



## MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FIFE BOARD 01/22

12<sup>th</sup> February 2022 – Vienna, Austria

### Present

Mrs. Annette Sjödin	-	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.

The Vice President, Mr. Veikko Saarela, could not attend because of health reasons.

### **2. Approval of the Agenda**

The Board approved the agenda for this meeting.

### **3. Approval of previous Minutes**

The Minutes 04/21 had been approved and were sent to the Members.

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

The following exceptions concerning the Show Rules are valid until 31.12.2022:

- 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.
- 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.
- Winners Shows may take place in any month in 2022.
- For all Winner Shows, World Show included, organised in 2022, no qualifications are needed for cats to participate.

### **4.2 Matters arising from or omitted in previous Minutes**

In October 2021, FFM (MX) requested an exception to BRR article 9.2.3 (see item 6.2.b, below).

## **5. Financial**

### **5.1 Members' and Patronage Members' Payments**

The Treasurer showed a list of outstanding payments, only 3 invoices from 2021 were not settled.

### **5.2 Judges Exams**

Two new judges' exam applications had been processed.

### **5.3 Other Financial Matters**

The Treasurer presented a draft financial report for 2021 and budget for 2023, which had already been sent to the controllers. The Board discussed several items of this report.

## **6. Members' Matters**

### **6.1 General**

#### **Resignation of a FIFe Member – NFFe, Bulgaria**

The Board of FIFe was informed by its Bulgarian Member, the National Federation of Felinology - NFFe, that they had decided at their recent General Meeting to terminate all of their activities and to resign as a Member of FIFe as of the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2022. The FIFe Board regretted losing one of its national Members but respected the decision of NFFe.

In the meantime, a new organization was founded, which would forward a request for probational membership to the 2022 FIFe General Assembly. The Board advised the individual members who belonged to NFFe to join other national FIFe Members. The Board of FIFe thanked NFFe for their years of membership, friendship and cooperation, and wished them all the best for the future endeavours. On a critical note, the Board considered it a pity that FIFe and NFFe had not been able to find consensus on how to continue FIFe in Bulgaria.

### **6.2 Correspondence**

- a. Members informed the GS of the following changes: details listed on the FIFe website.
  - \* SK (FI) – new President
  - \* ACFEC (CO) – new President
- b. FFM (MX) asked for an exception to the procedure described in article 9.2 of the BRR to register novice cats first as XLH and then as the target breed, in this case PER. Considering the fact that in these COVID times it was hard to arrange shows, FFM asked if it would be possible that only 1 judge, Mr. Miguel Sierra Bernal, would sign the papers needed. The Board discussed this request and concluded that whenever an exception was asked details should be communicated before this could be granted. In this case there was no information, so the request was not granted.
- c. FFS (SK) asked for an explanation or statement concerning article 2.6 of the FIFe Statutes. One of their members was active as secretary in a WCF club in Czechia and FFS wanted to know if this was also an infringement of article 2.6 of the FIFe Statutes. The GS informed FFS that article 2.6 of the Statutes did not differentiate in functions performed in international (main structure) or national entities (organizational units). Individual members of national FIFe Members were not allowed to work actively in a non-FIFe organisation as a functionary and a secretary was a functionary. The individual member should either relinquish this position and if this was not done, this member should resign or be expelled by you.
- d. 1.DEKZV e.V. (DE) informed the Board that they celebrated their 100 year anniversary this year and asked if FIFe would be interested in a chronicle. The GS congratulated 1.DEKZV e.V. on this impressive jubilee and asked them to send information when the celebration would take place and FIFe would link this to their website.
- e. FB (GB) asked an exception to article 2.6 of the Statutes for one of their club members, who had a function in GCCF. These exceptions had been asked frequently over the past years and had been positively recommended by the FIFe DC, so also this request was granted.
- f. FPL (PL) asked for a confirmation of their interpretation of article 2.6 of the Statutes. FPL was of the opinion that the prohibition to be actively involved in non-FIFe organisations was valid for all members and not only board members. The GS confirmed that this was correct. Then FPL asked if there was "a definition of non-FIFe organisations in the FIFe Statutes or rules" and the GS replied that there was not and there was no need to; the FIFe statutes and rules are meant only for FIFe and non-FIFe organisations could not even be mentioned in these statutes and rules.

