**MINUTES OF THE AHWC COMMITTEE MEETING**

DATE : March 7, 2015 VENUE : Crufts, Birmingham PRESENT : Michael Canalizo, Ulf Jorgensen, Willem Buitenkamp.

* First subject of discussion was the foreseen 2016 congress in Wilmington, Ohio/USA from March 30 until April 2. Besides the congress, several shows are programmed.

* Is 2 years between congresses too short? The committee was of opinion that it is possible if the opportunity and relevance is apparent. Michael brought up that it might be somewhat difficult, in view of the scarce time until 2016.
* Should the AHWC-committee organize the congresses? The clear opinion was that we should not take the seat of organizer and thus would be involved in financial set-ups and spin-offs. There should be a local-, regional- or national organization committee taking the lead and we can help by facilitating, guiding and offering relevant help.
* Michael will request the AHCA Board if they are willing to act as steering organization and/or organizer in 2016. If this fails, Ulf might be able to find the necessary number of American breed fanciers to take up the organization.
* The remark was made that it would be good, if there is a go ahead, to invite young breeders as speaker as well.
* In one way or another it might be helpful for the effectivity of the AHWC-committee that, besides the travel to meetings, paid by the committee members themselves, the hotel stay could be reimbursed. Sponsoring should be sought for that aspect which allows optimal working conditions for the committee.
* A website should be constructed for the AHWC (committee) in order to submit relevant and actual information about their results and work and any other Afghan Hound Information which needs to reach the worldwide fancier group. Ulf expresses that he knows somebody who might be willing to work on that. Also for the website, a sponsoring would be a requirement. However, here plays the chicken and egg dilemma, what comes first? Website name (The Afghan Hound World Congress?) and logo to be defined.
* Every congress organizer should however come up with their own website, be it a stand alone site or a specific part of the organizers existing website.
* It would be nice if action could be taken towards the responsible country for the Afghan Hound Standard, i.e. the UK and thus also for the FCI, in order to come to a ban for the color black/white in a ‘Panda’ pattern. This unwanted colour pattern is not typical for the breed and would surely not comply with those who wrote the Standard in the early days.
* Willem will start working on the fanciers network. As a start, he will try to issue a list with all Afghan Hound clubs/associations in the world.
* Next meeting is in Donaueschingen/Germany during the weekend August 1-2 on the occasion of the DWZRV sighthound show.

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