

## **OECD Meeting 22. September 2016**

Start at 19:30, End at 21:30

Gasthof zur Waldheimat, Familie Rothwangl, Hauptplatz 3, 8670 Krieglach

**Chairman: Fruzsina Wilhelm (Hungary)**

Counting Votes: Daniela Siskova (Czech Republic)

Minutes: Barbara Feldbauer (Germany)

### **Voting Participants**

- Austria:
  - Inez Dengerscherz
  - Tanja Weinmesser
- Belgium
  - Luc Daems
  - Greet Cools
- Czech Republic
  - Alena Balcarova
  - Petra Malia
- Finland
  - Minna Yrjana
- Germany
  - Dr. Uta Opel
  - Cora Czermak
- Hungary
  - Eszter Aczel
  - Nora Karlyik
- Italy
  - Lusy Imbergerova
  - Barbara Cristallini

- The Netherlands
  - Wies Koelewijn
- Switzerland
  - Claudia Moser
  - Marianne Rentsch
- Sweden
  - Kerstin Eklund
  - Frida Binette
- Slovakia
  - Alexandra Vavrova
  - Monika Krajcirova

**20 voting participants are at this meeting.**

Discussion about:

**1. The OEC and the FCI (2 proposals)**

a)

1) The team presented by the FCI kennel club should not have the priority over other teams submitted by other national institutions.

2) In case more teams are presented, the priority must be given to the team who qualified under the National Organization which meets the following requirements:

Organization or institutions that for more years, in that country, recognizes and promotes Dogdance and organizes international competitions;

It has played selections with a team of judges recognized internationally, with proven experience;

That the selection is open to each dog with and without any pedigree;

The team can choose freely from all tricks and heel work position, without any obligations;

It has been communicated the date of the qualifying race at least 6 months before.

(Proposed by Team Italy)

**Voting 1a1:**

***"The team presented by the FCI kennel club should not have the priority over other teams submitted by other national institutions."***

Results:

- Yes: 13
- No: 7
- Abstentions: 0

**Voting 1a2:**

***"In case more teams are presented, the priority must be given to the team who qualified under the National Organization which meets the following requirements:***

***Organization or institutions that for more years, in that country, recognizes and promotes Dogdance and organizes international competitions;***

***It has played selections with a team of judges recognized internationally, with proven experience;***

***That the selection is open to each dog with and without any pedigree."***

**(Italy canceled the last sentence of their proposal.)**

Results:

- Yes: 18
- No: 0
- Abstentions: 2

Discussion about:

**1b)**

Proposal to the OEC meeting 2016 in Krieglach, Austria

To my understanding the OEC was founded to organize an independent dog dance competition in Europe uninfluenced by FCI recognized Kennel Clubs.

Therefore the entry rules are in contradiction to this intention.

The FCI recognized Kennel Clubs will get 4 weeks to submit their entries from the opening date before entries are allowed for independent entries and those from HTM/Freestyle organizations.

If there are more than 4 entries + a reserve from one country, the FCI recognized Kennel Clubs' entries should be accepted before any others. If a Kennel Club does not wish to enter a team, the hosting country can decide which entries they wish to accept.

It is in order, to accept entries in team competitions as well as in individual competitions by FCI recognized Kennel Clubs, national dogdance organizations and individual starters.

However, there must be no advantage for FCI recognized Kennel Clubs as outlined in the entry rules, by giving a 4 week advance for entries.

Therefore I propose to delete all procedures without replacement which give advantage to FCI recognized Kennel Clubs versus all other participants.

(Proposed by Axel Weber on behalf of DogDance International)

**No voting about 1b, because it is accepted with proposal 1a.**

Discussion about:

## **2. Organization of the OEC in 2019**

(according to previous meetings: 2017, Belgium; 2018, Switzerland)

Italy offers its availability to organize the OEC 2019.

