the Breeding commission, the General Committee makes it clear that it is against the FCI Statutes (Art.24) to publish the minutes of the commissions meetings on the FCI website.

Over the last years, the commission focused mostly on scientific issues. The situation however has changed lately. L. Gorjao is asking what kind of topics can be dealt with by the Breeding commission. CM comments that *the International Breeding Rules* are the official document on which the commission should base their discussions. The commission should make sure that they are modern and updated. Any topic linked to breeding matters falls into the scope of competence of the commission. After these interesting discussions, the FCI GC thanks Mr Gorjao for his presence and input.

- *Sighthounds Races, Lotzwil, June 2017*

No specific comment is made. GJ attended the meeting and could solve some unclear points « on the spot ».

- ***Proposal of the Sighthounds Races Commission. Amended regulations (measurements of Whippets and Greyhounds)***

1.5, point 5: The dog will be measured at the withers (the rest of the sentence is deleted: i.e. ~~...above the top of the shoulder blade~~). The amendments are approved.

- *Retrievers, Karjalhoja, July 2017*

The GC will wait for possible proposals from the commission (e.g.: handlers allowed to compete under multiple nationalities).

Adrian Landarte, President of the FCI Show Judges Commission is then let into the room to discuss different points raised by the FCI Executive Committee.

Some FCI members do not follow the FCI regulations (about nomination of all-breed judges for example). Some controls are done from time to time but the commission feels that more should be done. A debate takes place about how to implement those controls. The group created lately by RS, i.e. G.Jipping, C.Molinari and T.Jakkel, to deal with judges issues is confirmed and the FCI GC extends it with the participation of the President and Vice-President of the Show Judges Commissions. TJ is appointed Chairman of the Group.

It is important to appoint a competent and official working group where a NCO will be able to complain. The task of this group would be to analyse the following issues:

- Judges moving from one country to another
- the date of the first breed/group must be the date when it is entered in the FCI system.
- the agreement of both countries must be sent to the FCI Office in case of a judge's move from one FCI member to another FCI member.
- to check if the criteria to become all-breed judge are fulfilled.

Next (2nd) FCI Judges Congress: the commission suggests to have it next year in 2019 (24-25 June 2019) in Acapulco in the frame of the FCI Americas and Caribbean Section show. The Board gives its principle agreement and tasks the Board of the show judges commission to organise the event and prepare the topics to be presented. A.Landarte is appointed Congress Manager. The FCI Board will approve the final agenda. The FCI General Committee expects the organisers to provide a draft budget and programme by May 2018 before deciding the amount of money which will be allocated by the FCI.

- *Utility, Rheine, Sept 2017*

No specific comment.

- **Proposals of the Utility Dogs Commission**

- **The new IPO regulations, now called IGP (*Internationale Gebrauchshunde Prüfungsordnung*)**, have been approved by email prior to the meeting, following recommendations made by JH. They will be valid from 1st January 2019.
- **The amended Specifications for the organisation of the FCI IPO World Championship for Utility Dogs** have been approved by email prior to the meeting, following recommendations made by JH. They will be valid immediately upon publication.

- **Proposal of the Rescue Dogs Commission**

The amended International Trial Rules for Rescue Dog Tests have been approved by email prior to the meeting, following recommendations made by JH. They will be valid from 1st January 2019 once they are approved by the IRO on the occasion of their General Assembly next June.

- *Dog Dancing Commission, Copenhagen, Jul 2017*

It is noted that it is not easy to combine (in terms of space and time slot in the main ring) the World Championship and the WDS.

- *Hounds, Podgorica, Sept 2017*

MAM comments that the European Cup should be open to all FCI members and not only the European ones.

- *Agility, Liberec, Oct 2017*

No specific comments.

- **Proposals of the Spaniels Commission**

Amended « Regulations « A » and amended Rules for the FCI European Cup for English hunting spaniels (Regulations “A”)

Both amended regulations are approved.

4. Minutes of the FCI Executive Committee meeting, Tallinn, Sept 2017

- Page 1, 3rd bullet point: the proposal for change of the Statutes is not considered democratic.
- *Dogs New Zealand*: no answer is provided by the club. An answer is expected. The next meeting of the FCI Board will be in May.

The minutes are approved.

5. Minutes of the FCI Executive Committee meeting, Barcelona, Jan 2018

CM suggests to have a meeting with KC on the occasion of the meeting of the GC. The FCI will invite the KC on Nov 8, 2018.

Termination of the agreement with the WUSV : the consequences of the termination are as follows :

- ✓ No GSD pedigree issued after 10 May 2018 can bear simultaneously the FCI and the WUSV logos.
 - ✓ Only judges listed in FCI NCO lists of judges are allowed to officiate at events organised by FCI members and their affiliated clubs. They however must have the previous approval of their NCO.
 - ✓ FCI NCO judges are allowed to judge events organised by WUSV members provided that the organiser is affiliated to an FCI NCO. They must have the previous approval of their NCO.
 - ✓ FCI NCO judges are not allowed to judge events organised by WUSV members which are not affiliated to the national FCI NCO of the country.
 - ✓ The WUSV clearance for judges is not necessary anymore. The only approval which is necessary is granted by the NCOs of the judges.
- List of SV judges including German and non-German judges: the FCI will write to VDH asking how it is possible that those judges, who are not German, appear on the list of SV. Why some of them are not even in the judges list of their NCO?
 - Judges from Northern Ireland: the agreement, based on the Good Friday Agreement, between the Irish Kennel Club and the UK KC is approved.

Canadian Eskimo Dog : JH considers that the Greenland Dog (274) and Canadian Eskimo Dog are the same breed. After a debate, the Board decides to reintegrate the Canadian Eskimo Dog among the list of breeds recognized on a definitive basis as it was the case before (under the breed standard nr 211).

