



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FIFE BOARD 02/21

10th July 2021 – Vienna, Austria

Present

Mrs. Annette Sjödin	-	President	Mr. Dietmar Sagurski	-	Vice-President
Mr. Leo v/d Haterd	-	Treasurer	Mr. Karl Preiss	-	Vice-Treasurer
Mr. Charles Spijker	-	Vice-Secretary	Mr. Eric Reijers	-	General-Secretary

Abbreviations used

- BCA – Breed Council Administrator
- BRC – Breeding & Registration Commission
- BRR – Breeding & Registration Rules
- CNA – Cattery Names Administrator
- DC – Disciplinary Commission
- GA – General Assembly
- GS – General-Secretary
- HWC – Health & Welfare Commission
- JSC – Judges & Standard Commission
- SC – Show Commission
- SCA – Show Calendar Administrator
- VCM – Video Conference Meeting
- WCC – World Cat Congress

1. Opening of the Meeting

The meeting started at 09.30 hours.

2. Approval of the Agenda

The Board approved the agenda for this meeting.

3. Approval of previous Minutes

The Minutes 01/21 had been approved and sent to the Members in April.

4.1 Matters arising from the COVID-19 pandemic – decisions of the Board

- a. The Board decided to change the date of the 2021 GA to Thursday 30th of September and Friday the 1st of October 2021; the Judges seminar would be held on Saturday 2nd of October. See item 12 for more details.
- b. All exceptions regarding the Show Rules, which were granted until the end of May 2021 would now be valid until 31.12.2021. To refresh your memories, these were:
 - All Members or their show organising clubs can hold international shows with only domestic judges officiating, no foreign judges needed.
 - For all European FIFe Member countries, the number of certificates needed to obtain the titles IC/IP, GIC/GIP resp. SC/SP is set to 5, 7 resp. 10. These certificates can be obtained in 1 country (for IC/IP) resp. 1 or 2 countries (for GIC/GIP and SC/SP). In each class, at least 1 certificate must be obtained at shows organised after 01.07.2020.
 - For cats born on 16.05.2019 or thereafter, the number of Best in Show Titles in classes 12 and/or 11 to qualify for the title Junior Winner is reduced from 5 to 3, since they do not have the full 6 months period to qualify for his title.
 - For all Winner Shows, World Show included, organised prior to 31.12.2021, no qualifications are needed for cats to participate.

4.2 Matters arising from or omitted in previous Minutes

The BCA informed the GS that in January 2021, the only member and secretary of the LPL/LPS Breed Council had not paid the annual fee. Therefore, the LPL/LPS Breed Council ceased to exist.

5. Financial

5.1 Members´ and Patronage Members´ Payments

The Treasurer presented the list of outstanding payments. The major problem for the Treasurer was the fact that there was no communication at all with the Chinese Member, CCU. The Treasurer had agreements with other Members, who still had not paid their outstanding fees.

5.2 Judges Exams

One full judge's exam took place in May and another one would take place in September.

5.3 Other Financial Matters

- a. The Treasurer presented the financial reports for 2019 and 2020, which had both been approved by the Controllers.
- b. The Treasurer presented the list of judges who would receive silver and golden pins. In total for 2020 and 2021, ten judges would receive a silver and twelve judges a golden pin.
- c. The Treasurer sent all commission members and controllers the rules for reimbursement of expenses concerning the GA 2021.

