



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FIFE BOARD 05/23

25th November – Vienna, Austria

Present

Mrs. Annette Sjödin	-	President	Mr. Veikko Saarela	-	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 & Reg. 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
- JR – Judges Rules
- PRC – Public Relations Commission
- SC – Show Commission
- SCA – Show Calendar Administrator
- SR – Show Rules
- 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 04/23 had been approved and were sent to the Members on 07.09.2023.

4. Matters arising from or omitted in previous Minutes

Nothing to report

5. Financial

5.1 Members' and Patronage Members' Payments

The Treasurer presented a list of outstanding payments and expressed his satisfaction with the payment moral of the Members.

5.2 Judges Exams

Seven new judges' exam applications were received since the last board meeting.

5.3 Other Financial Matters

- a. The Board received a separate reply from the BRC and a joint reply from the DC, JSC, HWC, PRC and SC to their question if all commission members needed to be present during the whole GA week. The commissions suggested several matters one of them was to hold their closed meetings online before the GA and to arrive a day later. The Board appreciated this proposal and it would be implemented at the 2024 GA.
- b. The Vice-Treasurer would contact the Luxemburg bank, enquiring about additional access to the bank account.

6. Members' Matters

6.1 Correspondence

- a. Members informed the GS of the following changes: details listed on the FIFe website.
* AFA (AR) – new Board.
- b. FFH (CH) had a question regarding the registration of a cat, imported from a German IDP club. This was a MCO f 09 from a line with blue eyes. From the sire up to and including the great-great-grandparents, the cats were blue eyed with a small amount of white (09). They sent the pedigree and photographs the sire and the grandfather and wondered if this cat, which had green eyes, could be registered as a Maine Coon? They had to register the sire correctly as an XLH and according to the FIFe BRR it was not allowed to breed with such a cat. FFH asked how to handle this situation, when there was a MCO with little white (09) and blue eyes in the 2nd or 3rd generation, could it be registered as a Maine Coon? The Board decided to send it to the BRC for a recommendation (see item 8.5.b).
- c. FBe (BE) commented on the reactions of several European (mainly Ragdoll) breeders on social media towards Chinese exhibitors. They had complaints from their members, who were seated close to a Chinese breeder during the World Show who were appalled by the way these Chinese exhibitors were treated. These FBe members, supported these Chinese exhibitors and showed them, that not everyone in Europe was this ill-mannered. FBe decided not to send a formal complaint about this, because they had no idea who these aggressive and rude persons were and found it was not FIFe's place to intervene on the behaviour of individual members of FIFe Members; this was up to these FIFe Members themselves. Even if this was not sent as an official complaint, the Board understood and agreed with the comments of FBe and decided to ask the SC for their input, e.g., a code of conduct for exhibitors. The GS would contact the SC.#
- d. FBe (BE) sent a complaint against the behaviour and mainly words, in particular the spreading of vicious rumours, by the International Allbreed judge, Mrs. Sabine Mösch (CH). She spread the rumour that FIFe judges who judged Chinese cats, were bribed with gold for their votes. FBe filed this complaint in particular on behalf of their member the International Allbreed judge Mr. Luigi Comorio (IT) who felt that doubt was cast on his reputation as a serious and honest FIFe judge. These rumours were spread at the 2023 World Show and at a show in Norway the weekend after the World Show, where Mrs. Mösch was still spreading these rumours, showing a picture which she claimed was proof of this so called "bribery". FBe believed that these lies undermined the credibility of FIFe judges and FIFe as a whole and by doing this, Mrs. Mösch was damaging all FIFe Members, including Felis Belgica. To support their complaint, FBe forwarded testimonies of 2 FIFe judges and 2 persons, board members of a FIFe Member, which were verified and checked and considered truthful by the Board. FBe concluded that Mrs. Mösch had acted against articles 1.1 and 1.2 of the FIFe rules for Judges and caused disruption by her actions. Also she had responsibilities towards the values and principles of the federation. FBe did not understand why Mrs. Mösch did this or what she believed to gain by spreading these rumours, but FBe felt she had to be called to order before more damage would be done to FIFe and FIFe judges.
The Board decided in line with article 8.1 of the General Rules to send this complaint to Mrs. Mösch and ask for her comments. Mrs. Mösch sent her answer in German and English. The Board evaluated her answer and concluded after considering all the evidence and witness statements provided, that this case was a gross infringement of articles 1.1 and 1.2 of the Judges Rules. The Board decided to temporarily suspend Mrs. Sabine Mösch as a Judge until the 1st of December 2024. This would be communicated to Mrs. Mösch, her Member FD (DK), listed on the website and indicated on the Judges Lists.