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

The meeting resumes at 9.30 am. Same participants except GJ, unable to attend due to illness.

6. Proposals of the members

- **RSCE (Spain) : Perro de Agua Español (336) as a working breed**

Final decision: the breed will not appear as a working breed in the FCI breeds nomenclature. However, it is allowed to open a working class at any FCI CACIB show provided that the owner can provide the official FCI WCC. The test to be passed has to be the official RSCE test or a test typical for this breed. The breed is not eligible for CACIT and the title of CIB is obtained with 4 CACIB.

- **HKS (Croatia) : Croatian Shepherd Dog (277) as a working breed**

Final decision: the breed will not appear as a working breed in the FCI breeds nomenclature. It will be eligible for the CIB (with 4 CACIB). However, it will not be eligible for the CACIT nor for the CIT. In addition, the breed is eligible for the CACITR and CITR (Herding Champion).

Finally, the Croatian Shepherd Dog can be entered in the working class at FCI international dog shows provided that it has passed an appropriate herding test (vs “utility” test).

- **FCA (Argentina) : Dogo Argentino (292) as a working breed**

MAM reports. The GC approves the following proposal: FCA is allowed to have its breed, Dogo Argentino, performing in field trials on wild boars. These field trials can be conducted in any country interested in organising them. The dogs will be accepted in working class at any FCI CACIB show. No CACIT is awarded at those field-trials. This decision is important as the FCI helps the breed keeping the zootechnical functions for which it was created. The breed however will not appear as a working breed in the FCI breeds nomenclature.

7. Partnership applications

Sudan: report by DS: DS has not yet visited the office of the club, he will hopefully in April this year. Approval of the Board for the visit.

Jordan: report by DS: DS will visit the two applying clubs in April. Approval of the Board for the visit.

- CM reports on two emerging clubs in Africa which have been in touch with the FCI and CPC: Angola and Mozambique.
- YD also reports on a visit from a representative from Saudi Arabia at the FCI Office.
- JLP reports on a first contact with Belize people.

Jersey Kennel Club

JKC has commented that they seek FCI recognition of their titles of national champion and to be considered an independent kennel club. The Board turns down the request.

8. Miscellaneous

- **Extraordinary General Assembly : budget and procedure**

The budget for the Extraordinary General Assembly is approved. The GA will meet in Brussels on August 14-15, 2018. The European Section will meet on 17-18 April 2018 in Brussels.

Procedure: the final documents which were sent for the GA in Leipzig will be sent together with the invitations early April. The members will be asked to forward proposals of amended/new articles. The only proposals that will be discussed during the GA will be those sent during the prescribed timeframe. Attendance list will be checked upon access to the meeting room (only one access). Ballots, hearing sets, etc. will be distributed at the entrance. It is agreed that our lawyer, R.Wirtz, will lead the discussions. A ballot paper, including all the points to be considered, will be distributed in order to avoid voting several times (secret ballot or show of hands). Each point of the Statutes and Standing Order will be up for discussion.

The issue of Hong Kong Kennel Club will not be on the agenda. The HK Kennel Club is welcome to present and defend their position at the next FCI ordinary GA in 2019.

- **Campaign « Public Image » and Metaphore + FCI Newsletter**

It is suggested to suspend, momentarily, the cooperation with Metaphore and adopt the internal communication strategy plan which is presented. A complete evaluation of the new project will be made before the end of the year.

- **Situation in Georgia**

JH reports. The Board accepts the minutes of the Fédération Cynologique de Géorgie’s extraordinary general assembly but insists that FCG should keep behaving democratically.

- **Letter from Hong-Kong Kennel Club + FCI lawyer's opinion**

The concern expressed in Leipzig remains: how to make sure that HKKC papers (breeders, ...) be transferred to CKU in case no cooperation between the two clubs can be established. It seems indeed impossible from the last letters sent to the FCI to establish some form of cooperation. Therefore, to accommodate HKKC members, CKU is allowed to enter into their own registration system original copies of all official documents issued by HKKC to Hong-Kong breeders and dog owners (pedigrees, export pedigrees, ...). This exceptional measure applies until 31st December 2018.

The FCI answer about the appeal possibility will be sent to HKKC.

- **Email from « Hot Dog », our media partner: (inter)national ranking**

The information received from RKF show that RKF does not support the project. In addition, the new European law about data protection might have an impact. The Board is not in favour of the project.

- **New FCI rosette (BIS).**

RS presents a nice FCI rosette. As a first step, it is agreed to use it at World and Section Shows. A budget will be submitted.

- **Financial contribution to IPFD**

It is not felt that the project is considered interesting by most FCI members. A clear report on the evolution and development of IPFD is provided. There is finally a unanimous consensus not to keep the financial contribution. A letter will be sent to IPFD, to our media partners and posted on our website and FB page.

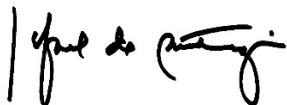
- **Report on 2017 World Dog Show in Leipzig by Dr Kreiner**

The report is approved. The FCI Board considered the show to have been excellent.

9. Any Other Business

- The amended Guidelines for Junior Handling have just been received and will be sent by email, by DS, to all the Board members. They will be studied and submitted to the final approval.
- SCCM (Morocco): if no reaction (court decision) by 15 Mar, 2018, the Board will decide who the official representative of SCCM is.

At 1.00 pm, RS thanks all the Board members for their interesting and constructive input. He wishes all of them a safe trip back to their own country.



Rafael de Santiago
FCI President



Y. De Clercq (minutes)
FCI Executive Director