



# Minutes of the EE-meeting of the Bird section

Friday, 19<sup>th</sup> May 2023 in Sofia / Bulgaria

## Participants / Members present:

<b>Belgium:</b>	Jan van Looy, Jaek Aerts
<b>Germany:</b>	Sven Pukat (DKB), Winnie Pukat
<b>Netherland:</b>	Klaas Snijder (NBvV), Henk Jansen
<b>Austria:</b>	Dieter Hopfinger (RÖK), Gerhard Rad
<b>Hungary:</b>	Janaos Kanalas
<b>EE-Board-member:</b>	Eric Apperlo (Tierschutzbeirat) - zeitweise

## **Course of the conference**

1. Exactly 9:00 a.m. - Chairman Klaas Snijder welcomed everyone present.
2. Heinz Hochuli was remembered with a minute's silence. Our friend and longtime EE delegate from Switzerland who died suddenly in 2023.
3. The minutes of the last session were approved.
4. A draft of the planned reform of the Animal Welfare Act in Austria was presented by Dieter Hopfinger. A big topic of the conference was "overtyping".
5. Report from the Animal Welfare Advisory Board - Erik Apperlo (report attached separately) It was discussed extensively how the topic is currently being discussed in the Netherlands, Germany and Austria. Everyone present agreed that we, as bird lovers and animal rights activists, need to be much more self-confident in public. Sven Pukat reports that a letter from the DKB (Norbert Schramm) to the TVT has meanwhile been answered by the TVT and that we as a bird breeders' association have gained some positive insights. We must succeed in establishing specialists from our ranks as "recognized experts". A possible instrument is the publication of species and breed descriptions as well as personalities in Wikipedia. Norbert Schramm, who has a Wikipedia entry as an ornithologist and specialist book author, was named as an example here. The meeting suggested that other EE personalities should have their own entries on Wikipedia.
6. The topic of expansion to other member countries - A main argument for membership in the EE is and remains the active animal welfare advisory board. Only together can we overcome the upcoming challenges.  
A policy paper needs to be developed in which additional membership benefits can be listed specifically in the bird section. This paper can then be translated into different languages. At the next COM World Show, you can then address the delegations of the



countries specifically about EE membership. A corresponding paper would have to be prepared by Klaas and Jan.

7. Report of the Presidium meeting - Klaas Snijder reported shortly before the presidency meeting:

- Croatia would like to become a member, but as always there are still some problems between the different Balkan countries.
- European show in the Czech Republic only for rabbits and caviars. The reason for this is the incalculable risk of bird flu.
- The aim is to modernize the WEB site. Klaas Snijder will oversee the project for the board.

8. The standard commission has been reshuffled. Henk Jansen becomes chairman, Gerhard Rad becomes deputy chairman. Both were unanimously elected by those present with a show of hands and names the election.

9. Gion Gross and Jeannine Jehl briefly attended the conference and Gion wished everyone a good time. On this occasion he was commissioned by the Birds section to add further personalities to Wikipedia. We are the experts in our fields, and this must also be made public in the future. At the end of his visit, Gion Gross took the obligatory group photo.

10. The 2023 European show of the Birds section in Austria has to be canceled due to bird flu. As before, no exhibitions are possible anywhere in Austria. This makes medium and long-term planning impossible. Another breed-related European show for 3 "breeds" Catherine parakeets, colors WS and conformation canaries takes place in the Netherlands. The date is 3-5/11/2023 at Party Centrum Renise, Grotestraat 267, Drunen. The wish came from the meeting to expand the show to include other bird species and, if possible, to cover the entire bird category. Henk Jansen will check that in the coming weeks. The exact regulations will be announced in good time (end of June). The use of the judges was also discussed. According to the rules of the EE, judges are invited per 200 birds / country / otherwise PR from NL are planned.

11. From Austria, the question of the COM standard for exotic animals and parakeets was raised and extensively discussed. Is there a COM standard and if so where is it published. Klaas then consulted the COM Vice President and was informed that the standards are still being worked on.

12. These previously mentioned problems made it necessary for the Standard Commission of the Birds Division to meet at an extraordinary meeting. It is planned to hold a meeting of the standards commission, at which further agreements will be made, for the evaluation of breed-related EE shows. Proposal: Creation of a bug finder for exclusion reasons. A separate set of rules for the EE evaluation is also to be created. €500 per year for the standard commission is available. Sven Pukat offered as a possible meeting.



13. There will be a Dutch championship as part of a small animal show "Nordschau" on the 2nd weekend in January 2024. Belgium will have the federal championship on the 3rd weekend in December on 16-17 December 2023 and the German championship will also take place on 16-17 December 2023. 2023 in Bad Salzufflen.

14. A new election of the board has taken place. At Klaas Snijder's request, the positions of "Vice President" and "Secretary" were swapped. The reason for this is that Sven Pukat, as a German, is better able to conduct correspondence in German. The meeting unanimously approved the appointment. Jan van Loy is now the Vice President and Sven Pukat is the Secretary of the Birds Division.

15. A list should be drawn up with the active EE judges and further regulations regarding the appointment of judges. From each member country, 4-5 experienced and well-versed PR should first be proposed, who, in addition to their professional qualifications, are above all loyal to the EE. Those present do not currently consider an extra "EE judges' training course to be necessary.

16. It was also suggested that an up-to-date list of members of the Birds Section should be attached to the annual minutes. Communication outside of the conferences must also be improved and intensified. The EE WhatsApp group has also been updated again.

At around 4:00 p.m., Klaas Snijder closed the conference and thanked all participants for the lively discussions.