7. Show matters:

7.1 General

- a. SVERAK (SE) sent an email, asking for a further exception to the required number of cats for the planned Bengal Single Breed Show (SBS) to be organised by two of their clubs on the 21.10.2023 in Stockholm. SVERAK requested permission to hold this International SBS with a minimum of 80 Bengals entered. They argued that their clubs worked hard to promote this show in every possible way but had not been able to meet the required minimum of 100 cats. SVERAK added that many of today's international shows had less than 80 cats per category and they felt that at least 80 competing Bengals would still meet the intended standard of an international show. The Board discussed this request by email and agreed with the exception asked for; the GS informed SVERAK.
The President did not participate in the discussions and the decision.

- b. FRU (RU) informed the Board that travel to and from Russia remained very problematic, which gave their clubs had big problems in getting judges for their shows. FRU requested an exception to art.4.2 of SR to be allowed to accept 3 certificates in classes 9+10 (and for the new titles for kittens and juniors after 01.01.2024) from two International Judges. FRU stated they would try to avoid using this option, but this would enable their clubs to plan shows. Initially, the Board decided not to grant this exception but when FRU sent more details and explanations it was decided to grant this exception until 31.12.2024.
- c. 1.DEKZV e.V. (DE) requested the Board of FIFe for an exception to article 4.3 of the SR, allowing them the possibility as described in Annex 2 of the SR until 31.12.2023, for cats to get the titles IP/IC, by obtaining 5x CACIB/CAPIB, in 1 country, with min. 3 different judges. The Board granted this request for an exception.
- d. SVERAK (SE) asked for an extended exception, until 31.12.2024, from art 4.3 (Annex 2) of the FIFe SR for Sweden. NRR already has this exception until 31.12.2026, granted by the FIFe GA 2023. Due to the geographical location of Scandinavian countries, individual members of SVERAK had great difficulties due to current world economic situation. Especially in the north, the long distances were a great challenge. The SVERAK clubs tried to find and keep new exhibitors, but this was hard and it was feared that they would stop showing their cats after gaining the title CH/PR and in the long run, to lose them as individual members. SK (FI) sent an email, stating they had a discussion with SVERAK as SK was facing similar challenges especially with their new exhibitors. The board of SK was requesting an extended exception, until 31.12.2024, from art 4.3 (Annex 2) in the FIFe show rules for Finland. Similar as for SVERAK, this request came from their members organizing tens of shows every year. Finland was very isolated, and distances extremely long, especially from the Northern parts of the country. This, together with current economic situation made it hard for many exhibitors to travel outside our borders. SK hoped that the FIFe board would grant the exception and thus , support their hard working clubs, and ensure that individual members could continue with their hobby with a less financial burden. The Board had a lengthy discussion about these requests considering various aspects. In the end the Board decided to extend the current exceptions to both SVERAK and Suomen Kissaliitto until the 01.07.2024.
- e. UFU (UA) requested permission to hold 2-certificates 2-days FIFe National shows ("on road shows") separated by categories without conducting best in show in Odesa, Ukraine on 02+03 December 2023. The Board agreed to this request and granted UFU the permission to hold these 2-certificates 2-days National shows without conducting a BIS.

