



## Minutes of the Council Meeting of the World Simmental-Fleckvieh Federation

Monday, 12th October 2009, 8.00 a.m. – 1.00 p.m.  
Windhoek Show Grounds, Windhoek, Namibia

### List of representatives

Country	Representative	Proxy to
Argentina	-	
Australia	Bill Almond	
Austria	Johann Tanzler	
Brazil	-	
Canada	Bruce Holmquist	
Colombia	-	
Croatia	-	
Czech Republic	Josef Kučera	
Denmark	Steen Grunnet	
France	-	
Germany	Franz Stürzer	
Hungary	-	
Ireland	-	
Italy	Hugo Valentin	
Mexico	-	
Namibia	Reini Rush	
New Zealand	-	
Serbia	-	
Slovakia	-	
Slovenia	-	
South Africa	Johan Kluyts	
Sweden	-	
Switzerland	Andreas Bigler	
United Kingdom	-	
Uruguay	-	
USA	Fred Schuetze	
<b>Total</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>0</b>

President:

**Bruce Holmquist**

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## Agenda

1. Greeting and opening of the meeting
2. Ascertainment of the countries present and the quorum
3. Acceptance of the minutes of the meeting from 26<sup>th</sup> June 2008 in Huntingdon, UK
4. Information about the transfer of the secretariat
5. Membership fees and budget 2009
6. Decision about next Council Meeting and Congress
7. Delegates changes
8. Deliberations of the sub-committees

### **“Budget and Membership”**

Closed meeting

#### **8.1. “Breed Publicity and Promotion”**

8.1.1. Website, E-Journal

#### **8.2. “Technical”**

#### **8.3. “Beef Production”**

8.3.1. Reports on existing projects

- a) Fleckvieh crossbreeding trials (J. Kluyts)
- b) Gene Marker Project in the United States, to include beef tenderness and feed efficiency (F. Schuetze)
- c) Other country reports on beef production projects

8.3.2. New Projects

- d) With the ease of movement of germ plasma in the form of semen & embryos, can the WSF develop a comprehensive plan to standardize rules of registration for member countries? Each country should bring their rules of registration so that the committee can determine if standardization is possible
- e) New projects for genetic enhancement of the Simmental breed that might be funded by the WSF
  - Genomics project from Canada
  - Genomics project from the United States-see attached proposal

Draft new proposals to be submitted to WSF during Congress in 2010

#### **8.4. “Simbra”**

8.4.1. Pertaining to a comprehensive plan to standardize rules of registration for member countries

9. Other business

## Deliberations

### **1. Greeting and opening of the meeting**

President Bruce Holmquist welcomes all the participants and opens the meeting. He especially welcomes the Namibia hosts and thanks them for the good organization of the meeting.

### **2. Ascertainment of the countries present and the quorum**

11 countries are represented by a delegate. With 11 out of 26 votes, the council can deliberate validly.

### **3. Acceptance of the minutes of the meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> June in Huntingdon, United Kingdom**

There were no comments to the minutes. The minutes are accepted.

#### **4. Information about the transfer of the secretariat**

Bruce Holmquist describes current situation and what the secretariat staff has done. One visit of Switzerland was necessary last year. At the beginning of this year there was a meeting of the WSFF executive in Europe (Austria, Czech Republic). The financial transfer took the longest time. The WSFF accounts are still in the Switzerland because of worse bank conditions in the Czech Republic. Bruce Holmquist, Josef Kucera and Kristyna Skopalova have had the internet banking accesses since the end of September 2009.

#### **5. Membership fees and budget 2009**

The WSFF questionnaire and its results were discussed – organization of the congresses and council meetings, frequency of the meetings, length of the meetings and membership fees. See the questionnaire attached.

As discussed in UK, two alternative schemes of the membership fees were presented (based on the number of registered cows and/or registered farms). After detailed discussion the council meeting decided to use the current system was for the years 2009 and 2010.

For the year 2011 a new proposal will be created. New fee structure model will be prepared by sub-committee “Budget and Membership” together with Presidency till the end of July 2010.

#### **6. Decision about the next Council Meeting and next Congress**

Fixed date: next Congress in Australia in 2010, the other Congress in Germany in 2012

Bill Almond introduces the 18<sup>th</sup> Congress in Australia and the optional pre- and post-Congress tours around Australia and New Zealand. The main Congress will be held in Melbourne from 18<sup>th</sup> till 27<sup>th</sup> September 2010. The participants got copied information about the congress. For details see: [www.worldsimmentalcongress2010.com](http://www.worldsimmentalcongress2010.com)

Based on the results of questionnaire and because of the fact that the majority of the member countries are fighting with time, personal and financial questions Georg Röhrmoser and Josef Kucera propose Italy as a host country of the next Council Meeting in 2011 during the Congress program of the European Simmental Federation. Hugo Valentin is going to propose this to the organizing committee in Italy and he will keep the WSFF secretariat posted if it's possible. Proposal is accepted.