(proposed by Team Italy)

### **Voting 2:**

***"Italy offers its availability to organize the OEC 2019."***

Results:

- Yes: 20
- No: 0
- Abstentions: 0

**OEC 2017 in Belgium is 25.-27. August 2017**

**OEC 2018 in Switzerland, Thun, 12.-14. October 2018**

Discussion about:

### **3. Establishment of a committee board for the OEC**

I would like to suggest, that there is a committee board formed that has some decision power as well as being a representation outwards. At the moment the OEC-meeting has all deciding power, but it is also a very formless organization. And if we want to keep the OEC as an event in the future that is able to stand against FCI-World or maybe even European Championships I think it would be important, that the OEC gets more "official" too.

So having a board of maybe 5-6 people that will be responsible for collecting all necessary information about the OEC (rules, organization information, etc.) and forward and implement these with any future organizer. Also making sure that the rules are up to date and maybe work on getting a more detailed set of rules out (because I don't believe that we are ever getting any change or decision only with the meeting).

(proposed by Claudia Moser)

#### **Voting 3a:**

***"Do we need a committee board in the OEC?"***

Results:

- Yes: 18
- No: 0
- Abstentions: 2

#### **Voting 3b:**

***"Can the committee board be chosen from the organizer of the two past and the two following OEC or be nominated by them?"***

Results:

- Yes: 20
- No: 0
- Abstentions: 0

**Voting 3c:**

***"The committee board system will be in a trial for 2 years until 2018 and will be rediscussed in 2018."***

Results:

- Yes: 20
- No: 0
- Abstentions: 0

**It was proposed that the OEC committee could work for the OEC also when there is no season. Also they could provide the minutes, update the rules depending on the OEC meetings, have the database, be the contact point.**

**The exact configuration of their duties decides the OEC committee.**

**The decision making remains for the OEC meeting.**

Discussion about:

**4. Reform of judging at the OEC**

a) First I want to achieve, that the deductions are separated and shown clearly (barking, wrong amount Heelwork/Freestyle and maybe Health of dog).

Then secondly I wanted to suggest to work with more sub points. We could use my sheet as bases, although I am very happy to work or incorporate other ideas too if that would help.

(proposed by Claudia Moser)

**Voting 4a1:**

***"Do we want to see the deductions as they are in the rules to be shown on the judging-sheet?"***

Results:

- Yes: 20
- No: 0
- Abstentions: 0

**Voting 4a2:**

***"The deductions are separated and shown clearly - barking, wrong amount Heelwork/Freestyle and physical manipulation."***

Results:

- Yes: 18
- No: 0
- Abstentions: 2

**Voting 4a3:**

***"Do we want the deductions shown as general attitude with the judge describing what the deduction is for?"***

Results:

- Yes: 2
- No: 18
- Abstentions: 0

**Claudia Moser agreed that the second sentence of her proposal is decided with point 4b.**

Discussion about:

**4b**, In the past years the OEC has become one of the most influential and most important competitions in the HTM world. Competitors from all over the globe participate every year, and the number of participant countries shows a steady growth. In comparison, the judging system proves to be vague, with not enough guidelines for the judges to prepare for the events. In the rules, there is less than one and a half page for judges to figure out what to grade where, with notes including: „Any other items which may be relevant.“

The lack of control on judging at a big competition like the OEC can be disadvantageous first and foremost for the competitors. Although they might put together a great routine, it might happen, that because of the scoring system, they don't get a very good placement in the end.

More detailed explanation will be provided at the meeting. If there is anybody, who agrees in advance, please bring explanations, or possible solutions, so we can include that in the discussion.

(proposed by Team Hungary)

**Voting 4b1:**

**"Do we want a change in the judging system of the OEC?"**

Results:

- Yes: 15
- No: 0
- Abstentions: 5

**Voting 4b2:**

***"Judges from the OEC 2014 and 2016 will discuss the problem and will come up with options until 15. May 2017."***

Results:

- Yes: 18
- No: 2
- Abstentions: 0

Discussion about:

**5. Annulment of the following rule:**

„If 5 judges are used, the highest and lowest score of each routine will be discarded. The judges' points will be added, then divided by 3 – in other words the average points of the three judges will be the final score”

I believe that with the mentioned rule we discard the diversity that 5 judges from possibly five different countries can bring to the sport. The two points that can influence the results the most are taken out and with this, the competitors I believe don't get the full picture of their performance.

