

# FEDERATION CYNOLOGIQUE INTERNATIONALE (FCI) (AISBL)

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Circular 91/2010

25/10/2010

## Minutes of the FCI General Committee Meeting, Bratislava, 11-12 August 2010

<b>Attendees:</b>	Mr H.Müller (CH)	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 Y.Shimazu (J),	interpreter

### 1. Opening

At 9h30, H. Müller opens the meeting and thanks all the members who attend it. He thanks the Slovak Kennel Club (SKJ) for the excellent organization of the session and the stay.

H. Muller refers to the email sent the day before by C. Habig informing that he cannot be present due to his business activities and of his intention to resign on the occasion of the 2011 General Assembly in Paris after having reported to the Assembly on the results achieved by the Task-Force.

All the members take note of the message and confirm that the works of the Task Force will be carried on. They however point out that the Task Force, i.e. its steering committee, is responsible to the FCI General Committee which, in turn, reports to the General Assembly.

### 2. Anti-dog legislation

It is pointed out that the FCI should have a worldwide official position to defend the dogs which are regularly criticized in the press or threatened by measures taken by the different governments. The members unanimously think that there is an urgent need to do our utmost to change the mentality of the people towards dogs and dogs' ownership. R.de Santiago and M.A. Martinez give examples of the measures taken in their country to improve the image of dogs and to defend them. It is noted that the European Section has a good experience in this field through the relations held between different MP's and J. Hindse. It is important to inform the public press and media about the "good sides" of dogs. The website of the FCI could provide this kind of information.

S. Stefik believes that we should start in "our own house" by insisting on a couple of points related to the behaviour at shows.

1. to prohibit double-handling
2. to remind, firmly, to all the judges that they MUST disqualify any dog showing an aggressive behaviour in the ring
3. to prevent dogs from standing in front of each other (face to face) when being judged.

A circular will be issued.

It is finally agreed to turn to all the FCI members and contract partners inquiring about their possible measures and actions to promote dogs and to defend them. National information insisting on the importance of breeding exclusively with sound and balanced dogs are also welcome. Once the FCI Office has received enough stuff, the General Committee will examine it and a booklet about these matters will be written.

### **3. FCI magazine**

Y. De Clercq distributes the email sent by C. Habig about his input regarding the future FCI news portal and the ideas brought by U. Uddman (Task Force). These reflexions are completed by some comments expressed by Y. De Clercq. All this stuff is the basis for the discussions. The members regret that C. Habig could not attend the meeting.

A very long debate takes place at the end of which the following decisions are made:

- From January 1st, 2011, the FCI will put an FCI Newsletter online. This will be done once every two months, hence 6 newsletters / year. In addition, the FCI will keep issuing a magazine which will be a compilation of two consecutive newsletters, hence 3 magazines / year. It will be possible for private people to subscribe to this "paper version" for a price still to be determined by the General Committee. The members and contract partners will receive, as is the case currently, 20 free issues and they will be asked how many extra issues they want. Finally, the people who want to read the newsletter online will be asked to sign in and give their email address. If they do so, they will have to certify that they allow the FCI to communicate their email to third parties. If they do not want to give their email, they however keep the possibility to get access to the newsletter. Obviously, the newsletters will be in four languages.
- Advertising (private people and world and section shows organizers) should remain possible at conditions to be determined by the General Committee. The cooperation with Eukanuba in the newsletter will be maintained. Y. De Clercq will meet shortly with the person in charge of this business in Eukanuba to reach an agreement.
- K. Donvil will be contacted to write this newsletter: as a canine photographer and journalist, living in Belgium, he seems to be the appropriate person to take the job. The editorial board will be made up of Ms Luna Duran (FCI PR and Marketing Manager), K. Donvil and Y. De Clercq and will be chaired by the latter. Before being put online, the draft will have to be approved by the FCI President, H. Müller. The FCI will take care of the production of the "paper" version which will be published in a lay-out rather similar to the current FCI magazine.
- Several ideas with regard to the contents are put forward and will be the basis for discussions and instructions to be given to K. Donvil should he accept the job.

The FCI members and contract partners will be informed shortly about this new communication strategy.

#### **4. CIE title**

As agreed at the last meeting in Madrid (Feb.2010), T. Jakkel and K. Järvinen have investigated the situation of the CIE after some members protested.

