



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FIFE BOARD 03/24

28th May 2024 – Parndorf, 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 & Reg. Commission
- BRR – Breeding & Registration Rules
- DC – Disciplinary Commission
- FIFeF – FIFe Feline Fund
- GA - General Assembly
- GS – General-Secretary
- HWC – Health & Welfare Commission
- JSC – Judges & Standard Commission
- JR – Judges Rules
- PRC – Public Relations Commission
- SC – Show Commission
- SR – Show Rules
- SCA – Show Calendar Administrator
- VCM – Video Conference Meeting
- WCC – World Cat Congress

1. Opening of the Meeting

The Vice-President, Mr. Veikko Saarela, could not attend.
The President opened the meeting at 10.00 hours.

2. Approval of the Agenda

The Board approved the agenda for this meeting.

3. Approval of previous Minutes

The Minutes 02/24 and the Annex had been approved and were sent to the Members on 26.05.2024.

4. Matters arising from or omitted in previous Minutes

The Board discussed item 18.d of Minutes 05/23, regarding information received from an individual member from Luxemburg. This information should not have been included and would be deleted from the records. As stated in the item, “*correspondence from individual members could not be accepted.*”
The Board apologised to LCCFFL.

5. Financial

5.1 Members’ and Patronage Members’ Payments

The Treasurer presented a list of outstanding payments; there was nothing new to report.

5.2 Judges Exams

Two new judges’ exam applications were received.

5.3 Other Financial Matters

- a. The Financial report 2023 and the budget 2025, were sent to the Members by email.
- b. The Treasurer opened new sub-account for the FIFe Feline Fund (FIFeF). Unfortunately, until this day, no contributions had been made by the Members or individuals

6. Members' Matters

6.1 Correspondence

- a. Members informed the GS of the following changes: details listed on the FIFe website.
* FB (GB) – new email address president
- b. FD (DK) asked if both titles KCH and JCH should be listed in front of the name of the cat or only the JCH title. FD stated that a cat could have obtained the JCH title without having obtained the KCH title, which seems to indicate that both titles should be displayed. The GS replied that FD gave the answer itself. He pointed out that this question had already been asked by another Member which was recorded in Board Minutes 02/24, item 7.1.b.
- c. Bubaste (LT) sent an email, stating when looking at FIFe Facebook, only very few items were posted this year and that this FB site only had 6 000 followers and 3300 likes. They considered it important for Bubaste that the FIFe FB and social media would show more activity. They hoped that when the PRC was elected this would change, but the activity had not increased. The Board decided to forward this to the PRC (see item 8.8).
- d. NRR (NO) sent an email, also on behalf of FD (DK), SK (FI), KKI (IS) and SVERAK (SE) expressing their appreciation of the live streaming of the GA Judges Seminar. They felt this would create a sense of belonging and commitment for everyone. The GS answered that the technical possibilities for streaming of the GA would be available, but the Board first needed to define, the practicalities and seek agreement of a majority of the FIFe Members. The Board could not decide this by themselves and there was article 4.10 of the Statutes to consider. The Board felt it could not simply present a fait accompli to the delegates that they would be recorded, which would be available and for all to see in the public domain without prior information and agreement. The Board talked further about this and decided that the President would ask the GA at item 5, if they agreed with streaming as of item 21, proposals. A qualified majority was needed.