- g. FFH (CH) asked if they could publish the German and French versions of the 2021 GA Minutes on their website. They were aware that these minutes were also on the FIFe website, but only in English. The GS asked FFH not to publish the Minutes they had received because the versions sent to them were meant only for Members. They included reports of board, commissions, patronage applications and election details, which were not included in the public versions. The GS sent FFH the public versions in German and French and allowed them to upload these on their website.
- h. FBE (BE) forwarded a document from a workgroup of the Eurogroup for animals to the Board. This would be used as “best practice text” for all EU governments, wanting to work out new legislation regarding health and welfare for cats. FBE was asked to review this document and to give feedback. Mr. Joeri Vanrusselt, the FBE president, explained that this document did not contain anything strange and FBE just added some minor comments. He asked if the board and/or the commissions had any additional points, since this would be an EU-scale send out. The GS sent the document to the Board, the BRC and the HWC and several people contacted Joeri with suggestions or additions.
- i. Mundikat (NL) sent a request for a correction, after having read the Board Minutes 04/21, They reacted to item 8.3.b of these Minutes regarding the registration of silver tabby bicolours and felt this was not in line with the accepted proposal 10 of the JSC at the 2018 GA, which did not mention a change in the registration of cats. Mundikat gave an example: in one single litter there could be 01, 02 and 03 kittens and the 01 and 02 kittens would be registered with eye colour, but the 03 kittens would be registered without eye colour. The Board agreed that this was correct and the case in all breeds with bicolours and practiced for years. The Board discussed this matter further and stated that this proposal had not been fully implemented since it was accepted in 2018, and the Board was required by the Statutes to finalise this, which had now been done.

## **7. Show matters:**

### **7.1 General**

- a. EKL-Felix (EE) informed the GS that in 2022 shows were planned in Helsinki and Tallinn at the same weekend, and that the “real” distance between these places was only 87 kilometres, by ferry or boat. The GS referred EKL-Felix to article 1.4 of the Show Rules, which stated that distances should be calculated “by road.” He advised Felix to discuss these matters with SK.
- b. FFB (BR) asked for an extension of the exception to obtain the Junior Winner title (2 BIS titles for JW instead of 3) for 2022. The Board decided to extend this exception until 31.12.2022.
- c. FD (DK) asked the Board to contact the German Member 1.DEKZV e.V. They had published incorrect information on changes in show classes 11 and 12 in their last magazine. German exhibitors entering shows in Denmark complained that FD had not updated the show system. The GS wrote to 1.DEKZV e.V. informing them that the proposal from FBE was not accepted and asking them to correct this misinformation, which was done.
- d. FRU (RU) informed the GS that they would have the same COVID restrictions as before and therefore it would be impossible to invite foreign judges to their shows. They requested an exception to article 4.2 of the Show Rules until 31.12.2022. This would enable cats to obtain a CH or PR title with only 2 judges issuing the certificates. The Board granted this request.
- e. FFF (FR) requested an exception to article 1.1.d of the Show Rules to be allowed to hold a 3-day, 3-certificate show in March in Paris. This was a large, prestigious and costly event, where other organisations would hold shows as well. The Board discussed this request and agreed. They understood that it was vital for FFF (FIFe) to be present at this event.
- f. FPL (PL) asked for permission for one of their clubs to organise a three certificate show during two consecutive days, in line with article 1.11 of the Show Rules. The Board discussed this request and informed FPL that it was not needed to ask permission. This show option was in full accordance with the rules as long as it was held once per year per Member.

### **7.2 Ratification of dispensation to the Show Rules regarding the number of cats.**

- a. Felikat (NL) – single-breed show in Beverwijk, 20.11.2021, as int. with less than 150 cats.
- b. EKL-Felix (EE) – show in Tallinn, 20.11.2021, as international with less than 150 cats.
- c. FBE (BE) – shows in Quiévrain, 27+28.11.2021, as international with less than 150 cats.
- d. SFDH (HR) – shows in Zagreb, 04+05.12.2021, as international with less than 150 cats.
- e. ASFE (ES) – shows in Ávila, 04+05.12.2021, as international with less than 150 cats.
- f. FFF (FR) – shows in Cournon, 12+13.02.2022, as international with less than 150 cats.