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

- a. ANFI (IT) – shows in Paestum, 23+24.09.2023, as International with less than 150 cats.
- b. FFS (SK) – show in Vinicné, 24.09.2023, as International with less than 150 cats.
- c. Bubaste (CH) – shows in Kaunas, 07+08.10.2023, as International with less than 150 cats.
- d. ČSCH (CZ) – shows in Ostrava, 07+08.10.2023, as International with less than 150 cats.
- e. ZFDS (SI) – shows in Celje, 14+15.10.2023, as International with less than 150 cats
- f. FM (MD) – shows in Chisinau, 04+05.11.2023, as International with less than 150 cats
- g. Felinolog (BY) - shows in Minsk, 18+19.11.2023, as International with less than 150 cats
- h. FFF (FR) – shows in Saint James, 18+19.11.2023, as International with less than 150 cats.
- i. FFH (CH) – shows in Frauenfeld, 25+26.11.2023, as International with less than 150 cats.

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

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

For the above items there was nothing to report

7A World Shows

7A.1. General

Nothing to report

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

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| • 2024 - Sandefjord - NRR (NO) | • 2030 - tba - SFDH (HR) |
| • 2025 - Bucharest - FAF-FR (RO) | • 2031 - tba - FD (DK) |
| • 2026 - Amsterdam - Mundikat (NL) | • 2032 - tba - KKÖ (AT) |
| • 2027 - Prague - ČSCH (CZ) | • 2033 - tba - Suomen K. (FI) |
| • 2028 - tba - FPL (PL) | • 2034 - tba |
| • 2029 - tba - SVERAK (SE) | • 2035 - tba - FFH (CH) |

8. Commission Matters

8.1 Statutes, Rules, Standards, EMS System and forms

The Vice-Secretary updated all Statutes, Rules and standards in cooperation with the respective commissions and they were printed in October. Many of these booklets were distributed at the World Show in Strasbourg.

8.2 Seminars

The JSC chairman sent a comprehensive list of the student judges and judges who attended the online Compulsory Student Judge Seminar, split into 3 sessions, on the 11th, 18th and 25th of October. In total 14 first time student judges attended, 6 judges and the 6 lecturers of the JSC. The overall experience was very positive. The GS updated the seminar attendance for the 12 judges.

8.3 Judges and Standards Commission

a. The JSC secretary sent minutes of two VCM meetings held in Tavira (PT) on the 23+26 May 2023 and the minutes of the VCM meeting held on the 12.07.2023.

b. In September, the JSC Chairman sent new exam sets, which could be used till end of 2023:

- a BG A and a BG D exam
- 5 sets of preliminary exams; one for each category and a general part
- 4 sets of final exams, one for each category
- 2 sets of exams for the general part; one for the 1st & 2nd and one for the 3rd and 4th category

c. The GS reminded the JSC about the request for colour descriptions for the Corin mutations.

The JSC answered that they did not feel comfortable yet to issue colour descriptions for these recently identified modifiers, for this there were many reasons for this. They stated that it was the ambition of both BRC and JSC to try to implement an EMS coding for these new colours which would be as simple as possible and could be applied across the affected breeds.

This was discussed by the BRC and JSC and they worked on a plan for a comprehensive proposal to the 2024 FIFe GA.

The Board discussed this answer and felt it would be more effective and easier to follow the steps described in chapter 11 of the BRR regarding the preliminary recognition of new varieties, taking into account Corin cats that already obtained titles at shows. After all, the decision to start a preliminary recognition need not be decided by the GA. The Vice-Secretary and Vice-Treasurer composed a summary describing the issue, including questions that needed to be addressed and the Board agreed. This would be sent to the BRC and JSC who could then provide the Board with suggestions re. registrations and colour descriptions and these could be collated in a new version of the preliminary recognised breeds and varieties.