6. Members´ Matters

6.1 Correspondence

- a. Members informed the GS of the following changes: details listed on the FIFe website.
 - * Felis Danica (DK) – new President
 - * Aristocat (LI) – new President, new Board, new address and telephone number
 - * AFA (AR) – secretary resigned
 - * KKÍ (IS) – secretary resigned
- b. ANFI (IT) asked if there were guidelines to use the FIFe logo. They wondered if their regional clubs could use the FIFe logo for their activities, and they sent a flyer of a club holding a “cats and stamps” meeting. The Board agreed that their regional clubs could use the FIFe logo on their material, but also asked ANFI to monitor this, to avoid that the FIFe logo would be used when, for example, breeds would be presented that were not allowed in FIFe. In general, allowance could be granted if the values and goals of FIFe were respected.
- c. FBE (BE) informed the Board about their contacts with the regional ministry of agriculture in Wallonia. FBE had answered questions and issued statements about several breeds, mostly not recognised in FIFe, which were under threat to be outlawed.
- d. ANFI (IT) informed the Board that their national Disciplinary Commission of the second appeal, decided to suspend Mrs Katia Pocci for 24 months as a member due to the violation of ANFI's general rules and code of ethics. Mrs Pocci would be suspended from all activities except registrations in the pedigree book (see item 10.1.a).
- e. The Board, the SCA and the CNA had not heard from the Chinese FIFe Member, CCU, since more than half a year and were extremely worried. The GS had sent regular emails, WhatsApp messages and sms messages to all telephone numbers the Board had for CCU, but no reply was received nor were any read receipts sent. The Board decided to ask the student judge, Mrs. Phoebe Gu for assistance, unfortunately without any result.
- f. ICA (ID) informed the Board that they wished to organise an “Asian Winner Show” with Malaysia and China and wondered what the qualifications, documents and mechanism were that they should prepare. The Board informed ICA that in order to organise an “Asian Winner Show” they should first bring a proposal to the General Assembly to accept this new group, and title. The GS referred ICA to the tables in article 4.1.1 of the Show Rules and article 5.3.1 of the Breeding & Registration Rules, which contained all recognised FIFe titles and “Asian Winner” was not listed there. He added that this only needed to be a short proposal, which ICA should of course first discuss with KKM and CCU, the Members in Malaysia and China.

7. Show matters:

7.1 General

- a. FRU (RU) informed the Board that it was almost impossible for most foreign judges to travel to Russia during the COVID-19 pandemic. The judges that could attend, had judged at several shows held before in 2020 and FRU expected problems with the rule in article 4.2 of the SR that cats had to be judged by three different judges to obtain the title CH or PR. They requested an exception to this article for the coming 4 shows, in March, April and May, allowing to issue the title of CH/PR to cats, which had been judged three times by only two judges in this class. The Board granted this request.

- b. Mundikat (NL) contacted the Board and asked for 2 exceptions. The first to article 2.6.2 of the Show Rules, to hold the NSW at a later date in 2021 and the second to article 2.6.4, regarding the qualifications needed for cats to participate at Winner Shows. The Board discussed this matter by email and decided to not only grant Mundikat both exceptions asked for, but also to extend all exceptions granted until 01.06.2021 until 01.01.2022, valid for all Members. The Members were informed about these new exceptions, and they were listed on the News Page of the website.
- c. SK (FI) asked permission for one of their clubs to hold a show at the weekend after this year's FIFe General Assembly on the 2nd and 3rd of October 2021; an exception to article 1.1.a of the Show Rules. A large, important Pet Expo would be held that weekend and it was important for the club, SK and FIFe to be present there. The Board decided to grant permission.
- d. EKL-Felix (EE) asked if they could hold the upcoming Baltic Winner Show in a so-called "drive-in" format. The Board discussed this question and stated it was up to the show organiser how they wished to arrange the BWS. The Board saw no problem if EKL-Felix wished to hold it in a "drive-in" format and wished them good luck with the organisation.
- e. FPL (PL) sent a request on behalf of one of their clubs, who wished to issue an electronic catalogue for their upcoming show. The GS answered FPL that this was no problem and stated that article 1.14 of the Show Rules did not state that a catalogue had to be printed on paper. This was clarified at the GA 2018 when this article and article 1.16 of the Show Rules were amended.

