



Minutes of the International Dobermann Club (IDC) Congress held on Friday, 2nd September, 2005 in Bratislava, Slovakia

1.1. Welcoming by the President – Mr. Hans Wiblishauser

Mr. Wiblishauser officially opened the Congress at 10h30 and welcomed all countries represented. He thanked the Dobermann Club of Slovakia and in particular their President, Mrs. Gabriela Ridarcikova for hosting the IDC Congress and the Show, combining hospitality, friendly organisation and competence.

1.2. IDC Office Bearers

President	-	Mr. H. Wiblishauser (Germany)
Vice President	-	Mr. F. Striby (France) (Not Present)
Secretary	-	Mr. H. Redtenbacher (South Africa)
Treasurer	-	Mr. R. Beunekens (Belgium) (Not Present)
IDC Breed Warden	-	Mr. W. Hensel (Germany)
IDC Working Trials Warden	-	Mr. R. Friedrich (Germany) (Not Present)

2.0. Countries represented and eligible to vote

The following countries were represented:

• Austria	-	Erwin Deutscher
• Check Republic I	-	Jana Ruzickova
• Check Republic II	-	Jaroslava Sykorova
• Denmark	-	Allan Berling Christensen
• Finland	-	Hannu Asumaa
• Germany	-	Hans Wiblishauser
• Greece	-	
• Holland	-	Han van der Zwan
• Hungary	-	Tamas Dohoczki
• Italy	-	Pierluigi Pezzano
• Norway	-	
• Poland	-	
• Slovakia	-	Wolfgang Freyer
• South Africa	-	Helmut Redtenbacher
• Spain	-	
• Sweden	-	Thord Byström
• USA II (ADA)	-	Roberto Zorzi

3.0. Apologies

Apologies were received from the following countries:

- Portugal
- Switzerland

4.0. Minutes from the 2004 Congress held in Desio, Italy

The minutes from the previous IDC Congress held on 3rd September, 2004 in Italy were made available to all member countries before the Congress and were unanimously adopted.

5.0. Secretarial Office

- 5.1. **Email Addresses:** The Secretary re-iterated his previous appeals for informing the Secretarial Office about changes to the email addresses, particularly of persons representing their country in IDC.
- 5.2. **Distribution of Minutes:** The minutes were distributed to all Member Countries for which correct email addresses were on record.
- 5.3. **Membership Forms:** Despite repeated appeals there are still delegates who do not register their attendance with the Secretarial Office.

6.0. Finance

- 6.1. The IDC Treasurer, Mr. R. Beunekens, was unable to attend the meeting on account of health reasons and Mrs. Lisa Druse of Sweden kindly offered to handle the finances at the Congress (Mrs. Druse and Mr. Thord Byström were going to visit Mr. Beunekens after the IDC weekend and would hand over the financial records to Mr. Beunekens.)
At the time of the meeting, the balance of our funds held in Belgium was EUR 14 014.84. No report was available of our balance in the Lichtenstein account.
- 6.2. There were no membership contributions in arrears for the year 2004 and only a few for the year 2005 according to information from Mr. Beunekens.

7.0. IDC Membership

7.1. APPLICATIONS

- 7.1.1. The Great Britain Dobermann Club made application for IDC membership but at the commencement of the Congress no representative was present and the application was deferred to 2006. A Mr. Wood did arrive late but as the matter had already been dealt with in his absence, it could not be re-discussed.
- 7.1.2. The Dobermann Club of Serbia & Montenegro was unanimously accepted into the IDC.
- 7.1.3. A written application for IDC membership was received from the Azteca Dobermann Club in Mexico and although there was no representative at the Congress, the Club was accepted as a member of the IDC.
- 7.1.4. Iceland submitted a preliminary application for membership which was received favourably.

7.2. RE-INSTATED MEMBERSHIPS

The Dobermann Club of Greece was re-instated and welcomed back into the IDC.

7.3. TERMINATIONS OF MEMBERSHIP

There were no terminations of membership.

7.4. RESIGNATIONS

There were no resignations.

8.0. Annual Report by the IDC President – Mr. Hans Wiblishauser

The following is an extract from Mr. Wiblishauser's report and highlights the main aspects of his address:

In the year under review, Mr. Wiblishauser referred to the very successful IDC weekend in Desio and the IDC World Championships in Munich. With 52 participants in Munich, forming part of 15 teams from 13 countries, and despite some difficulties, very good results were achieved and we don't have to be ashamed at all by comparison with similar events of other World Unions of Working Breeds.