7. Show matters:

7.1 General

- a. KKM (MY) asked permission to hold a "fun" show on the 26th of May since they thought this to be the weekend when the GA was held. They also asked if they could use their student judge to present cats and breeds. The GS answered them that there was no problem to organise any kind of event on that weekend, "fun," regular national or international show, because the GA was held a week later. For this event, KKM could use whoever, also their student judge, no rules concerning that were in place.
- b. EKL-Felix (EE) had a question regarding qualifications for Winner Shows. They were aware that this year no qualifications were needed, but wondered if this was also the case for the preliminary breeds. The GS answered that the show rules were very clear about this; article 2.6.4 stated that "article 2.3 applies." Article 2.3 deals with qualifications but starts with the following: "Only cats of fully recognised breeds and their fully recognised varieties as well as house cats belonging to individual FIFe members may participate at the World Show." These same rules applied to Winner shows, which meant that preliminary recognised breeds could not participate or be judged at a Winner Show.
- c. The Vice-Treasurer sent a list of all shows that had taken place from January until April 2024, specifying how many certificates were issued. The total number was 191.
- d. ZFDS (SI) sent an email to GS, stating they granted an exception to one of their individual members, a breeder of SRL/SRS, to join the SRL/SRS Breed Council because he had not yet bred 5 litters, but only 4. They asked if they should do anything else. This email was copied to the breeder and the SRL/SRS BC Secretary. The GS replied that BC membership was not, in general, something that the Board dealt with and that for this purpose, FIFe had a Breed Council Administrator. He confirmed that the decision of ZFDS to grant the exception was in line with chapter 2 of the Breed Council rules and that there was nothing more for them to do. He informed ZFDS that the Board was not allowed to directly contact individual members of ZFDS or BC secretaries and therefore removed these recipients in his answer. The GS emphasized that the contact person regarding BC matters, was the BCA.
- e. ČSCH-SCHK (CZ) asked for an exception for a show in May. The number of cats entered was very low, 115 on Saturday and 108 on Sunday. In principle, the Board had no problems granting exceptions for a number of at least 120, but 115 and 108 were nearer to the number required for a National show (80). The Board advised ČSCH to do something about this and had several suggestions for ČSCH and their Show Commission. One suggestion is to instruct

your clubs to check the number of cats entered 3 or 4 weeks before the show. If they do not have at least 75 cats entered, we recommend your clubs to cancel the shows. We do realize that in Central Europe exhibitors enter cats very late but somehow this habit should be changed. The Board looked at the shows planned in the Czech Republic in May 2024 and felt that to have International Shows at 4 consecutive weekends was too much. This situation would be the same in the months August and September. The Board considered not granting exceptions to shows that were right between 2 other show weekends. The permission was granted and the club had, respectively, 139 and 137 cats entered in competition.

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

- a. FFH (CH) – shows in Dietikon, 20+21.04.2024, as International with less than 150 cats.
- b. FFF (FR) – shows in Saint Quentin, 27+28.04.2024, as International with less than 150 cats.
- c. 1.DEKZV e.V. (DE) – show in Butzbach, 28.04.2024, as International with less than 150 cats.
- d. FFF (FR) – shows in Ancenis, 04+05.05.2024, as International with less than 150 cats.
- e. FFF (FR) – shows in Surgeres, 11+12.05.2024, as Int. with less than 150 cats
- f. FFH (CH) – shows in Pratteln, 11+12.05.2024, as International with less than 150 cats.
- g. ČSCH (CZ) – shows in Chomutov, 11+12.05.2024, as International with less than 150 cats.
- h. FD (DK) – shows in Roskilde, 31.5+01+02.06.2024, as International with less than 150 cats.
- i. ČSCH (CZ) – show in Chrudim, 19.05.2024, as International with less than 150 cats.
- j. FPL (PL) – shows in Banino, 25+26.05.2024, as International with less than 150 cats.

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

FFB (BR) to have Mr. Carlos Lopez, TICA All Breed Judge from Argentina, officiating at the shows in São Paulo, on the 13+14.07.2024.

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

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

General

8.1 Statutes, Rules, Standards, EMS System and forms

Nothing to report

8.2 Seminars

Live streaming would be in place for the whole duration of the GA Judges Seminar.

8.3 Judges and Standards Commission

- a. The JSC asked the Vice-Secretary for assistance sending a link to a survey to all mentor judges and student judges in their first categories. They needed this input for a lecture, planned at the GA Judges Seminar.
- b. The JSC secretary sent minutes of their VCMs held on 12.02, 23.04 and 07.05.2024.