8.4 Show Commission

a. When dealing with the request for an exception from UFU to allow their members living in Ukraine to be allowed to enter cats at the World Show without qualification (re. Minutes 04/23 item 7A.1.b), the Board wondered if it was needed, in general, to qualify cats, to be allowed to participate at the World and Winner Shows. The GS asked the SC for a recommendation.

The SC sent an answer and stated to have discussed many different aspects re. this matter.

Finally, the SC decided that the current economic situation and the cost of organizing a World or Winner Shows prevailed over other reasons and therefore, the SC recommended to dismiss all qualifications and to delete all wording regarding qualifications in art. 2.3 of the SR.

b. The Board asked the recommendation of the SC on organising a Winner Show on Saturday and Sunday and a regular 1-day show on Monday ((re. Minutes 04/23 item 8.4.d).

The SC sent their answer and found that this way of organizing shows was a very extended interpretation of the rules. The SC agreed that this did not fit with art. 2.6.3 and found that this might be very exhausting for cats, who would participate at both shows and will be staying three days at the show place in cages. To avoid any similar extended interpretations or abuse of the SR in the future, the SC would bring a proposal to the 2024 GA, article 2.7 Specific rules for the World Show and Winner Shows, which would be: "*The World Show and Winners Shows cannot be combined with any other type of show.*"

8.5 Breeding & Registration Commission

a. The GS forwarded the question of 1.DEKZV e.V. (DE), asking how to register charcoal in OSH to the BRC (see item 6.1.h). The BRC sent their recommendation and the Board discussed it. The Board agreed, grosso modo, with the recommendation of the BRC but did not agree that this cat could not be part of a breeding programme. The Board felt this should

be up to the national Member to decide. In FIFe charcoal was only permitted in the breed Bengal, therefore the actual cat needed to be registered in a FIFe Pedigree Book as **XSH nt 24**. The pedigree of the cat's ancestry should be respected, but of course - as already indicated on the pedigree - with correct FIFe EMS codes (SIA for SYS and SIA x bs 21 since silver is a non-recognised variety). Suggested is the code XSH (OSH) x nt 24 but we feel this should be **XSH nt 24**; to use "x"-varieties in XSH is a bit of an "overkill". Of course, if offspring of this cat would be bred with, goes through control class and is approved as OSH or SIA, the colour would still be **XSH nt 24** because charcoal was only recognised for BEN..

- b. The GS forwarded the question of FFH (CH) regarding the registration of a cat, imported from a German IDP club from lines with blue eyes and little white (09) (see item 6.1.b) to the BRC for a recommendation. The BRC discussed this matter and established that both the father and grandfather were blue eyed, non-white/spotted cats and in line with our rules, could not be registered as MCO nor used for breeding in FIFe. The BRC was of the opinion that the cat itself, as an offspring of an XLH also had to be registered as XLH with a breeding ban. The Board agreed with the BRC that the EMS codes of the blue eyed fully coloured or "09" ancestors had to be corrected/re-registered by FFH as **XLH *61**, in line with article 6.14 of the BRR but decided that the actual imported cat itself, could be registered as a MCO since she had an accepted eye colour, green. The FFH member imported this concrete cat and the EMS codes of the ancestors from where this cat was purchased, needed to be corrected in the FIFe pedigree book and, of course, be registered in RIEEX.