The purpose of the annual IDC Congress should be to highlight Breed specific problems and to find adequate solutions to ensure a positive future for our dogs. As I have indicated previously, one of our aims was the increased integration into the FCI of the World Unions of the Working Breeds and since the establishment of the IDC it has been one of the declared goals, to achieve Worldwide recognition and acceptance. With the participation of the VDH and the WUSV and the IDC, a co-operation agreement with the FCI was signed on 2nd June, 2005, at the Euro Dogshow in Tulln, Austria.

Within the framework of this agreement it is the intention of the parties to realise the following aims:

- 1. The implementation and maintenance of the worldwide sphere of validity for the FCI Standards for the Breeds fostered by this World Association in compliance with the standard requirements of the country of origin of the Breed;*
- 2. Worldwide guarantees for the maintenance of the character and working attributes as demanded in the Breed Standards;*
- 3. Worldwide maintenance of the working ability;*
- 4. Worldwide guarantees for the maintenance of the health aspects of the Breed;*
- 5. Co-operation in fundamental cynological issues, particularly in those which are of national or international political importance;*
- 6. If necessary, to formulate the aforementioned aims in an additional Breed Specific agreement with detailed regulations.*

As President of the DV and the IDC, I am proud that this agreement has become a reality. Furthermore, the implementation of the German ZTP in many Member Countries is highly satisfactory and by means of this co-operation agreement, it is now possible to convince your Umbrella Bodies of the necessity thereof. Please keep in mind that on the part of the country of origin of our Breed, everything possible is being done to support all IDC member countries and to secure your right of participation in the decision making process.

9.0. Annual Report by the IDC Breed Warden – Mr. Walter Hensel

The IDC Breed Warden, Mr. Hensel presented his annual report in the form of a paper and dealt with the following main aspects:

- 1. The ZTP, with the possibility of a ‘Starter ZTP’, continues to be well received by all IDC Member Countries. However, only with the submission and the proper registration of the required documentation can a later recognition by the progeny of such dogs for a regular ZTP be assured.*
- 2. According to a decision at the 2005 AGM, the Dobermann Verein (DV e.V.) will institute a heart assessment programme provisionally for a 2 year period for Dilated Cardiomyopathy (DCM). Thereafter all dogs newly introduced for Breed purposes must be assessed accordingly. Naturally, we have to demand the same from sires from foreign countries. There seems to be valid reason for concern if one looks at the alarming statistics which are being published in America.*
- 3. The molecular genetic research into the gene mutation which causes the ‘blue’ and ‘isabella’ colour in the Dobermann and the German Pinscher found little response but I nevertheless refer once again to my information in this regard to the previous year.*
- 4. The results of the HD assessments and the eye assessments continue to be very satisfactory and I refer you to my 2003 report on the matter.*

With regard to tail anomalies I will address the matter during the respective proposal from Denmark. I will gladly answer any further questions you may have.

10.0. Annual Report by the IDC Working Trials Warden – Mr. Rainer Friedrich

The IDC Working Trials Warden, Mr. Friedrich was unable to attend the Congress and the IDC President asked the Secretary to read out his report.

In his report Mr. Friedrich referred to the overwhelming success of the 10th IDC World Championships held in Munich and to the ever increasing interest in this particular event and we are

reaching a participation level which is putting strain on the time frame of two days. Particularly satisfying was the fact that the various top placings were spread over many nations. The standard of performance has become more uniform and such a development is most desirable. World Champion in 2005 was Ludek Silhavy from the Czech Republic with *Cara's Red Sasha*. Second Place went to Freddy Sermant from Belgium with *Zatan vom Schloss Lupus* and third place went to Markus Maimer from Germany with *Ashanti di Casa Shirak*. The team event was won by the Italian team. However, something that always presents us with problems is the tracking and in this regard Munich was no exception. It is becoming increasingly difficult to locate suitable tracking terrain for all participants at this time of the year.

Finally, let me refer to the question of nationality of the participants because this is an ever recurring problem – according to FCI regulations, two variants are possible:

1. According to citizenship;
2. According to permanent residence.

Naturally, the participant must be a member of that country's organisation from which he is entered. Until now we have linked participation to the citizenship (nationality). The FCI, however, permits both variants and my proposal would be that this should also be the case for our World Championships.