7.3 Ratification of dispensation to the Show Rules regarding the number of cats.

- a. ČSCH-SCHK (CZ) – shows in Bojkovice, 11+12.07.2021, as Int. with less than 150 cats.
- b. LFA - Bubaste (CZ) – shows in Kaunas, 11+12.07.2021, as Int. with less than 150 cats.
- c. FPL (PL) – shows in Sopot, 11+12.07.2021, as International with less than 150 cats.

7.4 Ratification of permission granted to a FIFe Member to invite a non-FIFe Judge:

- a. SK (FI) to have Mrs Pam DelaBar, CFA All Breed Judge from Finland, officiating at the shows in Kuopio, on the 05+06.06.2021.
- b. SK (FI) to have Mrs Pam DelaBar, CFA All Breed Judge from Finland, officiating at the shows in Turku, on the 31.08+01.09.2021.
- c. SK (FI) to have Mr Jean-Marc Lagarde, TICA All Breed Judge from France, officiating at the show in Riihimäki, on the 24.10.2021.
- d. FFM (MX) to have Mrs Anna Maria Sosa DVM, TICA All Breed Judge from Mexico, officiating at the shows in Queretaro, on the 21+22.08.2021.

7A World Shows

7A.1. General

- a. FBE (BE) informed the Board that the venue for the 2022 World Show would be in the Nekkerhal of Expo Brussels North, in the city of Mechelen,
- b. ANFI (IT) informed the Board they would hold the 2021 World Show. Further information would be made available soon.

7A.2. The complete World Show List (only the first 10 years are published on the Show List):

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| • 2020 - No World Show | • 2028 - tba | - FPL (PL) |
| • 2021 - Milan - ANFI (IT) | • 2029 - tba | - SVERAK (SE) |
| • 2022 - Mechelen - FBE (BE) | • 2030 - tba | - SFDH (HR) |
| • 2023 - tba - FFF (FR) | • 2031 - tba | - FD (DK) |
| • 2024 - tba - NRR (NO) | • 2032 - tba | - KKÖ (AT) |
| • 2025 - St.Petersburg - FRU (RU) | • 2033 - tba | - Suomen K. (FI) |
| • 2026 - tba - Mundikat (NL) | • 2034 - Bucharest | - FAF-FR (RO) |
| • 2027 - Prague - ČSCH (CZ) | • 2035 - tba | - FFH (CH) |

8. Commission Matters .

8.1 Statutes, Rules, Standards, EMS List, lists and forms

Mr. Alfred Wittich pointed out a few typos in the table of article 6.1 of the BRR in German. These were corrected and the new issue of the BRR was uploaded to the website. The English and French versions were correct. The Board thanked Mr. Wittich for his observations.

8.2 Seminars

The GS would ask the JSC for the agenda of the GA Judges Seminar so this could be published.

8.3 Judges and Standards Commission

- a. The secretary of the JSC sent two questions regarding the FIFe 2021 GA. The first was that they had heard that the Members of FIFe were allowed to bring 2 extra proposals due to the cancelation of the 2020 GA,. The JSC asked if this would also be valid for the FIFe Commissions. The second question was about the 2021 FIFe Judges Seminar. If the 2021 GA would be held as a virtual event, would the FIFe Board expect the JSC to hold a virtual seminar? The agenda for the 2021 Seminar was already prepared (originally for 2020) and included the usual 2 working group sessions and these could only function at a physical seminar. The JSC would need to adjust the seminar agenda to suit a virtual environment. The Board discussed these questions and decided they did not want to set a concrete number regarding the proposals, which the commissions could bring The Board was of course willing if a commission would send a motivated request for more proposals to consider that, in line with article 4.6 of the General Rules. Regarding the question about a virtual judge's seminar, the Board was not in favour to hold such a seminar. Firstly, the structure of Judges Seminars agendas of the last years would make quite a few lectures impossible and secondly, the immediate need for judges to attend a seminar had been met by the exception granted by the Board that no seminars are "needed" until the GA 2022. The GS expressed the hope to see all members of the JSC in person in Riga and asked the JSC for the agenda of the 2021 judges' seminar as soon as it was finalised.
- b. The Vice-Secretary contacted the JSC regarding 4 proposals the Board wanted to bring to the Judges Rules. These were mostly consequences of accepted proposals. The Board preferred the JSC to bring these and if they did, their number of proposals would be raised accordingly.
- c. No answer was received from the JSC about the question of the Board to finalise the ramifications in the standards due to the accepted proposal on BSH eye colours at the 2019 GA.

