**MINUTES OF THE 2nd AHWC COMMITTEE MEETING**

DATE : July 31, 2015 VENUE : Sighthound Festival, Donaueschingen/Germany PRESENT : Michael Canalizo, Ulf Jorgensen, Willem Buitenkamp.

* The 2016 congress in Wilmington, Ohio/USA on March 30/31 was –as primary subject- discussed. The AHA is the umbrella and the local organizer is the Afghan Hound Club of Southwestern Ohio. For the two days a draft agenda and program has been established but is still in framework format. The idea is to discuss a number of main topics and the US organization thinks as well of having break-out sessions/mini seminars to discuss certain issues in smaller groups. A finalized agenda should therefore be published a.s.a.p. The committee considers however that there is a more urgent need for organizational information like: where and how can people subscribe for the congress, are there side events like a dinner party, other events, how are lunches arranged, etc. and what are the costs for the various happenings? There is also, in the not too far away future, the interest to know which judges will be invited for the series of shows, following the congress. All that should also be included in the national AHWC website which should be ready soon.

The committee recommends for the shows, given the international aspect of the congress, that the judges should –preferably- also have an international representation.

* The development of the AHWC website met a little delay. Ulf’s connection, working on it, will take up again after summer holidays and it is expected that the website will be ready in the months thereafter. The lay-out and logo of the website was discussed and agreed. Included will be the start and history of the congresses, topics of the congresses so far, the list of Afghan Hound Clubs around the world and congresses in the pipeline. It would be nice, for promotion reasons, that the website could be ready prior to the AHA Specialty in Atlanta/USA during October 18-21 2015.
* Willem presented the results of his search for Afghan Hound Clubs and Sighthound Clubs, representing the breed. Until now, some 80 clubs worldwide have been listed and it is expected that more will follow.

* Some cost have already been made like the registration of the (not yet active) AHWC website name ([www.afghanhoundworldcongress.com](http://www.afghanhoundworldcongress.com)) and will ,with provider costs, continue in the coming years. Other costs might also come up and the committee considers, as discussed in the previous meeting that some sponsoring is needed.

Michael will organize a worldwide raffle as a first means to create funding. The price is a very rare and wonderful Afghan Hound bronze. First tickets will be sold during the earlier mentioned AHA Specialty in October. On the AHWC website and/or FB Group, the information about how to buy, will be published for the global interested community.

* The 2018 congress was shortly discussed. As organizers, the NVOW ([www.nvow.nl](http://www.nvow.nl)) in the Netherlands of which Willem is the president, has a preliminary outline ready and registered already the congress name, i.e. [www.ahwcnetherlands.nl](http://www.ahwcnetherlands.nl). The location idea is to be as close as possible to Amsterdam, the venue of the FCI World Show in the same period.
* Looking to the future, the committee thought to already explore the interests of Afghan Hound clubs/countries to organize the congress in 2020. The sequence of two years in between is not strictly to follow but gives direction. Applications are welcomed.
* Whilst waiting for the delivery of the AHWC website, it appeared that FaceBook Group is a very good intermediate tool for communication. Some 1100 members have registered. How to subscribe is however not clear for everybody and Ulf will see if any clarification on the Group page is desirable.
* The next foreseen meeting will be in Wilmington 2016 during the upcoming congress. In the meantime email communication will serve the committees purposes

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