8.4 Show Commission

Nothing to report

8.5 Breeding & Registration Commission

- a. The BRC sent their recommendation regarding the question from FFH (CH) how to register an imported BSH a cat with blue eyes and if it was allowed to breed with this cat (see items 6.1.d and 8.5.b Minutes 02/24). The BRC stated that since their proposal to ban blue eyes in

solid-coloured cats was not accepted at the 2021 GA in Riga, this cat could be registered in FIFe. The eye colour was not a part of the EMS-code for solid or 03 British short and longhair cats. But the breed was only recognized with copper/yellow or green eyes, so blue eyes is a fault, and not according to the standard of BSH/BLH. The BRC was of the opinion that this cat should be registered as BSH x n 61 (if it was a black cat). The Board agreed with this recommendation and informed FFH accordingly.

- b. The GS forwarded an article about DBE (Dominant Blue eyes) to the BRC for information.

8.6 Health & Welfare Commission

- a. The HWC would like to inform the Board that our Secretary Mrs. Petra Cerna DVM will be actively participating in the working group on Cat Conformation, focused on brachycephalic cats, led by Dr Leslie Lyons, including representatives from some WCC Members. The HWC would like to involve the PER/EXO BC on this matter.
- b. The GS forwarded an article about DBE (Dominant Blue eyes) to the HWC for information

8.7 Disciplinary Commission

Nothing to report

8.8 Public Relations Commission

The GS sent the email of Bubaste (see item 6.1.c), to the PRC, asking them for their suggestions and follow up.

9. Judges' Matters

9.1 General

- a. Mrs. Brigita Guobe, International category 3 & 4 judge from Lithuania, asked the GS if she should give him her original cat. 3 student judges certificates or send them by post. The GS answered that he had these in a scanned format, which was in line with article 1.8 of the JR.
- b. Mrs. Anne Paloluoma, Int. FIFe judge categories 1,2,3 and BGC from Finland, and Mrs. Waltraut Sattler, Int. FIFe judge categories 1,2 and BGD from Germany, requested the GS to remove their indication as mentor judges from the judges lists.
- c. After 6 weeks, Mr. Kai Ruonala, International FIFe Allbreed judge from Finland, sent an answer to the complaint, lodged by the FIFe Member Suomen Kissaliitto (FI). SK complained about his appearance and actions, the alleged rough handling of cats, whilst judging. Mr. Ruonala did not recognise the bad description of his handling of cats and stated he always treated cats nicely and with kindness. Then he explained his choice of clothes, and a long description of his political views and perception of today's society. The Board discussed the answer and decided this was a matter of "word against word" and the Board decided not to take any action.

9.2 Permission to sit the FIFe Judges' Exam

- a. Mr. Alessio Schiavon (IT) to sit the exam in category 2, in Fåberg (NO) on the 27.07.2024 in English with Mr. Cristiano Sandon (IT) and Mrs. Satu Hämäläinen (FI).
- b. Mr. Rui Pacheco (IT) to sit the exam in category 4, in Hämeenlinna (FI) on the 07.09.2024 in English with Mr. Jörgen Billing (DK) and Mr. Marteinn Tausen (IS).

9.2.1 Theoretical Part

9.2.2 Practical Part

For the above items there was nothing to report

9.3 FIFe Judges' Examinations passed:

- a. Mrs. Susanna Piispanen (FI) passed the category 2 exam in Leppävirta (FI) on the 04.05.2024 in English with Mrs. Minna Krogh (DK) and Mrs. Anna Wilczek (PL).
- b. Mrs. Alena Opatrná (CZ) passed the category 4 exam in Prague (CZ) on the 04.05.2024 in English with Mrs. Petra Černá (US) and Mr. Fabio Brambilla (IT).

9.4 Judges Appointments – 1st category

Nothing to report

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

- a. After passing the category 2 exam at the show in Leppävirta (FI) on the 04.05.2024, Mrs. Susanna Piispanen (FI) was appointed an international FIFe category 2 Judge.
- b. After passing the category 4 exam at the show in Prague (CZ) on the 04.05.2024, Mrs. Alena Opatrná (CZ) was appointed an international FIFe category 4 Judge.