8.6 Health & Welfare Commission

- a. The HWC chairman asked permission to contact the PRC. The GS answered that permission was not needed for any commission to contact another commission and told her to go ahead.
- b. The HWC informed the Board that they received information on an animal welfare event that would take place in Brussels on January 29th, 2024. The HWC believed that given the current situation, where certain breeds (PER/EXO, SPH) were banned in different EU countries this event could be an excellent possibility to discuss the future of these breeds at EU level and they felt that FIFe should be officially represented there. The HWC suggested to send a member of the HWC and PRC and possibly a FIFe board member there to help with the discussion on feline welfare in the EU.
The Board discussed this matter and decided it would suffice to send Mrs. Sara Moroni, chairman of the HWC member to this event who could join forces with Mr. Joeri Vanrusselt who would be present for FBe.
- c. The chairman of the HWC sent an email and informed the Board that they discussed the need to come to an appropriate solution for hip dysplasia testing in MCO. Several options were suggested amongst other the creation of a FIFe reading centre, involving specialists worldwide thanks to our network, to become a new benchmark on this matter. The Board discussed this matter and suggested the HWC to contact the MCO BC in order to evaluate practical solutions for HD testing.

8.7 Disciplinary Commission

Nothing to report

8.8 Public Relations Commission

The PRC sent an email answering the request from the Board, sent on 02.11.2023. The PRC attached a RAW media plan and replied to several questions. Because the board received the answer from the PRC only a few days before the board meeting, there wasn't enough time to evaluate the answer in depth and the board decided to move this topic to the next board meeting.

9. Judges' Matters

9.1 General

- a. Mrs. Anna Wilczek informed the GS that she had not judged at the CCCA show in Canada on 17.09.2023, for which she had permission. She was now invited for a show in April 2024.
- b. Mr. Marino Koot, international category 2 and BG B judge from the Netherlands, informed the GS that he would like to resign as a FIFe judge, as of the 01.01.2024. He thanked FIFe for the many years of pleasant cooperation. The board respected Marino's decision, thanked him for his contribution of 23 years as a FIFe judge and wished him all the best for the future.

9.2 Permission to sit the FIFe Judges' Exam

- a. Mrs. Caroline Stoa (NO) to sit the exam in category 3, in Nedre Glomma (NO) on the 21.10.2023 in English with Mrs. Lone Lund (DK) and Mr. Vladimir Isakov (BY).
- b. Mr. Joeri Vanrusselt (BE) to sit the exam in category 2, in Beverwijk (NL) on the 11.11.2023 in English with Mrs. Caroline Stoa (NO) and Mrs. Donatella Mastrangelo (IT).
- c. Mrs. Arja Martikainen (FI) to sit the exam in category 2, in Turku (FI) on the 25.11.2023 in English with Mrs. Laura Scholten (NL) and Mrs. Dominika Halická (SK).
- d. Mrs. Christin Lütken (NO) to sit the exam in Breed Group A, in Stange (NO) on the 02.12.2023 in English with Mrs. Caroline Stoa and Mr. Geir Edvardsen (both NO).
- e. Mr. Jaroslav Pánek (CZ) to sit the exam in category 2, in Łódź (PL) on the 09.12.2023 in English with Mrs. Sona Ivanková (SK) and Mr. Henry Hornell (PL).
- f. Mr. Marcel Frank (NL) to sit the exam in category 3, in Henstedt-Ulzburg (DE) on the 16.12.2023 in English with Mr. Ad de Bruijn (NL) and Mr. Veikko Saarela (FI).
- g. Mrs. Katja Patrikainen (FI) to sit the exam in category 4, in Helsinki (FI) on the 27.01.2024 in English with Mrs. Anna Wilczek (PL) and Mrs. Sara Ojaniemi (FI).

9.2.1 Theoretical Part

Nothing to report

9.2.2 Practical Part

Mrs. Carin Sahlberg (FI) to sit the practical exam of Breed Group A in Hårlev (DK) on the 02.12.2023 in English with Mr. Mirosław Skotarczyk (PL) and Mr. Eric Reijers (CZ).

