

# FEDERATION CYNOLOGIQUE INTERNATIONALE (FCI) (AISBL)

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Circular 90/2010

25/10/2010

## Minutes of the FCI General Committee Madrid, 24-25<sup>th</sup> February 2010

<b>Attendees:</b>	Mr H.Müller (CH)	President
	Mr C.Habig (D)	Vice-President
	Mr R.de Santiago (PR)	Treasurer
	Mr T.Jakkel (H)	
	Mr K.Järvinen (FIN)	
	Mr S.Stefik (SK)	
	Mr J.Hindse (DK)	Delegate of the European Section
	Mr M.A.Martinez (RA)	Delegate of the Americas and Caribbean Section
	Mr T.Nagamura (J)	Delegate of the Asian and Pacific Section
	Mr Y.De Clercq (B),	Executive Director
	Mr I.Awashima (J),	interpreter

### 1. Opening

At 9h30, Mr Müller opens the meeting by giving a speech, calling for a constructive and fruitful meeting in a spirit of cooperation between the new Board members. He insists on the future challenges to take, specifically the need to create a strong lobby to interfere with the anti-canine laws appearing around Europe and on the other continents (Argentina, Puerto Rico, etc.). The FCI is a strong organization and we need to ally all our forces, he says. Mr Hindse reports on the current situation in Denmark where discussions with the Parliament are taking place to consider banning 12 breeds. Mr Stefik also reports on the problems the SKJ (Slovak KC) was confronted with. Mr Järvinen would like this point to be rediscussed under Any Other Business.

Before starting the meeting, Mr De Clercq reports on the current situation of the legal case opened by the FCI against the Federación Canina Internacional (FCI) based in Spain and about the structure of this FCI (Spain). He adds that a discussion will take place this evening with the President of the RSCE about this matter.

### 2. Minutes of the meeting in Bratislava, October 2009 : approval

No comment. The General Committee thanks Mr De Clercq.

### ***Follow-up of the meeting held in Bratislava***

- *Marketing: sales plan* : Mr De Clercq is asked to check how the FCI structure would look like if we would add a commercial activity to it. What goods could be sold, through what channels, how, where, etc. This point will also be approached with Mr Ahmansson, Auditor of the FCI finances, who will be at the FCI Office next April.

It is observed that we could already implement this structure without necessarily using it. Mr Jarvinen suggests to implement a marketing plan via our members. Mr Müller reminds about an old idea, i.e. to create a foundation.

- *Task Force 2011*: Mr Habig will discuss with MM Hindse and Martinez and will have a meeting in Francfort in May with all the members of the TF. A second meeting or preferably a conference call would take place at a later date. The first meeting will be paid by the FCI. Further to a consensus, the second meeting or conference call should also be paid by the FCI. The agenda will be drafted by Mr Habig.

Mr Müller underlines the importance to determine clear points to be discussed (commercial activities, etc.) and insists that the TF is only a provisional body as it is not provided for by our Statutes.

*List of judges for the 2010 FCI European Section Show*: the General Committee takes note of the comments of the president of the Slovenian KC. They regret the situation and the lack of cooperation between the last two presidents, which affected the preparation of the show.

As a whole it is felt that the FCI should exert a stronger influence on the preparation and development of the World and Section Shows. This implies a revision of the job description of the FCI official observer.

*FCI Magazine*: Mr Habig reports on the situation : from January 1st, 2011, the FCI will have the choice to determine who will take care of the magazine (pre-production and production, possibly and preferably in Belgium). Several ideas are expressed: to keep 4 languages, to have English for most articles and the 4 FCI languages for the FCI news, to produce only one yearly issue, combined with the FCI Annual Report and to regularly issue FCI newsletter instead of the magazine, etc.

The General Committee acknowledges that the cooperation with Stratego will end up on December 31st, 2010 and does not request to have an agency pitch. The General Committee asks MM Habig, Hindse and Martinez to prepare a concept for the future magazine. This concept will have to be presented by end of March. The next step will be the holding of a General Committee meeting in summer to finalize this very important project (who will take care of the pre-production to collect articles, where will the magazine be printed, etc.).

*Viet-Nam contract partnership application*: Mr Nagamura reports on his visit to the dog show organized in Viet-Nam. He observed that there was no studbook yet, which he believes is essential. The Viet-Nam Kennel Association committed itself to providing copy of their stud-books and of the pedigrees which they issued so far. To date Mr Nagamura did not get any material. He adds that VKA is invited to take part in the FCI Asia and Pacific Section meeting to be held in Bangkok next October. Mr Nagamura was very positive about the VKA but recommends not to accept the club as long as the material about the studbook and pedigree is not sent. Contacts will have to be resumed between VKA and the president of the FCI Asian and Pacific Section, Mr Nagamura (decision of the FCI General Committee, Bratislava, 10/2009).

