

Europäischer Verband für Geflügel-, Tauben-, Vogel-, Kaninchen- und Caviazucht European Association of Poultry, Pigeon, Cage Bird, Rabbit and Cavy Breeders Association Européenne pour l'Elevage de Volailles, de Pigeons, d'Oiseaux, de Lapins et de Cobayes

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# **Regulations of the EE Poultry section**

# A. Regulations of the Poultry section

- 1. The Board of the section shall consist of the president, the vice-president and the secretary. They are elected for 3 years. Re-election is possible. The elections take place alternately in the order: president, secretary, vice-president.
- 2. The section determines its own regulations for the standard commission, the Europe standard, the judges' training courses, the judging system and the EE judges.
- 3. The Poultry section is responsible for poultry and ornamental fowl. The term ornamental fowl means galliform birds (*Galliformes*), ornamental water fowl (*Anseriformes*) and doves (*Columbiformes*).
- 4. The board may, if necessary, install one or more non-permanent, technical working group(s) for specific tasks. These working groups advise the standard commission or the board and do not make any decisions on their own.
- 5. The board is responsible for the allocation of the judges at the Europe Show and can, in addition to the judges announced by the member countries, invite additional judges to the Europe Show, irrespective of their country of origin, on condition that they are EE judges or specialists.
- 6. The board has the possibility to launch new initiatives to promote poultry or poultry breeding in Europe.
- 7. These regulations can only be amended in the future if the proposed amendments are submitted to the delegates 2 months before the assembly of the section.

# **B. European Standard Commission Poultry (ESC-P)**

### § 1. Organisation

- 1. The EE standard commission poultry, hereinafter referred to as ESC-P, is a permanent, specialist commission of the poultry section. It works freely within the framework of the tasks assigned to it and has full authority.
- 2. The ESC-P consists of at least 9 and a maximum of 10 members. It is composed as follows:
  - a. The chairman (president), he must be a judge and will automatically become vicepresident of the poultry section. He is re-elected every 3rd year.
  - b. The deputy chairman: if the president of the section is also a judge, he will automatically become the deputy chairman of the ESC-P and has the right to vote. If the president of the section is not a judge, the ESC-P shall elect one of its members as deputy chairman. In any case, the deputy chairman has only one vote.
  - c. The secretary : the ESC-P itself chooses one of its members to be the secretary. For organizational reasons an external secretary can be called. A secretary who is not a member may participate in the discussions within the ESC-P but has no voting rights.



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- d. A representative of the Zucht- und Anerkennungsausschuss of the BDRG (BZA).
- e. One representative from the following 7 European regions:
  - Southwest : E-F-I
  - West : B-GB-NL
  - Middle : A-CH-L
  - North : DK-FIN-N-S
  - East : CZ-LT-PL-RUS-SK
  - Southeast : BG-H-RO-TR
  - Balkan : BiH-HR-SLO-SRB
- 3. Membership: The regions and the BZA determine their representatives themselves. The confirmation is made by the general assembly of the section. Membership in the ESC-P requires an active, proven judging activity and, if possible, a membership in the standard commission in the home country. Only countries that have signed and respected the EE standard contract can represent their region in ESC-P. Members of ESC-P are elected for 3 years, re-election is possible. Proposals for election must be submitted to the president of the poultry section by December 31<sup>st</sup>. Candidates must speak at least one of the three official EE languages.
- 4. The ESC-P may install a temporary function without voting rights for special tasks.
- 5. The ESC-P meets three times a year. It is convened by the chairman of ESC-P. An ESC-P meeting may also be convened by the majority of its members.
- 6. Votes are open and by simple majority. In case of a tie, the chairman is responsible for the casting vote.
- 7. Expenses of ESC-P members are settled according to the current decision of the section.

#### § 2. Mission of the ESC-P

- 1. The ESC-P has the task of creating a "Europe standard" for poultry (see point C.)
- 2. Support the efforts of the members to create uniform judging systems for ornamental fowl.
- 3. Support the countries in their efforts to implement or apply the European judging system taking in account of country-specific characteristics.
- 4. Recognition of the new breeds, colors and breed characteristics introduced by the countries.
- 5. Update the "European Breeds and Colours" list.
- 6. Update the "Rare Breeds" list.
- 7. Promotion and support for research in the field of breed breeding.