9.3 FIFe Judges' Examinations passed:

- a. Mrs. Ietje Röhr-Dubbeld (NL) passed the practical part of the BG A exam in Eskilstuna (SE) on the 02.09.2023 in English with Mr. Dietmar Sagurski (DE) and Mr. Mirek Skotarczyk (PL).
- b. Mrs. Magda Kudra (PL) passed the Breed Group D exam in Schiedam (NL) on the 09.09.2023 in English with Mrs. Pia Nyman (FI) and Mr. Vladimir Isakov (BY).
- c. Mrs. Belina Muicey (AR) passed the category 2 exam in Schiedam (NL) on the 09.09.2023 in English with Mr. Gerardo Fraga y Guzman (ES) and Mrs. Laura Scholten (NL).
- d. Mrs. Dorota Szadurska (PL) passed the category 1 exam, at a show in Warsaw (PL) on the 09.09.2023 in English with Mr. Sebastian Pruchniak and Mr. Henry Hornell (both PL).
- e. Bobby Funk (DE) passed the practical part of the BG D exam in Helsinki (FI) on the 16.09.2023 in English with Mrs. Pia Nyman and Mrs. Kristiina Rautio (both FI).
- f. Mrs. Sanna Hietala (FI) passed the category 1 exam, at a show in Riihimäki (FI) on the 21.10.2023 in English with Mrs. Jaana Jyrkinen (FI) and Mrs. Thea Friškovec-Keller (CH).
- g. Mrs. Caroline Stoa (NO) passed the category 3 exam, at a show in Nedre Glomma (NO) on the 21.10.2023 in English with Mr. Vladimir Isakov (BY) and Mrs. Lone Lund (DK).
- h. Mr. Joeri Vanrusselt (BE) passed the category 2 exam, at a show in Beverwijk (NL) on the 11.11.2023 in English with Mrs. Caroline Stoa (NO) and Mrs. Donatella Mastrangelo (IT).
- i. Mrs. Arja Martikainen (FI) passed the category 2 exam, at a show in Turku (FI) on the 25.11.2023 in English with Mrs. Laura Scholten (NL) and Mrs. Dominika Halická (SK).

9.4 Judges Appointments – 1st category

After passing the required stage at a show in Schiedam (NL) on 10.09.2023, Mrs. Ilona Senderek-Wójcik (PL) was appointed an International FIFe judge in category 3.

9.5 Judges Appointments – 2nd, 3rd and 4th categories

- a. After passing the Breed Group A exam at the show in Eskilstuna (SE) on the 02.09.2023, Mrs. Ietje Röhr-Dubbeld (NL) was appointed an international category 1 Judge.
- b. After passing the Breed Group A exam at the show in Schiedam (NL) on the 09.09.2023, Mrs. Magda Kudra (PL) was appointed an international category 4 and a FIFe All-Breed Judge.
- c. After passing the category 1 exam at the show in Warsaw (PL) on the 09.09.2023, Mrs. Dorota Szadurska (PL) was appointed an int. category 1 and a FIFe All-Breed Judge.
- d. After passing the category 1 exam at the show in Riihimäki (FI) on the 21.10.2023, Mrs. Sanna Hietala (FI) was appointed an international category 1 Judge.
- e. After passing the category 3 exam at the show in Nedre Glomma (NO) on the 21.10.2023, Mrs. Caroline Stoa (NO) was appointed an int. category 3 and a FIFe All-Breed Judge.
- f. After passing the category 2 exam at the show in Beverwijk (NL) on the 11.11.2023, Mr. Joeri Vanrusselt (BE) was appointed an international category 2 Judge.

- g. After passing the category 2 exam at the show in Turku (FI) on the 25.11.2023, Mrs. Arja Martikainen (FI) was appointed an international category 2 Judge.

9.6 Mentor Judge application

The following judge applied to be a mentor judge and sent the required application form:

- Mr. Jörgen Billing (DK) – category 2.