11.0. Proposals

- 11.1. Check Republic II:** The proposal for a different modus of appointing judges for the IDC World Championships was declined with 1 abstention and only 1 vote in favour of the proposed new system. The risk of not assuring the quality of the judges panel was just too great. The increased interest in the IDC World Championships is proof of the correctness of the existing selection procedures.
- 11.2. South Africa:** Mr. Wiblishauser referred to inconsistencies in the existing English translation of the FCI Breed Standard and informed the Congress that a revision is being worked on.
- 11.3. Denmark:** Regarding a proposed amendment to the Dobermann Breed Standard to allow for the inclusion of the naturally occurring 'Bobtail', Mr. Hensel informed the Congress as follows by quoting Dr. Telhelm of the Giessen University: "*Kinked tails and 'bobtails' occur as a result of spinal vertebrae deformations and the consequence of a Breed Policy which includes missing vertebrae is likely to lead to an increase in the deformation of other vertebrae such as the thoracic with considerable health implications. A change in the Breed Standard which leads to health problems can under no circumstances be considered.*" Mr. Hensel proposes to submit the question to the FCI Scientific Commission.
- 11.4. Holland:** The proposal from Holland to include the requirement of a character assessment for the award of all 'Sieger titles' was accepted unanimously, as 'cropped and docked' IDC Sieger dogs could no longer be exhibited at the DV-Sieger and Bundessieger Shows. Consequently the IDC Sieger titles gained in image and in increased Breed usage. Under the circumstances it would be irresponsible to distribute these titles randomly and without character assessment. For 2006 a character assessment would be available before the IDC Show for potential Sieger dogs without a ZTP qualification (all dogs submitted must be in possession of acceptable HD assessments). From 2007 onwards IDC Sieger dogs must have passed a proper ZTP or Starter ZTP. This requirement does not apply to the 'Junior Sieger titles'.
- 11.5. USA II (ADA):** The Congress took cognisance of a proposal for an 'IDC Universal Sieger Champion title'. To be discussed at the 2007 Congress in further detail.
- 11.6. Greece:** 'Starter ZTP' raised for information purposes only.
- 11.7. Belgium:** Belgium questioned the pricing structure for Show entries and other facilities levied by the hosting Clubs. On behalf of the host country, Mr. Freyer explained that the extremely high levies are in part as a result of late entries and further informed the Congress that the hosting Club had no jurisdiction over the entry and parking levies at the show grounds. Mr. Wiblishauser in principle supported Mr. Freyer's explanation, however, he pleaded for the maintenance of the present levels of entry fees.

12.0. Venues for future IDC Events

The following venues have been approved by the Congress and where indicated dates are also confirmed:

- IDC Congress & Show 2006 – Hosted by Dobermann Club of Hungary
- IDC World Championship 2006 – Hosted by Dobermann Club of Italy (AIAD)
- IDC Congress & Show 2007 – Hosted by Dobermann Club of Italy (AIAD)
- IDC World Championship 2007 – Hosted by Dobermann Club of Slovakia
- IDC Congress & Show 2008 – Hosted by the Dobermann Club of Sweden (in conjunction with the World Sieger Show in July, 2008)
- IDC World Championship 2008 – **OPEN**
- IDC Congress & Show 2009 – Hosted by Dobermann Club of Poland
- IDC World Championships 2009 - **OPEN**

13.0. General

13.1. The delegate from Austria informed the Congress that in terms of their Breed Regulations the eye test is obligatory and that Cardio (heart) tests are furthermore recommended. In addition, as from 1st January, 2007, the ZTP is obligatory for both parents of litters registered after that date. Where doubt exists about the identity of litters, identification by means of DNA analysis is insisted upon.

13.2. The Secretarial Office again appealed to all IDC Member Countries, not currently on the email address list, to forward without delay, their email addresses to the Secretary, whose email address details were made available to all present.

14.0. Closing address by The President

In his closing address, Mr. Wiblishauser once again referred to the co-operation agreement with the FCI and the promise which that holds for the future. He thanked all delegates for their constructive co-operation and participation in the discussions and wished everybody two pleasant days at the Show and lots of fun in Bratislava.

The meeting closed at 13h30

Minutes prepared by
IDC Secretary
H. Redtenbacher

1st President of the IDC
H. Wiblishauser