#### **7. Delegates changes**

Switzerland has a new delegate. Andreas Bigler is the new one instead of Mr. Benz Brand.

Secretariat will send a letter to Sweden to find out who is the new contact person there.

Letter of condolence should be send to a member country if something happens to their delegates. Information about it must be in the newsletter as well. On the other hand is necessary to get the information form the particular member countries.

#### **8. Deliberations of the sub-committees**

With the exception of the sub-committee “Budget and Membership”, there are no separate meetings of sub-committees. The topical subjects are discussed directly within the Council.

## **Budget and Membership (Hugo Valentin – Georg Roehrmoser)**

Mr. Hugo Valentin wants to step down from his position of the committee chairman. Georg Roehrmoser is proposed as his successor. This motion is adopted unanimously.

Georg Roehrmoser gives the delegates a report from the closed meeting of this sub-committee. Balance Sheet was discussed and approved – Andreas Bigler prepared it for the last time. There won't be any big changes in 2010.

The closing of accounts 2008 is presented and commented on. The accounts 2008 close with a loss of CHF 1'910,54. On 31<sup>st</sup> December 2008, the capital amounts to CHF 166'373,86 (according to the Auditor's Report 2008 (Kämpf and Stauffer Treuhand Company). Together with the funds for publicity (CHF 18'901,54) and meat projects (CHF 6'945,00), the fortune is CHF 192'220,11.

Fund for meat project will be divided between Canada and the USA. Both these member countries applied for the WSFF support (see the point 8.3 Beef production).

The accounts 2008 are accepted.

The invoices for 2009 will be sent as soon as possible, invoices 2010 will be send out, as usual, in January 2010.

### **8.1. Breed Publicity and Promotion (Josef Kučera)**

#### **8.1.1. Website, e-journ@l**

Update of the website system is planned – administration part will be more user friendly for those, who will administrate the web site.

The WSFF newsletter is sent to more than 200 e-mail addresses quarterly. Bruce Holmquist asks other delegates to send it to their members, too. Australia, Canada and the USA have already spread it this way (together to more than 2000 of their members).

There is a discussion about a common newsletter together with the ESF (using both logos). A design change of the newsletter is planned.

For a contact with a potential new member countries would be useful to have a printed pamphlet with basic information about WSFF, advantages and benefits from membership by WSFF and some basic figures about the WSFF and/or breed. The secretariat will prepare and proposal for the content of the pamphlet.

### **8.2. Technical (Georg Röhrmoser – Johann Tanzler)**

*Johann Tanzler is proposed as a new chairman of this sub-committee and this motion is accepted.*

All member countries are asked to send their herd-book rules and breed certificates to the Secretariat.

Main part of the discussion was focused on genomic selection. Particular member countries presented the current activities in this area. Actual situation in Germany: 2000 bulls are involved. There will be the first genomic breeding values in the middle of 2010. Austria: about 1500 Fleckvieh bulls are genotyped already, Czech republic: 450 - 500 bulls is pre-selected for genotyping, which should start early 2010. Majority is using the 54 k chip (Illumina), the discussions are about the announced new high density chip with 300 k (500 k?) SNP.

Genomic selection is important part of the breeding programs, will play important role for the future.

### **8.3. Beef Production (Fred Schuetze)**

#### **8.3.1. Reports on existing projects**

Fred Schuetze informed about the results of their project.

Dr. Muller informs about “Fleckvieh Crossbreeding Trials – Elsenburg” by C. J. C. Muller, J. A. Botha, T. Grupp, T. Swart – The Presentation is attached.

#### **8.3.2. New projects for genetic enhancement of the Simmental breed that might be funded by the WSF**

- Genomics project from Canada

Bruce Holmquist informs about the planned project in Canada. See the presentation attached.

- Genomics project from the United States

Fred Schuetze gives information about the genomics project in the USA – see the proposal and presentation attached

Both, USA and Canada, are planning a new research projects including the genomic selection part. The results of the projects will be available for the WSFF. The working group beef support both projects and recommend to the WG budget and membership to allocate the available money (from the “research funds”) for both of the projects.

### **8.4. Simbra (Johan Kluyts)**

Johan Kluyts gave us a survey about Simbra in Namibia and South Africa. See his presentation attached.

## **9. Other business**

Bruce Holmquist informed about an ICAR meeting in Riga in July 2010. There was a discussion about WSFF participation. The Council finds the participation useful, further details (participation fees etc.) are necessary.

Golden Book Award was given to Mr. Ian Arthur Currin, South Africa.

At 1 p.m., the President Bruce Holmquist thanks to everybody for their contributions and closes the meeting.

For the minutes:



Kristýna Skopalová, Secretary General