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

- Mrs. Janet Green (GB) – GCCF show in Doncaster (GB), 11.11.2023
- Mrs. Janet Green (GB) – GCCF show in Motherwell, Scotland (GB), 25.11.2023
- Mrs. Sarah Johnson (GB) – GCCF show in Glasgow, Scotland (GB), 25.11.2023
- Mrs. Dorte Kaae (DK) – GCCF show in Bracknell (GB), 09.12.202
- Mrs. Sarah Johnson (GB) – GCCF show in Bracknell (GB), 09.12.2023
- Mrs. Satu Hämäläinen (FI) – CFA show in San Genesio (IT), 21.01.2024
- Mrs. Satu Hämäläinen (FI) – CFA show in Hong Kong (CN), 28.01.2024
- Mrs. Sarah Johnson (GB) – GCCF show in Preston (GB), 23.03.2024
- Mrs. Anna Wilczek (PL) – CCCA show in Quebec (CA), 07.04.2023
- Mrs. Janet Green (GB) – GCCFI show in Dublin (IR), 14.04.2024
- Mr. Michael Edström (SE) – ACF National show in Clarendon (AU), 08+09.06.2024
- Mrs. Marina Vinkel (EE) – ACF show in Victoria (AU), 23.06.2024
- Mrs. Marina Vinkel (EE) – ACF show in Clarendon (AU), 29.06.2024

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

ANFI (IT) asked permission on behalf of one of their clubs, to invite Mr. Walter Baraldi, WCF All Breed judge from Italy to officiate a judge at a FIFe show in Pistoia in January. The Board discussed this request and decided not to grant permission because of the lack of respect shown by WCF regarding decisions made by FIFe. The Board would not grant permission to WCF judges officiating at FIFe shows nor would it grant permission to FIFe judges officiating at WCF shows and had done so since 2012. The GS informed ANFI about this decision.

10. Student Judges' matters

10.1 General

Nothing to report

10.2 Request for a preliminary student judges' examination:

- Mundikat (NL) for their member Mr. Siemen Overboom in category 2, on 22.11.2023 in Arnhem (NL) with Mrs. Nathalie Smits-Peelen and Mr. Marcel Frank (both NL).
- SK (FI) for their member Mrs. Josefiina Huhta-aho in category 2, on 09.12.2023 in Kempele (FI) with Mrs. Riikka Turpeinen and Mrs. Johanna Abgottspon (both FI).

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

- CPF (PT) that Mr João Carlos Serralheiro Jerónimo passed the prel. student judges' exam in category 3 on the 05.10.2023 in Lisbon (PT). Mr. Gerardo Fraga would be his mentor.
- ANFI (IT) that Mrs. Ingrid Dall'Ora passed the preliminary student judges' exam in category 3 on the 06.10.2023 in Siena (IT). Mr. Dietmar Sagurski would be her mentor.
- Mundikat (NL) that Mr. Siemen Overboom passed the preliminary student judges' exam in category 2 on the 22.11.2023 in Arnhem (NL). Mr. Jörgen Billing would be his mentor.

10.4 Notification of new student judges in an additional category or breed group:

- FRU (RU) to include Mrs. Elena Zagorskaya as a student judge in category 3.
- ASFE (ES) to include Mr. David Hernandez as a student judge in category 2.
- SK (FI) to include Mr. Harri Saari as a student judge in category 1.
- ANFI (IT) to include Mrs Ingrid Dall'Ora as a student judge in category 4.
- SK (FI) to include Mrs. Annukka Rintakumpu as a student judge in category 4.

11. Cattery Name Business

KKÖ (AT) requested an exception to article 5.2.2 of the BRR regarding the cattery name of a new individual member. The Board evaluated the request and decided to grant the exception. The CAN was informed.

12. General Assemblies

- a. Communication with the Pannonia Tower Hotel in Parndorf (AT), the venue for the 2024 GA, was ongoing. A revised contract was in the making regarding a reduction of rooms.
- b. ASFE (ES) sent a possible venue for a future GA, this would be discussed in more detail.

13. The FIFe website and social media

The Vice-Treasurer, Vice-President and Vice-Secretaries (VT,VP,VS) had several telephone conferences with the Finnish company, which would create the new website. The result was getting close to what was desired. The needed, planned training would take place in the near future. The "Vices" showed the current state of the new website, which was not only a visual delight but also very informative.