8.4 Show Commission

Nothing to report

8.5 Breeding & Registration Commission

- a. EKL-Felix (EE) informed the GS that they had a request for membership from a person, who had registered with TICA , but this person did not have original pedigrees, only copies. With reference to the BRR, EKL-Felix wondered if they could accept this or not. The Board sent this to the BRC for a recommendation and they stated this was normal in TICA, but one could always request an original pedigree from their US office. The BRC also stipulated that pedigrees had to be originals and copies of a pedigree could not be accepted. The Board agreed and sent this answer to EKL-Felix.
- b. ICA (ID) sent several questions on the registration and breeding of silver, charcoal and solid (melanistic) Bengals, all x varieties. The Board decided to send this to the BRC for their opinion, which was received, and the Board agreed with this recommendation. Basically, the questions asked by ICA had to do with how offspring from matings of silver with charcoal, the occurrence of melanistic (solid) kittens and import pedigrees containing x varieties in the first 3 generations should be registered. These all had to be registered in the RIEK register, as per article 4.3 of the BRR. This was communicated to ICA.
- c. After a few reminders had been sent, the BRC sent their recommendation on the complaint from CPF (PT) on behalf of one of their members who had bought a DRX from a member of FPL (PL); see item 8.5 of the Minutes 04/20. The BRC stated that this matter was not within their remit; only the judiciary could intervene in disputes over purchase and sale. The Board agreed with the conclusions and suggestions of the BRC and added that it could not be involved in business transactions between individual members of the national Members. The only authority that could intervene in a conflict between a buyer and a seller was the judiciary.
- d. NRR (NO) sent a question if this should re-issue the pedigree of a NEM a 09 21, imported from Poland, which was shown in class 13b, and judged to be NEM as 09 21. This cat had also given birth to 5 silver kittens. NRR asked if they should remove the previous non-silver generations. The Board decided to send this to the BRC for a recommendation.

8.5.1 Breeding & Registration Statistics 2020

- a. Forty Members sent the statistics for the year 2020, unfortunately, two Members (CCU from China and ACFEC from Colombia) had not replied.
The Board looked at the 2019 and 2020 statistics and saw that the total number of cats registered, bred and imported from non-FiFe in 2019 was just under 100.000 but in 2020 well over 100.000. The GS would send the statistics of the breeds and numbers to the BRC.
- b. The Board noticed a significant increase in the registration of cats as XLH/XSH without any indication of originating or target breed. This was only possible for non-recognised breeds without preliminary EMS codes. The GS would contact the Members concerned.

8.6 Health & Welfare Commission

8.7 Disciplinary Commission

For the above items there was nothing to report

9. Judges' Matters

9.1 General

- a. Mrs. Helena Schmidt Camenisch, International Allbreed Judge from Switzerland, informed the GS that she had married, and her surname was now Wittwer. The judges' lists were amended.
- b. Mrs. Barbara Bazzotti, Mrs. Katia Pucci and Mrs. Carla Rotini, international FiFe judges from Italy changed membership from ANFI (IT) to 1.DEKZV e.V. (DE).

9.2 Permission to sit the FiFe Judges' Exam

9.2.1 Theoretical Part

- a. Mrs. Susanna Piispanen (FI) to sit the theoretical exam in category 4 in Helsinki (FI) on the 18.06.21 in English with Mrs. Mira Fonsén and Mr. Veikko Saarela (both FI). See item 10.1.a.
- b. Mrs. Annukka Rintakumpu (FI) to sit the theoretical exam in category 1 in Kuopio (FI) on the 24.09.21 in English with Mrs. Marina Vinkel (EE) and Mrs. Kristiina Rautio (FI). See 10.1.a.

