

Minutes of the Annual Delegates Meeting of the International Leonberger Union on the 26th September 2015

Location: Leonberg. Amber Hotel.

Time: 26 September 2015, 10.10 am-2.30 pm.

Represented were the member clubs from: Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Great Britain, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Russia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and the USA. (So 19 voting members were represented).

Apologies were received from the member club in: Slovakia.

All members of the ILU board were present.

Chairman of the meeting was Willi Güllix, President of the ILU.

Notes for the minutes were taken by Hein Sibrijns, secretary of the ILU.

Agenda:

1. Welcoming introduction / check on presence of quorum / approval of the agenda / approval minutes 2014.
2. Election of the keeper of the minutes.
3. Reports:
 - a. of the President
 - b. of the treasurer
 - c. of the secretary
 - d. of the auditors
4. Discussion of the reports and discharge of the committee.
5. Budget 2016, membership fees 2016
6. News from the member countries (reports from the member countries)
7. Report of the general health committee.
8. Interpretation/discussion on the FCI-recommendation for handling missing premolars (P1) and molars (M3) in respect to showing and breeding.
9. Breeding problems in the Union.
10. Miscellaneous.
11. Closure.

01 Welcome:

The President opened the meeting at 10.10 and welcomed the attendees.

We had received the sad news that a member of the LCA, Mrs Faith Huml, had a deadly accident on the way to the airport. The meeting raised for a silent minute in her remembrance.

It was noted that the General Assembly had been convened in due time and in proper form.

The president welcomed 3 newly elected presidents to the meeting.

The committee was happy that Mrs. Mayra Huber had again accepted the invitation to interpret German-English in this meeting.

02: Election of keeper of the minutes:

Hein Sibrijns will keep the minutes.

03 reports:

a president.

The president read his detailed report in German, it was translated into English by Mayra Huber.

[Click for the report.](#)

b. Treasurer.

The treasurer Peter Cejnek read out the report.

The report is attached to the minutes [click here](#).

On 22/09/2015 the bank balances of the Union were € 7485.73 on the Union Account , plus € 2362.44 on the Health Commission account.

Peter Cejnek announced that he cannot continue the job of treasurer because of serious illness.

It was with great regret that he must put his job available today. He attended nearly all meetings since the foundation of the Union in 1979 and he worked always for the Union. The meeting stood up to give him a standing ovation.

The president thanked Peter for the excellent work, one needs great commitment to work for such a long period, with the interests of the Union as goal.

Last year Thomas Walker had been unanimously voted as deputy treasurer until Peter's recovery. After Peter's retirement today, Thomas Walker is appointed as acting treasurer, with consent of the meeting until the next elections in 2016.

The president of the Austrian club, Mrs. Wolf, thanked Peter for doing a great job for the Union, Peter has always stressed the importance of the Union in Austria. She also thanked the meeting for appointing Thomas as acting treasurer and recommends him as treasurer for the next election.

C. Secretary.

The main job of the secretary is:

- 1) To update the website of the Union.
- 2) To publish the results of club shows and extraordinary results on dog shows.
- 3) To update the international club show calendar.
- 4) Keeping the health pages updated, including publication of minutes of meetings of the Health Committee.
- 5) Keep the list of LPN1&2-test results.

The Union's website is as always very well attended.

D. The auditors.

Säde Crivelli (CH) and Kaj Lindstedt (FIN) had reviewed the audit of the accounts of the in last year completed at 31-12-2014, as well as the bookings in the current year 2015. The audit revealed a match of the documents with clean and properly conducted accounts, for which the Treasurer Peter Cejnek was warmly thanked. The auditors requested the approval of the financial statements and the granting of discharge of the Executive Board and Treasurer. This was unanimously granted without discussion.

04 Discussion of reports and formal approval of the actions of the board.

There were no requests to speak. The Board was unanimously approved.

05 Budget 2015, membership fees 2015:

The financial situation is good. The membership fee is left unanimously to the basic amount of € 50.00 plus € 0.20 per club member.

06 Reports from the member countries:

A written report was handed out by nearly all member clubs. [Click for the reports](#)

07. Report of the general health committee

The report of the commission as well as a report of the University of Minnesota concerning LPN had been send to the delegates by email before the meeting. The reports are attached to these minutes.

[Click for the commission report](#)

[Click for the report from Minnesota](#)

Säde Crivelli (CH) collects money for the pedigree databases.

Michaela Wolf said that it had been decided years ago that the two privately kept databases would be linked from the Union's website. With the note that it are privately kept databases that may contain unchecked or faulty information. The Union doesn't guarantee the accuracy of the entries and doesn't accept any responsibility for the contents.

Hein Sibrijns declares that the link to a database had been removed because that database contained incorrect data of dogs. Further on that database contains data of dogs without FCI-recognized registrations. Apart from that the database contains also originally incomplete pedigrees of dogs that have been completed with (supposedly) parents. Overall that database contains unchecked data.

Mrs. Wolf emphasised the current decision. Both databases must be linked with the mention that it are privately kept databases that may contain unchecked or faulty information. The Union doesn't guarantee the accuracy of the entries and doesn't accept any responsibility for the contents.

Jane Wall (S) said that even with a note one might think that the entries in the database are correct because it has been linked by the Union. One must not link to a site of which one knows that the contents cannot be guaranteed.