14. World Cat Congress

The WCC Treasurer indicated that to have a meeting on Bali, without a show (Bali was endemic for rabies) and where the WCC also had to organise a seminar, would financially not be viable and the WCC Board agreed. She informed WCF and they suggested to hold the meeting in Thailand instead.

15. FIFe Breed Councils

Nothing to report

16. GDPR – General Data Protection Regulation

FIFe follows the GDPR regulations with regard to the storage of personal data.

17. Membership change

Felikat (NL) invoked the assistance of the Board, as described in article 2.5.4 of the General Rules. In December 2022 they received two membership requests from members of Mundikat. Mundikat informed Felikat that these membership changes were blocked since Mundikat was in dispute with these breeders. We informed these applicants that until this dispute was settled, they could not be accepted as full members of Felikat.

In May 2023 Felikat was informed that Mundikat was still in dispute with these applicants and that they were not willing to let them change membership. Mundikat was not able to discuss the details, because lawyers were involved. Now we were approaching 2024 and both applicants are still waiting for an approval of their membership change. Felikat would like to settle this matter before January 1st, 2024, so they would know if they could be accepted as members. Felikat invoked article 2.5.4 of the GR and asked the Board for help. The GS would contact Mundikat asking for the reasons why these applicants could not change membership.

Mundikat stated that they had proof that these ladies had transgressed and violated the Mundikat and FIFe Statutes and Rules and a fine was imposed on them, which had not been paid. Besides, both sides were assisted by lawyers. Mundikat stated that if this matter would not be solved in a timely manner, they would request the board of FIFe to delete the cattery names of these ladies in line with article 5.2.6 of the BRR due to serious transgressions against the Rules of FIFe, the Rules of Mundikat and Dutch legislation and the health and welfare of cats.#

The Board felt that in this case, where lawyers were involved, they could not intervene; FIFe could not be involved. The GS informed Felikat.

18. Any Other Business

- a. The Board wished to remind all Members to inform their individual members about the contents of articles 2.2.1 and 2.2.2 regarding the living conditions of cats within or outside the domestic environment.
- b. The GS received an alleged CFCA (LV) pedigree from the CFA registrar, Mrs. Monique van Eijk. She had serious doubts about the authenticity of this pedigree because it included very strange names and a cattery, which could not be found on the FIFe cattery database on the website. She tried to contact CFCA but the email address was not working. The GS contacted CFA and they immediately confirmed this was a fake pedigree. They also explained having

problems with their website because the server had been hacked. Mrs. van Ewijck thanked FIFe and CFCA for their prompt response.

- c. The GS received a question from the WCF President, Mrs. Anneliese Hackmann. She had received information that FIFe once had a club in Russia called “ Felidae” and its president Mrs. Anna Romanovich. She asked the GS if he could tell her something about the club and the president. The GS answered that FIFe had no clubs, only Members and Felidae is (or was?) a club of the Russian FIFe Member Felis Russica. He stated to know the name of the president but explained that FIFe did not deal with clubs of its Members or their board members. He recommended her to contact the Russian Member, Felis Russica and informed her that she could find their details on the FIFe website members list.
- d. All Board members received extensive communication from an individual member from Luxemburg, describing a multitude of problems. The GS answered him that the Board could not accept correspondence from individual members.

19. Next Board meetings

- Saturday 20.01.2024 Vienna (AT)
- Saturday 06.04.2024 Vienna (AT)
- Tuesday 28.05.2024 Parndorf (AT), in connection with the GA
- Saturday 24.08.2024 Vienna (AT)
- Saturday 23.11.2024 Vienna (AT)

20. Close of the Meeting

The meeting closed at 19.45 hours

Annette Sjödin - President

Eric Reijers – General-Secretary