9.2.2 Practical Part

- a. Mrs. Susanna Piispanen (FI) to sit the practical exam in category 4 in Helsinki (FI) on the 19.06.2021 in English with Mrs. Mira Fonsén and Mr. Veikko Saarela (both FI).
- b. Mrs. Liz Parry (CH) to sit the practical part of the exam in category 4 in Bojkovice (CZ) on the 10.07.2021 in English) with Mrs. Lena Vencliková (CZ) and Mr. Fabio Brambilla (IT).
- c. Mrs. Annukka Rintakumpu (FI) to sit the practical exam in category 1 in Kuopio (FI) on the 25.09.2021 in English with Mrs. Marina Vinkel (EE) and Mrs. Kristiina Rautio (FI)

9.3 FiFe Judges' Examinations passed:

- a. Mrs. Susanna Piispanen (FI) in category 4, at the show in Lohja (FI) on the 19.06.2021 in English with Mrs. Mira Fonsén and Mr. Veikko Saarela (both FI).
- b. Mrs. Liz Parry (CH) in category 4, at the show in Bojkovice (CZ) on the 10.07.2021 in English with Mrs. Lena Vencliková (CZ) and Mr. Fabio Brambilla (IT).

9.4 Judges Appointments – 1st and 2nd categories

After passing the required stage at the show in Venturina (IT) on 06.06.2021, Mrs Barbara Bazzotti (IT) was appointed an International FiFe judge in category 2.

9.5 Judges Appointments – 3rd and 4th categories

9.6 Mentor Judge applications

For the above items there was nothing to report

9.7 Ratification of permission granted to FiFe Judges to officiate at a non-FiFe shows to:

- a. Mr. Alexey Shchukin (NL) – TICA shows in Asperen (NL), 24-25.07.2021
- b. Mr. Charles Spijker (NL) – TICA shows in Asperen (NL), 24-25.07.2021
- c. Mr. Alexey Shchukin (NL) – TICA shows in Stockerau (AT), 07-08.08.2021
- d. Mrs. Satu Hämäläinen (FI) – CFA show in Tel Aviv (IL), 25.09.2021

9.8 Permission denied to a FIFe Judge to officiate at non-FIFe shows to:

- a. Mrs. Alejandra Tursky Ayala, Allbreed judge from Argentina, to officiate at a virtual show organised by a new WCF club in Argentina in July or August 2021. The Board discussed this request and decided to stand by its policy since 2012 not to grant permission to FIFe judges officiating at WCF shows or vice versa, because of the lack of respect shown by WCF regarding decisions made by FIFe.
- b. Mrs. Nurit Pahl, Allbreed judge from Israel, to officiate at a WCF show in June or July 2021 in Israel. The Board discussed this request and decided to stand by its policy since 2012 not to grant permission to FIFe judges officiating at WCF shows or vice versa, because of the lack of respect shown by WCF regarding decisions made by FIFe.

10. Student Judges' matters

10.1 General

- a. SK (FI) asked exceptions for two of their student judges, Mrs. Susanna Piispanen in category 4 and Mrs. Annukka Rintakumpu in category 1, to sit the theoretical exams in the "old" way because no theoretical exam sessions were planned. The Board agreed with the request; it was not possible at this point in time to plan any theoretical exam sessions.
- b. 1.DEKZV e.V. (DE) informed the GS that the international judges Mrs. Barbara Bazzotti and Mrs. Katia Pocci were their member as of 06.05.2021. They vouched to respect the responsibilities and duties as a national FIFe Member for them as a student judges. The GS amended the website student judges list.
- c. The 2-year suspension of Mrs. Katia Pocci (see item 6.1.d), by ANFI (IT) also meant that she could not act as a student judge; this suspension would end on 27.11.2022. As per article 2.5 of the General Rules, 1.DEKZV e.V. would respect this suspension
- d. Mundikat (NL) informed the GS that Mrs. Erica Löfquist, student judge in categories 3 & 4, had decided to stop with her training because of personal reasons.