### **7.3 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 Laukaa, on the 26+27.03.2022.
- b. SVERAK (SE) to have Mrs. Yvonne Kleijn, LOOF Judge from France, officiating at the shows in Södertälje, on the 20+21.08.2022.
- c. FB (GB) to have Mrs. Jane Allen, TICA All Breed Judge from the United Kingdom, officiating at the show in Birmingham on the 12.03.2022.

### **7.4 Ratification of permission not granted to FIFe Members to invite non-FIFe Judges:**

*Nothing to report.*

## **7A World Shows**

### **7A.1. General**

At the 2021 GA, a proposal from the SC to list all granted World Show applications was accepted. The SCA contacted the webmaster and asked him to list the dates, which were more than 10 years away because she could not insert them. She suggested he added the World Shows for 2033, 2034 and 2035 manually, to be visible when one clicked "FIFe Special Events" which was done.

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

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

## **8. Commission Matters**

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

In January, the Treasurer sent the new 2022 issues of all Statutes, Rules, Standards and EMS list by post to the Members and judges.

### **8.2 Seminars**

The GS contacted the JSC asking if they already had an agenda for the 2022 GA judges' seminar.

### **8.3 Judges and Standards Commission**

- a. After two reminders, the JSC secretary sent the recommendation on the suggestions from Mrs. Lena Vencliková, international BG B, cat. 2, 3 and 4 judge from Czechia, about the training requirements of BG A and D student judges (see item 8.3.b of the Minutes 03/21). The JSC started by highlighting some historical points regarding Breed Training (BT):
  1. When the BT requirements were passed at the 2016 GA, a few FIFe Members were very insistent on the minimum of cats to be seen in BG's A and D.
  2. When BT started on 01.01.17 there were 40 judges to train in BG A and 23 judges to train in BG D. In the 3+ years that BT was operating prior to the COVID19 interruption, 25 judges (62,5%) qualified in BG A and 14 judges (61%) qualified in BG D.The JSC found that relaxation of the BT requirements for a minority group of FIFe Judges who after a total period of 5 years had not been able to see a limited number of cats required would not be fair to the majority of judges who finished training in good time. Therefore, the FIFe JSC was opposes against any relaxation of BT requirements at this time. The Board discussed this recommendation and agreed with the JSC.
- b. On the 01.02.2022, the secretary of the JSC sent the updated versions of the Preliminary Exam Questionnaires for all 4 categories and the general part and updated Preliminary Exam sets, one for each category and 4 for the general part.

### **8.4 Show Commission**

*Nothing to report*

## 8.5 Breeding & Registration Commission

- a. The BCA forwarded an email from the MCO BC secretary about the differences in registration of polydactyl MCO by breeders but also by one FIFe Member in pedigrees. TICA and WCF registered polydactyl MCO cats as MCP or POL and a few FIFe members stated that cats with such codes in their pedigree could not be registered as a MCO in FIFe, but as XLH. The MCO BC wanted these cats to be registered as MCO. The Board decided to forward this matter to the BRC for a recommendation, which was sent. The BRC concluded that these cats were still purebred MCO, which changed nothing for FIFe in terms of registration. The Board discussed this matter and agreed; cats registered as MCP or POL in non-FIFe pedigrees should be reregistered as MCO in line with article 4.6.2 of the BRR. The GS informed the BCA, and she would inform the MCO BC Secretary.
- b. Bubaste (LT) sent a question about a BSH litter registration where the sire had 3 Scottish Straight ancestors in the 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> generation. The Board though fully aware of article 6.4 of the BRR sent this matter to the BRC for a recommendation.
- c. FFH (CH) sent a question about a MCO ns 09 male with blue eyes. This cat was registered 2 years ago but in December 2021 a litter was born, and this male was the sire. FFH wondered how to register the kittens and if they should re-register the male. The Board sent this question to the BRC for a recommendation.