*Situation with the ANKC (Australia)*: Mr Nagamura reports. The General Conference of ANKC expressed their wish to have a letter of understanding with the FCI and to cancel their associate membership. Mr De Clercq will turn to ANKC asking for an official position and for information about the ANKC group and breed system, a complete and detailed list of their judges, the standards used by ANKC. Once the FCI Office has the official application from ANKC, Mr Nagamura is authorized to start the talks related to a letter of understanding between FCI and ANKC (decision of the FCI General Committee, Bratislava, 10/2009).

It is indicated that Article 13 of the FCI Statutes (resignation of members) has to be taken into consideration.

### **3. Minutes of the Commissions meetings : comments**

#### **Spaniels, Aubervilliers, Sept.2009**

No comment

#### **Sighthounds Races, Herten, Sept.2009**

Mr De Clercq makes it clear that no fee is due for each individual CACIL. In sporting and working events the organizing national canine body is charged a determined fee (15 €) independently of the number of dogs taking part in the event.

#### **Utility dogs, Schwanenstadt, Sept.2009**

Mr Nagamura indicates that the name of the Japan delegate is not correct. The person in the minutes did not take part in the meeting. It should be Mr Mochizuki. The commission will be informed.

Mr De Clercq reports on the court case between the FCI and the organization which claims to be the « founder » and « owner » of Mondioring. Acceptance by the FCI of CACIT Mondioring events is again discussed and it is resolved that Mr Hindse will get in touch with the president of the commission, Mr Jansen.

#### **Herding dogs, Paris, May 2009**

No comment

#### **Breeding, Naples, May 2009**

The General Committee particularly appreciates the work of this commission.

#### **Obedience, Salzburg, May 2009**

No comment

#### **British Pointers, Châlons, Mar 2009**

No comment

### **4. Proposals of the commissions**

#### **Breeding Commission**

- The General Committee is very satisfied about *the breeding strategies* forwarded by the commission and approves them. They will be put online.
- *Amendment in the FCI Breeding Rules: Art.18, DNA as proof of parenthood*: the General Committee approves but the final wording is to be revised by Mr De Clercq and Mrs Indrebo, president of the commission
- *Definition of « commercial breeders »*: rather than to define more clearly what a « commercial breeder » is, it is felt that the most important point is to have clear rules and requirements as to how to breed and keep dogs. It is also observed that some « professional » breeders can sometimes be much better than « amateur » breeders.  
The General Committee decides to revise the definition as follows:

« Dog traders and puppy farmers are considered to be people who focus on buying and selling dogs in order to get economic profit without taking appropriate care of the dog's individual welfare. Dog traders and puppy farmers are not permitted to undertake breeding in a member country or contract partner of the FCI ».

- *Amendment of the Art.8.6 of the FCI Standing Orders* : « in the countries where the FCI members and contract partners have breed clubs which keep stud-books **ON BEHALF OF THE NATIONAL CANINE ORGANISATIONS**, it must be clearly indicated on the pedigree that these breed clubs are members of a national canine organisation ».

The General Committee agrees and according to the Statutes, this point will be put forward to the next FCI General Assembly.

- *List of hereditary diseases*: Mr De Clercq indicates that this point has been on the agenda of the FCI Scientific Commission for 3 years, based upon an original proposal of the SCC (French KC). This commission will meet in April and will draft a proposal. It will be then up to the General Committee to consider it.

- *Registration by the FCI members and contract partners of the Manchester Toy Terriers from AKC and CKC* : the General Committee agrees that the dogs from this breed (which is not recognized by the FCI under this name) be registered as English Toy Terriers.

- *Peruvian Hairless Dogs*: the proposal has to be considered via the Kennel Club Peruano, as provided for by the FCI Statutes, Art.2g.

- *Amendment in the FCI International Breeding Rules, Art.18, studbook registration of a litter* : Mr De Clercq indicates that this amendment was proposed by the FCI Legal Commission in the frame of their discussions regarding the change from « usual residence » into « legal residence » (change approved by the FCI General Assembly, Bratislava, Oct.2009). It is basically a consequence of the change approved in Bratislava. The General Committee approves.

### **Show Judges Commission**

It again is a consequence of the amendment approved by the FCI General Assembly, Bratislava 2009. The General Committee approves the change at Art.2 of the FCI Show Judges Regulations: "permanent country of residence" becomes "country where the judge has his/her legal residence".

### **Obedience**

The new regulations are approved by the General Committee with a particular remark about the fact that there can be section championships outside Europe. In addition, the General Committee decides to cancel its decision made in April 2005 in Paris with regard to the dogs eligible to take part in Section or World Championships. The requirement that the dog has to be registered in the studbook (vs Appendix) is deleted from all the working (Continental Pointers, Hounds, Retrievers, etc.) and sporting (Agility and Obedience) Championships regulations. The different regulations will be amended accordingly.