10.2 Request for a preliminary student judges' examination:

10.3 Notification of the pass of a preliminary student judge's exam:

10.4 Notification to include persons as a student judge in an additional category:

10.5 Theoretical Exam sessions:

For the above items there was nothing to report

11. Cattery Name Business

- a. Mrs. Eva Wiéland-Schilla forwarded a question from SFDH (HR). They had an issue between 3 co-owners of a cattery name; 2 co-owners wanted to remove the third one and SFDH asked if they could. This person had not paid his membership fee but most importantly, the Board found out that he did not live at the registered address of the cattery name. The Board decided that his name could be removed and also informed SFDH that if a cattery had more than 1 owner, they should live at the same address.
- b. Mrs. Eva Wiéland-Schilla forwarded an email from FPL (PL). A member from one of their clubs was excluded "due to disciplinary matters" and wanted to transfer her cattery name to another person. FPL based their request on article 5.2.6 of the BRR and thought this would be acceptable; they supported their request with a letter in Polish. The Board decided such a transfer was not possible and informed FPL that article 5.2.6 only dealt with the deletion of cattery names. The GS informed FPL they had to find another solution. He also asked FPL not to send any letters in Polish anymore, referring to article 6.3 of the Statutes.
- c. FBE (BE) sent two requests for registration of cattery names which involved an exception to article 5.2.2 of the BRR. The Board had a lengthy discussion and took into consideration the fact that breeding cats and getting a cattery name was heavily monitored and controlled by the government in Belgium. Therefore, the Board granted the exception and added that in order to avoid these and future problems, they decided that, from now on, all cattery names registered by FBE had to include the country code BE, also those that did not need an exception.

12. General Assemblies

- a. Almost all Members had replied to the questionnaire, asking if they agreed to hold an electronic GA in case a normal, physical meeting was not possible. Over 90% of the Members agreed to this but almost all Members indicated they would prefer to have a physical GA.
- b. The Treasurer contacted the hotel in Riga and booked the venue for the new GA dates. He also contacted the company arranging the technique and the simultaneous interpretations.
- c. The Board discussed the format of reports of Board and commissions, published in the agenda of the 2021 GA; separate or combined. The Board decided it should be one combined report, from the 01.06.2019 GA up to the 2021 GA. The GS would inform the commissions.
- d. The Board discussed the venue for the 2022 GA, which would be Pilsen, in Czechia. The Treasurer would contact the hotel and the Czech Member, ČSCH-SCHK.
- e. The Board set the deadline for the final decision of holding the 2021 GA physically or electronically on the 25.08.2021.

13. The FIFe website and Social Media

14. World Cat Congress

For the above items there was nothing to report

15. FIFe Breed Councils

- a. The BCA forwarded a document from the LYO non BC Secretary, with suggestions and comments on the BRR, suggested by the BRC. The GS established a direct contact on this matter between the LYO non BC and the BRC.
- b. The BCA informed the GS that Mrs. Kaisa Savolainen resigned as RUS BC Secretary.
- c. The BCA informed the BOM non BC Secretary of the correct procedure to communicate.

16. GDPR – General Data Protection Regulation

17. Membership change

For the above items there was nothing to report

18. Any Other Business

An application for patronage membership was received from a club in San Marino. The GS would contact them to clarify the requirements.

19. Next Board meetings

- Monday 23.08.2021 - VCM Meeting
- Monday 27.09.2021 Riga (LV)
- Saturday 06.11.2021 Vienna (AT)
- Saturday 15.01.2022 Vienna (AT)
- Saturday 26.03.2022 Vienna (AT)
- Tuesday 24.05.2022 Pilsen (CZ)

20. Close of the Meeting

The meeting closed at 18.30 hours

Annette Sjödin – President

Eric Reijers – General-Secretary