9.6 Mentor Judge application

Nothing to report

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

- a. Mrs. Satu Hämäläinen (FI) – CFA shows in Beijing (CN), 15+16.06.2024
- b. Mrs. Satu Hämäläinen (FI) – CFA shows in Hong Kong (CN), 03+04.08.2024
- c. Mrs. Sarah Johnson (GB) – GCCF show in Southampton (GB), 10.08.2024
- d. Mrs. Satu Hämäläinen (FI) – CFA show in Hong Kong (CN), 25.08.2024
- e. Mrs. Sarah Johnson (GB) – GCCF show in Maidstone (GB), 12.10.2024
- f. Mr. Gianfranco Mantovani (IT) – GCCF Supreme, in Stoneleigh Park (GB), 19.10.2024
- g. Mr. Gianfranco Mantovani (IT) – CFA show, in San Genesio ed Uniti (IT), 09.11.2024
- h. Mrs. Waltraut Sattler (DE) – IDP shows in Stuttgart (DE), 22, 23+24.11.2024
- i. Mrs. Satu Hämäläinen (FI) – CFA shows in Hanoi (VN), 30.11+01.12.2024
- j. Mrs. Sarah Johnson (GB) – GCCF show in Glasgow (GB), 30.11.2024
- k. Mrs. Sarah Johnson (GB) – GCCF show in Bracknell (GB), 14.12.2024
- l. Mr. Luigi Comorio (IT) – CFA shows in Padua (IT), 25+26.01.2025

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

Nothing to report

10.2 Request for a preliminary student judges' examination:

FPL (PL) for their member Mr. Jarosław Storoniak in category 4 on 30.06.2024 in Białystok (PL) with Mr. Sebastian Pruchniak and Mr. Ireneusz Pruchniak (both PL).

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

FPL (PL) that Mrs. Margaret Tomanek passed the preliminary student judges' exam in category 1 on the 13.04.2024 in Białystok. Mr. Sebastian Pruchniak would be her mentor.

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

- a. CFCA (LV) to include Mrs. Brigita Guobe as a student judge in categories 1 and 2.
- b. FPL (PL) to include Mrs. Margaret Tomanek as a student judge in category 2.
- c. FPL (PL) to include Mrs. Wioletta Buss as a student judge in categories 3 and 4.

11. Cattery Name Business

The Vice-Treasurer sent an overview of all cattery names granted to Members from January until April 2024; the total number was 593.

12. General Assemblies

- a. The Board discussed the fact that 4 Members, after checking the Agenda, saw matters they wished to change, add or correct in their proposals. Such changes could be made at the GA itself; Members should bring corrected copies to the GA and hand them out.
- b. The Board was preparing the set up and organisation of the GA in Parndorf. The GA venue for 2025 had not been fixed; information would be made available when this was decided.

13. The FIFe website and social media

The chairman of the HWC asked the Board for the possibility of having a dedicated section on FIFe website to develop contents on, ideally, a monthly basis, after consultation regarding communication strategies developed with PRC. The HWC felt that certain topics needed to be shared, like DBE, CORIN, updates on genetic tests and FIP research. They suggested a short meeting in Parndorf.

14. World Cat Congress

The President wrote a report on the 2024 WCC meeting held in Bangkok, organised by WCF. This report would be distributed at the GA.

15. FIFe Breed Councils

At the end of 2023, the TUV BC secretary resigned. Now, the BCA informed the GS that the only TUV BC member left, Mrs. Lovisa Karlsson, volunteered to be appointed TUV BC secretary. The Board agreed, and she was appointed until the next elections. This would be amended on the website list of Breed Councils.

16. GDPR – General Data Protection Regulation

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

17. Membership change

Nothing to report

18. Any Other Business

With reference to item 18 of the Minutes 02/24, the Board discussed this matter and decided, since a similar proposal was tabled by FFF at this GA, not to pursue this any further.

19. Next Board meetings

- Tuesday 20 and Thursday 22.08.2024, VCM
- Saturday 23.11.2024 Vienna (AT)
- January 2025, VCM

20. Close of the Meeting

The meeting closed at 16.00 hours

Annette Sjödin - President

Eric Reijers – General-Secretary