### **Utility Dogs**

The General Committee approves the « technical » amendments in the Mondioring regulations. It is however confirmed that the CACIT cannot be awarded and that the World Championship cannot be called « FCI World Mondioring Championship ». The regulations approved however can be applied.

## **5. Partnership application : Turkey**

The General Committee has received the clear report made by Mr Reisinger and thanks him for the work he has done. It is generally felt that the club is not yet enough developed (small number of dogs -approximately 1050- and breeds -8- registered so far). The club has to develop. The KC Turkey is welcome to get in touch with the FCI via the president of the FCI European Section, Mr Hindse, according to the decision of the FCI General Committee, Bratislava, 10/2009.

## **6. Miscellaneous and Correspondence**

*FCM-WUSV*: a long debate takes place about the contract between the WUSV and the FCI and there is a consensus that the time has come to revise the contract which did not really settle the problems but on the contrary generated some even more. The contracts with the other organizations will also be re-considered.

*Letter of SKK*: guarantee of quality judges: the General Committee supports any measures taken for the sake of the dog's welfare. The SKK breed specific instructions booklet is considered to be excellent and regarded as a guarantee that health aspects are taken into consideration by the judges. However, the mutual recognition of the judges' credentials is a basic principle of the FCI and the General Committee sees no need for an official questionnaire in the frame of the invitation process. The ad hoc committee (health and breed standards) will be asked to prepare a similar booklet based on the examples produced by Finland and Sweden.

*Letter of the VDH*: judge's suspension and CACIB: it is felt that the exhibitor cannot be punished if his dog was awarded CACIB by a judge who was (and was informed of it) suspended. The FCI office will investigate the case with the different parties involved and a circular will be issued insisting on the importance to respect the circulars and different notifications about judge's suspensions.

*CACIB events*: the General Committee confirms that although this does not appear in the rules, a country X is NOT allowed to organize a CACIB event in a country Z. This will be a matter to be discussed by the TF2011.

*Aggressive handler at our shows*: a long debate takes place. Mr De Clercq will write to the handler to get his comments on the incident. If the facts are confirmed, the FCI office will send a circular.

*UCK (Kazakhstan): reimbursement of judges*: Mr De Clercq reports. The General Committee resolves not to confirm any CACIB until reimbursement is done. In case nothing happens, the General Committee will propose to cancel the membership of UCK at the next General Assembly.

**At 5.15 pm, Mr Müller closes the first part of the meeting.**

**At 9.30 am, the next day, the meeting resumes with the same participants.**

*United Kennel Club (USA) : attempt to open a line of communication with the FCI*

Mr de Santiago reports. The General Committee sees no need to cooperate with the UKC at the moment. This observation is made on the basis of the cooperation the FCI currently has in the USA with the AKC. The point will be addressed at the next FCI/AKC meeting.

*SCC (French KC) : to exempt French native breeds from the title of CIE* : the General Committee studies the proposal very seriously and understands the concerns of SCC. The Committee will consider possible changes in this regard (CIE title) in order to reach a more sustainable situation. A working group, made up of MM Jakkel and Järvinen, will work on this point and make a proposal at the next Committee meeting.

*Official observer for the 2010 FCI Asia and Pacific Section Show* : upon proposal of the president of the section, Mr Nagamura, the General Committee accepts to nominate Mr Park from the Republic of Korea.

*Letter of FKC (Finnish KC) : registration of Bolognese by CMKU (Czech KC)* : it is made clear that the word "Bolognese" cannot be used as it causes confusion. An appropriate answer will be sent to the FKC and to CMKU.

*Letter of DKK (Danish KC) : judges' rights at shows* : the General Committee agrees to publish a circular insisting that the daily fees for the judges MUST be reimbursed according to the FCI Show Regulations. In addition, the General Committee decides to add the following in the FCI Show Regulations (see part in italic)

#### **"INVITING JUDGES**

- d. Should the organisers of a show be forced to cancel the event ***or the judging appointment of a particular judge***, they are obliged to refund to the judge the costs that have already been incurred. If a judge, for any reason other than "force majeure", is not able to meet his obligations to officiate as a judge, he is obliged to pay for any extra costs that may have already been incurred.

A last communication will be made to insist on the fact that the organizers (quoted from the Show Regulations) have to observe the following ruling:

"A judge must be informed well beforehand about the breeds and numbers of dogs he is scheduled to judge, as well as his duties in the main ring. It is the responsibility of the show organiser to send this information in advance and in writing to the judge".