The board said that the decision to link will be looked up in the corresponding minutes.

Michaela Wolf said that either both databases or no database at all must be linked.

Hein Sibrijns said that the link to the database concerned would be reinstated after a vote of this meeting.

Sharon Springel said that it was beneficial to keep on discussing the privately kept databases before we had discussed the Biobank/DNA-databank in the next point of the report. So we continued with the report of the health commission.

The report from Minnesota on the further development of the LPN research is attached to these minutes.

Although according to the report +/- 20% of the dogs that were tested LPN2 D/N don't show symptoms, they are still carrier of the disease, 80% of the carriers in their offspring will show symptoms of the disease late in their life.

One hopes that a test for LEMP will soon be found. Until now LEMP is not wide spread in Leonbergers, but that can change quickly.

Denis Vernon (F) said that in the order form of the LPN1&2 genetic test should be marked that the veterinarian must check the chip number of the dog and must post the blood sample to the University himself, in order to prevent eventual fraud. The Union will include this recommendation.

A trailer of the health video had been shown in the board meeting. The still not completely finished video will be shown to the delegates after lunch.

It was said that one needs a connection to a pedigree database for the DNA-databank.

Only checked data will be incorporated, 100% confidentiality will be guaranteed.

Ben & Wilma Kroon and Metha Stramer will ensure that all data in the DNA-databank will only be available to geneticists for scientific research.

An owner's declaration of consent for the use of the sample material for further scientific research

should be incorporated in the order forms.

Jan Wall said that we must make sure that the sample material is only used for ethically acceptable projects. Researchers take material from dogs instead of humans in order to bypass ethical commissions. Sharon Springel said that the Universities of Bern and Minnesota supervise the appropriate use of the samples.

Natalia Romanova (RU) said that more testing costs more money. One shouldn't overlook the fact that for breeders money plays an important role. When the costs for the breeders rise too much, breeders may leave the clubs.

Denis Vernon asked if testing is needed when both parents are LPN&2 free. What the Americans call "free by parentage" is only acceptable when parentage has been confirmed by means of DNA tests.

Even when only 2% of the dogs has an eye problem one continues eye testing in Finland, one wants to breed healthy dogs.

Sharon Springel discussed the number of members, term and election of the health commission members,

she asks if rules can be installed.

The board said that the number of commission members has been fixed, the constitution doesn't allow direct election of commission members, they are appointed by the board.

The meeting agrees with the board.

8. Interpretation/discussion on the FCI-recommendation for handling missing premolars (P1) and molars (M3) in respect to showing and breeding.

This has also been discussed in the board meeting of 25/09.

This is about a recommendation of the FCI for a model standard.

(Jaws/Teeth: Shape of jaw, number and properties of teeth, position of the incisors, bite (scissors or pincer bite), over or undershot mouth. Recommendation: lack of PM1 and M3 is scientifically proved as variability and not a known hereditary trait, hence it should no longer be considered as a disqualifying fault. (FCI Standards & Scientific Commissions, Dortmund, February 2015))

Evolutionary variability is correct, but according to scientific publications there are also hereditary components.

The German club is responsible for the standard. The DCLH will not change the standard with respect to missing P1's.

Wilma Kroon asked if the mode of inheritance is known. The mode of inheritance is not known. Wilma Kroon said that therefore it is questionable if one must exclude a dog with a missing P1 from breeding. Per Andersen said that show and breeding are two different issues. What disqualifies on shows doesn't necessarily disqualify for breeding. The standard is the business of the DCLH, the other member countries have no influence.

How one should handle missing teeth in breeding is decided by the country that is responsible for the standard.

Denis Vernon said that in the French Kennel Club 4 missing teeth are accepted.

In some other countries only the bite is checked.

In other breeds many champions have incomplete denture.

Daniela Pavlovska (CZ) said that every missing tooth causes problems.

9. Breeding problems in the Union.

There was no request to speak.

10 Miscellaneous.

The president asked with good reason the countries that don't have a tooth card yet, to introduce such a card.

The goal is not to exclude a good dog from the breeding pool because of a lost tooth. The tooth card helps both the breeder and the breeding.

The Dutch club celebrates its 50th anniversary on 11-12 June 2016.

The Norwegian club celebrates its 25th anniversary in 2016.

The Russian club celebrates its 20th anniversary in conjunction with the World Dog Show in Moscow on 25-26 June 2016.

All board members are candidates for re-election in 2016, inclusive the acting treasurer Thomas Walker, who candidates for treasurer.

Tarmo Rõôm (Estonia) asked if it is possible for the Union to provide breeding guidelines or breeding rules, to be published on the Union's website.

This isn't possible. Only a few clubs have the power to control the breeding inclusive studbook keeping and issuing pedigrees. That is why one depends of the requirements of the kennel clubs, which are in most cases much lower than a club would make them themselves.

The board of the Union is ready to offer assistance to clubs who want to draw up breeding rules.

Tarmo Rõôm asked if the Union could open a Facebook page. The president doesn't believe that the board would like to open such a page.

14 Closure.

The President thanked all those present for their attendance and for their positive contributions.

Leonberg, 26 September 2015

Willi Güllix, President I.L.U.

- Chairman of the meeting

Hein Sibrijns, Secretary ILU

-Keeper of the minutes