### 8.5.1 Breeding & Registration Statistics 2020

At the end of January 2022, all Members received the updated, correct Excel form for their 2021 Statistics. At the date of this meeting 23 Members had returned the form. Practically all members showed a significant increase in registrations.

## 8.6 Health & Welfare Commission

*Nothing to report*

## 8.7 Disciplinary Commission

*Nothing to report*

## 9. Judges' Matters - Obituaries:

### Mr. Hristo Simeonov

The FIFe Board was informed of the very premature death of the international category 1, 2 and 3 Judge, Mr. Hristo (Cris) Simeonov. Cris was only 52 years old and died because of inoperable complications after surgery. Cris joined the cat fancy in Bulgaria over twenty years ago and bred Norwegian Forest Cats under the cattery name "BG\*Norsk Bijou."

In 2015 Cris was appointed as international FIFe Judge in category 2, followed in 2016 with category 1 and in 2019 with category 3. Cris was instrumental in the FIFe membership application of his club, NFFe, and was its secretary since its inception. He represented NFFe at 16 General Assemblies. The Board of FIFe extends its sincere condolences to the family and friends of Cris and to NFFe.

### Mrs. Lili Anciau

The FIFe Board was informed by its Belgian Member, Felis Belgica, that the international All Breed Judge **Mrs. Lili Anciau** died on the 5<sup>th</sup> of December 2021 at the age of 76 years. Mrs. Anciau joined the Belgian FIFe club in 1970 and bred Siamese, Abyssinians, Sacred Birmans, Burmese, Persian, Cornish and Devon Rex under the cattery name "*Van Ingeing*". She was actively involved in the former Belgian cat club in various positions and was a member of the FIFe Judges Commission for 3 years. She passed her judges exam in category IV in 1981, III in 1984, I in 1986 and II in 1988. Lili mastered 7 languages and judged all over the world. She preferred the company of cats and dogs over people. The Board of FIFe extends its sincere condolences to Lili's family and friends and to their Belgian FIFe Member Felis Belgica.

## 9.1 General

- a. Mr. Dieter Filler, international Allbreed judge from France, informed the Board that he had decided to resign as a judge at the end of 2021. The Board thanked him for his almost 40 years of service as a judge and wished him all the best for the future.
- b. Mrs. Tatjana Malgaj, international category 1 & 2 judge from Slovenia, informed the Board that she had decided to resign as a judge at the end of 2021. The Board thanked her for the more than 25 years of service as a judge and wished her all the best for the future.

- c. FFF (FR) informed the GS that Mrs. Nicole Godier-Lepert, international category 1 and 2 judge from France, had not paid her judge's fee. In line with article 3.5 of the Judges Rules, the GS removed her name from the Judges Lists.
- d. SVERAK (SE) informed the GS that Mrs. Catharina Modahl Nilsson, a dormant category 3 judge from Sweden, had not paid her judge's fee. In line with article 3.5 of the Judges Rules, the GS removed her name from the Judges Lists.

## **9.2 Permission to sit the FIFe Judges' Exam**

- a. Mrs. Anna Wijbrands (NL) to sit the exam in category 1, in Kolding (DK) on the 12.03.2022 in English with Mr. Gerardo Fraga y Guzman (ES) and Mr. Zvezdan Memedov (SE).
- b. Mrs. Dominika Halická (SK) to sit the exam in category 4, in Prague (CZ) on the 14.05.2022 in English with Mrs. Lena Vencliková (CZ) and Mr. Fabio Brambilla (IT).

### **9.2.1 Theoretical Part**

### **9.2.2 Practical Part**

## **9.3 FIFe Judges' Examinations passed:**

### **9.4 Judges Appointments – 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> categories**

### **9.5 Judges Appointments – 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> categories**

*For the above items there was nothing to report*

## **9.6 Mentor Judge applications**

Mrs. Thea Friškovec-Keller (CH) applied to be a mentor judge in categories 1 and 2.