Also, it can happen, that while a judge in the judging team starts with a score of 6 on average, and another starts from a score of 8 on average, it might happen, that their points will not be considered during the whole competition – simply because they started with giving higher or lower points than the other judges.

I would like therefore to propose, that no points should be discarded, and all 5 judges' points should be added up, and divided by 5 – by this meaning that we take the average of all points, not excluding neither the highest, nor the lowest points.

(proposed by Team Hungary)



**Voting 5:**

***"Annulment of the following rule starting from 2018:***

***If 5 judges are used, the highest and lowest score of each routine will be discarded. The judges' points will be added, then divided by 3 – in other words the average points of the three judges will be the final score."***

Results:

- Yes: 15
- No: 4
- Abstentions: 1

This proposal was withdrawn by Luc Daems:

**6. Can the OEC be a 2 day event, if the organizer chooses to do so?**

Is it possible for the organizers to held the competition in 2 days instead of 3 when you work with 6 judges, 3 for the semi's and 3 others for the finals, and the next day vice versa?

The cost of such an event is already high, the hotel cost of the judges is for each judge one day more, the facility's are one day extra...

(Proposed by Luc Daems)

Discussion about:

**7. Food in the ring on training day**

Although this was agreed on at the OEC meeting in 2014, the result never got into the rules, so there is a need for another vote.

Food and toys should both be allowed in the ring during training on the day before the competition.

There are dogs that (1) don't play at all or (2) get overexcited when they are rewarded with a toy.

Our wonderful sports Dogdancing is directly linked to positive training. Positive training in the ring is the most important activity on a competition weekend. In order to achieve equal conditions it would only be fair to allow food during training as well, since we owe it to our dogs, that they can feel comfortable in the ring even if the whole situation is very exciting for them, as well as for us.

Dogs of type (1) will not be able to enjoy being in the ring without food, as they can't enjoy

playing with a toy. Dogs of type (2) might experience negative stress if they get overexcited by playing with a toy, which could be avoided by feeding the dog in the ring. Additionally, these dogs might injure themselves when getting too excited especially if carpets are slippery. We should also keep in mind, that training time is strictly limited (this year only 5 min per starter) and playing with the dog takes much longer than feeding the dog. We can practice more if we have the opportunity to feed the dog.

Of course, treats used in the ring should neither be creamy (liver sausage, cream from a tube) nor crumbly. Since this is critical to control, it should be up to the responsibility of each competitor to make use of appropriate treats.

Every dog competing on an international level should be able to ignore the smell of treats in the ring from the day before. Additionally, most dogs also compete at fun competitions or do shows at whatever locations where food is present, so that the smell of treats should not distract them severely.

After training the organizers should take care that the carpet is vacuumed appropriately. This procedure has been successfully performed at important competitions such as the German Open in Denkingen 2015 or the Stuttgart Nations Cup 2015.

(Proposed by Team Germany)

#### **Voting 7:**

***"Food and toys should both be allowed in the ring during training on the day before the competition."***

Results:

- Yes: 20
- No: 0
- Abstentions: 0

A proposal from Monika Fritz (Austria):

**8.** It would be helpful to have a organizer handout for the organizers of the OEC.

**It is up to the OEC committee to discuss this.**

A proposal from Luc Daems:

**9.** The scedual of the trainings day should be drawn with the same method as the startlist.

**Voting 9:**

***"The scedual of the trainings day should be drawn with the same method as the startlist."***

Results: The participants of Sweden were not longer there.

- Yes: 18
- No: 0
- Abstentions: 0