*Letter of DKK : origin of the Great Dane* : Mr Hindse reports. A very long debate takes place during which different options are proposed as there is no unanimous consensus

1. The FCI Office does more research into this matter
2. The General Committee confirms the fact that the breed is a German breed and sees no evidence to question that
3. Bi-lateral talks between the two clubs

Option 1 : 5 votes

Option 2 : 1 vote

Option 3 : 1 vote

2 abstentions.

Mr De Clercq will start investigating even more intensively into the FCI archives. In the meantime, the General Committee will inform the DKK and ask for possible comments from the VDH.

*Letter of the FCI Sighthounds Races Commission: to cancel the results obtained by a dog which did not qualify correctly for the European Championship*

The General Committee agrees with the proposal of the FCI Sighthounds Races Commission.

## 7. Any Other Business

*FCI to charge the titles of International Champion (CIB, CIE, ...)*

Further to a long debate, considering the current economic situation, the General Committee does not find the moment appropriate for such a proposal.

*Sanction in case the lists of CACIT, CACIAG, CACIOB and CACIL are not sent within 3 months after the event (decision of the FCI General Committee, July 2009)*

Mr De Clercq reports that sanctions are provided for in the case of CACIB shows but not in the case of working (sporting-utility-hunting) events. However, many organizers do NOT send the results or send them very late. Since the organizers of such events do not put up trials or tests on a regular basis, it does not make much sense to prevent them from organizing events in the future. Consequently, it is decided that if the organizers do not comply with the 3-month deadline, a second invoice of the same amount (15€ per event) will be issued.

*Refreshment of the instructions of 1975: what is considered to be a pure-bred dog ? (in terms of pedigrees)*

Mr De Clercq reports. More and more dogs get a pedigree (studbook-registered) although one or some of their ancestors have an appendix registration number. The breeders then claim that the ancestors registration does not matter as long as the dog in question has an FCI studbook registration number and a "traditional" pedigree. It is therefore felt urgent to indicate clearly what are the pedigree requirements to establish that a dog is pure-bred.

The General Committee agrees with the following procedure and statements:

1. A dog is considered to be pure-bred only if its pedigree includes 3 complete generations (name + registration number) registered with FCI recognized studbooks (vs appendix).
2. The FCI Office will however accept CACIB proposals provided that the dog has an FCI studbook (vs appendix) registration number.
3. If, however, it is found out that the pedigree of a dog registered with an FCI recognized studbook includes ancestors registered with the appendix of FCI recognized studbooks or is incomplete or includes ancestors registered with non-FCI recognized FCI studbooks, the CACIB and the title of international champion possibly awarded will be cancelled. The CACIB will be transferred to the dog proposed for the R-CACIB if it fulfills the FCI requirements.

The FCI will clearly inform all the members and will apply this measure to all dogs born after the date this decision is communicated.

*Thai Bangkaew Dog.*

The General Committee agrees that Mrs Sporre-Willes and Mr Stanton, both on judging assignment in Bangkok next October, carry out the examination of the breed for provisional recognition.

### **Four more points are added**

*1. Mr Nagamura points out that the contract with Eukanuba has some problems*

- exclusivity: Mr De Clercq comments that this is not the case and that no club is bound to negotiate in priority with Eukanuba. There is not even any reference to exclusivity for the contribution of Eukanuba in the FCI magazine.
- lack of transparency
- amount received is too low

These points will be re-discussed at the next meeting when the members are given more time to read the contract.

## *2. Eukanuba World Challenge*

Mr Järvinen inquires about who decides about the judges to officiate. The answer is clear: the AKC does and the FCI has expressed its dissatisfaction to Eukanuba about it. Mr Järvinen would also appreciate that the event is brought to Europe.

## *3. European Pet Night in Brussels*

Mr Hindse indicates that on the above occasion, the FCI European Section was efficiently represented and it appears that the evening turned out quite well for the Section with very interesting contacts being taken.

## *4. 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting for the year 2010*

Just as happened in 2008, the General Committee would like to hold a third meeting to deal with more specific points, going beyond the usual frame of the ordinary meetings (for ex : strategies to oppose anti-dogs legislation, FCI magazine, CIE, etc.). Each member will be asked to submit points. The meeting will take place in Bratislava on August 11 and 12<sup>th</sup>, 2010.

## **8. Date and place of the ordinary meeting**

Dortmund, 13-14 October 2010.

At 1.30 pm, Mr Müller closes the meeting thanking all the delegates for their very positive attitude and interesting input.



H.W. Müller  
FCI President



Y. De Clercq  
FCI Executive Director

## **Outstanding points**

Page 1, FCI vs FCI : report, if available : Mr De Clercq

Page 1-2, sales plan: Mr De Clercq

Page 2, Task Force 2011: report by Mr Habig