#### § 3. Working procedures

- 1. The invitation to the ESC-P meeting shall be sent at least 3 weeks prior to the specified date.
- 2. The agenda and documents for the meetings are sent to each member of the ESC-P with the invitation.
- 3. Items for the agenda of the ESC-P meetings may be submitted by each country to the chairman of ESC-P until February 1<sup>st</sup> or August 1<sup>st</sup>.
- 4. In the countries newly recognized breeds and / or colours shall be submitted to the chairman of the ESC-P by February 1<sup>st</sup>. He will pass them on to the members of ESC-P.



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- 5. Requests relating to standard amendments relating to changes in breed characteristics and colour descriptions may be submitted to the chairman of the ESC-P with detailed reasons before February 1<sup>st</sup>. The same applies to applications for the recognition of new breeds. He will pass them on to the members of ESC-P.
- 6. The ESC-P shall discuss and decide on the subjects, recognitions and standard amendments submitted. It confirms it, rejects it or, for further clarification, returns it to the country concerned (applicant) at short notice. After clarification by the applicant, the applicant may submit the application again to the president of the section. Rejection and reapplication must be made within 6 weeks.
- 7. The decisions of ESC-P shall be recorded in the minutes. The protocol must be available to each ESC-P member for approval at the latest three weeks after the meetings. It is then published on the homepage of the poultry section, at the latest 4 weeks after the meetings.
- 8. The correspondence between the ESC-P and the member countries, as well as the documents for the meetings must be in German, English or French.
- 9. In order to make decisions about breeds, colours, and breed characteristics, applications must be adequately documented with pictures.
- 10. On the occasion of the annual meeting of the section, the chairman of ESC-P shall submit an account of the activities of the ESC-P and communicate its decisions.
- 11. The ESC-P reports to the member countries at least annually about its activities with an ESC-P newsletter.

# **C. European Poultry Standards**

### § 1. Definition of the European Poultry Standards (EE-Standard)

- 1. The EE standard of the poultry section is the database of all standards approved by ESC-P as the EE standard. This database contains all EE standards in the 3 official EE languages.
- 2. The standards approved by the ESC-P as EE standard provisionally form the EE standard together with the "European Breeds and colours List Poultry" (EBL-P). In medium to long term, all breeds and colours, which are included in the EBL-P, are to be included in the database as an actual EE standard.
- 3. The EBL-P shall include, in the language of the member countries, all breeds and colours recognized in this country. The list is updated annually. The countries themselves are responsible for this.
- 4. For the acceptance of new breeds and / or colours apply specific criteria (see § 3.)

### § 2. Scope

1. The EE poultry standard covers all breeds of the following species: turkeys, guinea fowl, quail, geese, ducks, chickens (large and bantams).



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- 2. The member countries may themselves decide whether or not to participate in the Europe standard. The participation is confirmed by the signature of the EE standard contract by the president of the association. The signing means that the member country is obliged to work actively on the development of the EE standard and to introduce all approved EE standards of the breeds recognized in the member states as soon as possible but at the latest after 5 years.
- 3. The EE standard is applied to all exhibitions of the member countries which have signed the EE standard contract. In addition, it is applied to all Europe Shows and Breed-Specific Europe Shows, regardless of where they take place.

#### § 3. Acceptance of new breeds and colours in the EBL-P

- Each member country may recognize new colours in any breed accepted in the EBL-P if there are no substantiated objections from the country of origin or is incompatible with earlier decisions of ESC-P. Newly recognized colours will be reported to the ESC-P chairman by February 1<sup>st</sup>. If there is a colour that has not yet been included in the EBL-P for this breed, colour photographs of both sexes must be submitted, otherwise no recording will take place. The ESC-P can reject proposed new colours.
- 2. New European breeds must first be included in the EBL-P before they can be recognized by other countries. After being recognized in their home country, they have to be presented at a general Europe Show where they are evaluated by ESC-P members. Those countries which cannot participate at Europe shows for veterinary reasons but still want to present their breeds for acceptance, can present them on their own national show in one of the years between two Europe shows. They have to invite at least two members of the ESC-P for this purpose. All the other rules apply just the same as for presentations at the Europe show.
  - a. For this purpose, the standard of the country of origin, with colour photographs of both sexes, incl. the history of the breed, must be submitted to the ESC-P by July 1<sup>st</sup>. The ESC-P checks the text whether the way of describing fits the current criteria and that no contradictions are hidden in it. Otherwise it goes back for revision.
  - b. New breeds must be distinguished from existing breeds in at least 3 breed characteristics, otherwise there is no chance of acceptance.
  - c. For the presentation, at least 1,1 old and 2,2 young birds must be shown in only one colour. A maximum of 8 birds per breed may be presented.
  - d. The new breed must show itself as a homogeneous group, in form, appearance, breed characteristics, feather structure, comb, eye colour, leg colour etc.
  - e. Strong deviations from the standard description and disqualification defects have a negative effect on the assessment.
  - f. Exaggerated breeds characteristics, which are in conflict with aspects of animal welfare, have no chance of being accepted.
  - g. The ESC-P decides on the acceptance in the EBL-P. The decision is motivated. There is no objection possible. Once the criteria for the refusal have been fulfilled, there is another possibility to repeat the presentation on a next general Europe Show.
  - h. If the breed is recognized by the ESC-P, additional colours can be added independently.