T. Jakkel and K. Järvinen report that the title keeps dogs coming to the dog shows. On the other hand, any breed club or member has the right to announce the requirements that any dog has to fulfil to be able to breed in its particular country.

The sole title CIE can be considered not to be enough for a dog to participate in a breeding programme without some other requirements (working, health test, DNA identification, etc.) in any breed in any member.

Both think that the CIE title is a well-appreciated, mostly welcomed title with a broad-scale opinion that it shows the flexibility and modernism of the FCI in the eyes of the majority of the members.

The General Committee approves.

As the number of applications for the FCI titles increases steadily and requires more manpower, the General Committee will consider the possibility to charge the different titles of International Champion. A motion will be put forward to the FCI General Assembly in 2011.

#### **5. FCI Mascot**

H. Müller and Y. De Clercq report.

The General Committee approves the idea. The talks and contacts with the designers and producers will continue.

#### **6. Standards from non-FCI members: approval of the amendments**

A long discussion takes place where several opinions are expressed. It is made clear that the intention, when the new statutes were approved (Acapulco 2007), was that while the FCI would adopt the breed standards of all the countries (members or those with a letter of understanding), it was understood that the non-FCI members, i.e. with a letter of understanding, would have the same attitude. It is not the case. The General Assembly will be asked its opinion; besides, R. Sporre-Willes and a representative of the FCI Scientific Commission will be asked to attend the next meeting of the General Committee, in Dortmund in October this year.

#### **7. Any Other Business**

##### ***Amendments in the standard of the German Shepherd Dog (approval of the long-hair variety -with undercoat- and amendment in the shape of the top line)***

The Standards and Scientific Commissions have indicated their opinion about the above and the VDH has informed the FCI too. Both views, divergent, are communicated to the General Committee.

Further to a long debate, the following is approved:

- the long-hair variety is approved from January 1st, 2011
- each variety has its own CACIB and the long-hair variety is eligible for the CACIB from January 1st, 2011
- no cross between both varieties is allowed

***Complaint of the Malta Kennel Club vs the Swedish Kennel Club (according to Art.31 of the FCI Statutes)***

Y. De Clercq reports clearly on the case. The FCI General Committee does not consider that this matter should be settled by an FCI Arbitration Committee. The Malta Kennel Club has to turn to a civil court as the case involves people and not clubs.

***Double booking by judges***

The FCI will issue a circular reminding that it is STRICTLY forbidden for a judge to accept a double booking. In case it is proven that a judge has intentionally accepted a double assignment, he/she must be punished by his/her national canine organization. If not, the FCI General Committee reserves the right of sanctions against the national canine organization involved.

***Letter of the Kennel Club of San Marino***

M.A. Martinez feels very upset by this letter. T. Nagamura points out that in this very particular situation, although he would usually follow the opinion of his European colleagues, he is in favour of allowing KC San Marino to hold a show in Italy (with the approval of the ENCI) as this possibility was granted to them in the past on different occasions.

The rest of the General Committee fully approves M.A. Martinez' position.

***Robbery at the Federacion Cinológica Argentina***

M.A. Martinez informs about the robbery which took place at the seat of the FCA.

***FCI vs "Spanish" FCI***

T. Nagamura inquires about the situation as the "Spanish FCI" is active in Taiwan, the Philippines and the Republic of Korea. Y. De Clercq confirms that an official complaint has been filed via a Spanish law firm and that the case is going on. He also states that the FCI has sent to all its members and contract partners a "pop-up" message to be put online on their website (all the technical instructions to put it online were detailed in the communication to the members and contract partners) explaining clearly that the FCI has nothing to do with this Spanish organization. He again invites the members and contract partners to put this "pop-up" message online as soon as possible.

***CACIT trials organized in another country***

S. Stefik would like the FCI Office to issue a circular stating that a country CANNOT organise a CACIT (hunting) contest in another country if it is possible to organise CACIT (hunting) contests in the applying country.

**Next meetings**

13-14 October 2010: Dortmund

13-14 April 2011: place to be determined

At 5.30 pm, H. 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**

- Report on the newsletter (Mr De Clercq): page 2
- Report on the titles to be charged (Mr De Clercq): page 3