## **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 Toulouse (FR), 22-23.01.2022.
- b. Mrs. Alejandra T. de Ayala (AR) – TICA show in Buenos Aires (AR), 06.03.2022
- b. Mrs. Sarah Johnson (GB) – GCCF show in Blackpool (GB), 26.03.2022

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

*Nothing to report*

## **10. Student Judges' matters**

### **10.1 General**

1.DEKZV e.V. (DE) requested the GS to remove the names of two of their student judges, Mrs. Waltraut Sattler in category 3 and BG C and Mr. Bernd Pollesche in categories 3 and 4.

### **10.2 Request for a preliminary student judges' examination:**

- a. ANFI (IT) for their member Mr. Alessio Schiavon in category 2, on 11.03.2022 in Pomezia-Roma (IT), in English, with Mrs. Hana Klein and Mr. Nico Padovano (both IT).
- b. FPL (PL) for their member Mrs. Agata Wiwczarek in category 1, on 30.04.2022 in Białystok (PL), in English, with Mr. Ireneusz and Mr. Sebastian Pruchniak (both PL).

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

*For the above items there was nothing to report*

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

- a. Suomen Kissaliitto (FI) to include Mrs. Katja Patrikainen as a student judge in category 2.
- b. Mundikat (NL) to include Mrs. Pauline Kröger-Stokhof as a student judge in category 4.

### **10.5 Theoretical Exam sessions:**

As decided in November, a session would take place on Friday 27.05.2022 in Plzeň (CZ).

## **11. Cattery Name Business**

FB (GB) asked if they could transfer a cattery name of one of their deceased members to her son. Mrs. Eva Wiéland-Schilla agreed with this request and also the Board agreed. The GS informed FB that they could go ahead.

## **12. General Assemblies**

- a. The Treasurer sent information to all commission members, asking them for their arrival and departure times at the GA in Plzeň (CZ).
- b. The Vice President sent suggestions for GA proposals, which would be discussed at the next meeting.

## **13. The FIFe website and social media**

- a. The Vice Treasurer had contacted a company specialising in designing websites and received an offer and a quote. The company suggested to start with a workshop where requirements and expectations would be discussed. Also, the Treasurer provided a quote from a company and had brought printed material. The Vice President was gathering information about websites as well and would present this at the next board meeting in March.
- b. The Board discussed enhancing the FIFe Facebook presence.

## **14. World Cat Congress**

The WCC General Secretary informed the Members that the annual membership fee would be waived because it was still unlikely that a proper meeting could be held in 2022. Maybe things would improve around the autumn and if they would, WCC would try to find a venue for a meeting. # The next regular WCC meeting, would be held in Tasmania, in June 2023, hosted by ACF.

## **15. FIFe Breed Councils**

- a. The BCA sent a request from the BUR BC secretary asking for direct contact with the BRC, HWC and JSC regarding a planned standard change. These contacts were established.
- b. The BCA informed the GS that Mrs. Kaija Merta, a RUS BC member, had declared her willingness to function as BC Secretary and she asked the Board to appoint her as such.
- c. The BCA informed the GS that Mrs. Randi Hegdall tendered her resignation as the SIB BC Secretary and asked the Board to appoint Mrs. Roseanne Forslund in her place, which was done.

## **16. GDPR – General Data Protection Regulation**

FIFe follows the GDPR regulations in connection with the COVID-19 pandemic with regard to the storage of personal data.

## **17. Membership change**

*For the above item there was nothing to report*

## **18. Any Other Business**

- a. The GS sent a statement of the TICA MCO BC on not allowing the registration of the eye colour blue for solid MCO to the FIFe BRC.
- b. In Bulgaria, former individual members of NFFe had registered a new organisation. They were informed to send a proposal for patronage membership to the coming GA.
- c. The Treasurer and GS would update the information about FIFe in Luxemburg.
- d. The Board discussed health requirements in individual breeds to be presented for all breeds within FIFe.

## **19. Next Board meetings**

- Saturday 26.03.2022 Vienna (AT)
- Tuesday 24.05.2022 Plzeň (CZ) in connection with the GA
- Saturday 13.08.2022 Vienna (AT)
- Saturday 12.11.2022 Vienna (AT)

## **20. Close of the Meeting**

The meeting closed at 17.30 hours

Annette Sjödin – President

Eric Reijers – General-Secretary