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- 3. Non-European breeds will be reported to the ESC-P chairman before September 1st (before the first presentation). At the same time a draft standard and colour photos of both sexes are to be handed over. The ESC-P checks them and determines the EE standard. This will be used for the evaluation procedure. If the presentation is positive, the ESC-P can decide to include the breed in the EBL-P.
- 4. For colours which are not yet listed in the EBL-P, the same procedure as in point 3.3. is to be followed.
- 5. Existing breeds are not accepted with new characteristics or feather structures.
- 6. Breeds and colours in an approval procedure must be reported to the ESC-P by September 1st. The draft standard and pictures will be submitted for new European breeds. The ESC-P shall review the applications. Examination criteria are in particular: aspects of ethics, aspects of animal welfare, differences from existing breeds and colours, aspects of respecting the country of origin.

#### § 4. Working procedures

- Standards are submitted and verified by the ESC-P. The ESC-P approves or makes suggestions for improvement, clarification or completion. These proposals go back to the standard commission of the home country (ESC-P decides for international breeds). This commission accepts or makes counter-proposals. Only when the text has been agreed and accepted by both commissions (ESC-P and home country) the standard is approved as an EE standard.
- 2. After the approval a copy shall be signed by the chairman of the ESC-P and the president of the poultry section as well as the presidents of the federation and the standard commission of the country of origin. A digital copy will also be kept: always in German, French and in the home language. Other languages can also be submitted digitally. This digital database will be kept by the chairmen of the ESC-P and the section. Each member country can get a copy.
- 3. After approval as an EE standard, the standard can no longer be changed by the home country alone. Requests to amend must always be submitted to the ESC-P chairman by February 1<sup>st</sup>. Not only the country of origin but each member country can make amendments for each breed and colour on the EBL-P. The ESC-P reviews the amendments and makes a decision, when it concerns a European breed, always together with the country of origin. Without approval of the country of origin the amendment will not be accepted.

### § 5. Rare breeds

- 1. Rare breeds within the meaning of the EE Show Regulations are all those who are rare within the EE and at least 50 years old.
- 2. Rare breeds are listed in a corresponding list which is held by the ESC-P. The list is updated every three years (in the year of the Europe Show).
- 3. Rare breeds should be encouraged across countries with additional measures.



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# **D. EE-Judges**

- 1. Each year, the board publishes an updated list of EE Judges. The list contains the name, address, telephone number, mail address and nationality of the judges. The updated list will be published after the international judges' meeting in September, where the titles and badges will be awarded.
- 2. "EE-Judge" means that the judge has been internationally active in the past 10 years, among others at Europe Shows and was partly educated by the EE.
- 3. The title of the EE poultry judge is obtained if at least 10 points have been obtained in the last 10 years, of which minimum 6 from the participations in EE judges conferences and at least 2 from the activity as a judge on a general Europe Show. The points will be awarded as follows: participation in the EE judges training (3), judging on a general Europe Show (2), judging on a breed-specific Europe Show (1).
- 4. If the conditions at the moment of updating the list are no longer fulfilled, or if the judge has not participated in an EE judges training for five years, the respective judge will be removed from the list. (He cannot wear the badge any longer).
- 5. EE judges who are no longer internationally active, but who have done much for international poultry breeding during their active careers, can be appointed by the board of the section "EE Honorary Poultry judge". They may carry the EE badge.
- 6. In exceptional cases, the board may deviate from these conditions and award the EE judges title to a judge who has been devoted to poultry breeding on a European level within the last 10 years but in spite of this was not able to meet the requirements for the title.

### Footnotes:

- In the present regulations, both men and women are meant when naming persons.
- In the case of interpretation difficulties in the French and English versions, the German version of the regulations always applies.

This regulations were approved of at the general assembly of the poultry section of May 26<sup>th</sup> 2017 in Eger (Hungary) and will enter into force immediately. Modified May 31<sup>st</sup> 2019 in Trogir (Croatia).

Chairman

Secretary

Andy Verelst

Klaas van der Hoek