

MINUTES OF THE BORDER CONVENTION COMMITTEE

MEETING 5th JANUARY 2020

At the Roman Way Hotel, Watling street, Cannock Birmingham

Present, C. Egner, R. Sillitoe, J. Williams, Thorley, B.Martin, J.Pearce .Norman,J Rance, A Pearce, B Wilkes, B Norman, N Leader, S Tamman,

1.APOLOGIES From T Ward, .G Eltringham, M Scott, J Aitcheson , P England, P Dewland R Morgan ,A Smalley

2 . MEETING OPENS

The meeting was opened by Chairman R Sillitoe and Secretary Colin Egner the chairman read out the minutes from the previous meeting ,the minutes were accepted as a true record proposed by J Rance seconded by R Thorley

3. MATTERS ARISING

The secretary informed the meeting that he was still talking to the Italian BCC regarding judges.

4. CORRESPONDENCE

A letter had been received from the NBFCC regarding the mandate passed at the 2019 AGM regarding novice birds being judged first.

The committee asked if the secretary could ask the NBFCC to give valid reasons for this not getting ratified at the 2020 AGM, and to tell the committee how many novices and champions were consulted.

5, CODE OF CONDUCT AND ETHICS

The chairman asked the committee if its time the Border Convention had a code of conduct and ethics to deal with any future problems that arise ,as it stands the Border Convention committee have not got any powers to deal with anyone who brings the hobby into disrepute i.e. on social media ,shows or any other meetings of fanciers, a good discussion to place with several members putting ideas forward, it was decided that it was needed and the secretary and chairman look into this to formulate an outline of code, conduct and ethics for the 2020 committee meeting ,the committee were in agreement with this .

6, MANDATE

Nottingham BFCC have sent a mandate to be added to Judges Rule 5 Under judge training scheme 2020, champions can apply for enrolment onto the scheme after one year or more as a champion.

In their second year they will be allocated to assist a selected A panel judge for three judging appointments, (not the same judge necessarily) the supervising judges to complete an assessment and return it to the B.C secretary for the committee to approve.

In their third year subject to present rules they will automatically become a B panel judge, they will be allocated to assist an A panel judge for three judging engagements.

The judges to complete an assessment form and return to the B.C secretary for scrutiny by the committee, then if the committee are satisfied and the trainee is a current year breeder they will be promoted to the A panel.

The costs of travelling to be met by the trainee but the committee will try to allocate trainees to nearest show and will look into helping with fuel if possible.

7. COMMITTEE

The only nomination other than the present incumbents for the AGM is R Thorley to become treasurer

Bobby Parker will become the new President

8. APPLICATION TO THE JUDGE

Panel A

P Neil 30 Derryhale Road, Portadown, Craighaven, County Armagh N.I.

A Telford 37 Mullaleish Road, Ricinhill, County Armagh N.I.

F Lepore Via Rosaria, Levantino, Bari, Italy

Panel B

A.GIOVE Via Vitrani 40 Villarbasse (TO) Italy

9. SECRETARY/ WEBSITE /REPORT

The secretary told the meeting since the AGM the website had 103,000 hits so we were well on course to break the record of 110,000 and that we had 1100 different IP addresses, we actually had someone from Syria viewing the site.

The secretary stated that while he was away judging in Italy he had received a few complaints via social media stating the results had not been put on the website which proves people are looking for the BC to keep them up to date.

10. TREASURERS REPORT

As Malcolm Scott was not well enough to attend the meeting the secretary Colin Egnor gave a report from Malcolm.

The report given stated that there was £1200 owed in advertising, also there was a problem with the list of people who hadn't yet renewed their subscription for the journal and some confusion was found in the list hadn't been updated and some people were asked to pay twice which had offended some fanciers. Brian Martin pointed out that he had sent in a change of address for someone but they hadn't received their journal then found out it was sent to the old address, Colin unfortunately couldn't answer most questions on the finances as he had only received the information from Malcolm late on Saturday. A discussion took place on the finances and it was decided to let Malcolm give the committee a better insight at the AGM.

Colin went on to state that he and members of the committee had taken subscriptions for the journal at the British Border and that monies had been payed into the bank. Colin went on to explain that he was now a signatory on the bank account and he would sort out with Richard Thorley on him becoming the main signatory.

A decision will be taken on the journal finances at the AGM.

11. JOURNAL EDITORS REPORT

S Tamman told the meeting that a few clubs have not sent reports of their show for inclusion in the journal and that some of those that had sent were not in the correct format. The chairman told Simon that if he could give the committee a list of those that need help the committee would speak to those clubs. The chairman told the meeting that lots of clubs only had a few members and that maybe the problem was that some of them were not computer savvy.

The chairman then went on to ask Simon about his editorial in the journal and said the first two pages were more a Simons story rather than an editorial, Simon responded saying he would stick to a conventional editorial in the future the chairman stated that if he wanted to write a Simon's travel article he could but didn't wanted to see it at the front of the magazine. The chairman went on to read a letter out sent in by a fancier stating that he want to stop his subscription as he no

longer wanted to be a member of Simon Tamman's tales, Simon stated that he would take this on board. The chairman said that the journal had a lot of good things particularly the vets column which Simon had introduced.

The chairman stated that the committee should get a story for the journal and said that each and everyone on the committee should contribute and tasked everyone to give one spotlight or interest story each, Richard Thorley said we should have a reporter at some shows to give a much better picture of the hobby and that we must get more people on board as 2020 should be the year to move the hobby forward. It was decided to get more items for the journal to try and make a bigger impact.

12. RING SCHEME REPORT

As Tim Ward had a prior engagement he only came to hand some rings out to people who had ordered he gave an update prior to the meeting stating he had sold 3500 rings so far and things were going well.

13 SUGGESTION BOX FEEDBACK

The chairman stated that a few suggestions had been submitted in the box and that the committee would look at them and see if they were workable, some of the suggestions were already being used. The committee thought it was a good idea to publish some suggestions in the journal and it was decided to continue putting the box out at shows.

14. SUPPORTING CLUBS

Nigel Leader talked about how clubs had fared through the show season saying he had asked a lot of clubs how they managed and that the picture was, some had done well others broke even and some had made losses, he went on to say could the Convention try to help out the clubs with a bit of financial help if they were struggling the committee agreed it was a good idea and that when a full financial report was given the Border Convention could look at what could be done. The chairman pointed out how much the Convention needed to continue and that when we see clarity in the finances help could be given. A good discussion took place on supporting clubs in the future and this should be an item for the July agenda. The chairman asked the committee if we should have a meeting at one of the shows and this was thought to be a good idea and will be decided in the July meeting.

15 UPDATE ON JUDGES LIST

The committee had a discussion on the judges list and it was found some judges were not showing so shouldn't be judging under the current rules. The committee thought that getting a form made out for judges to fill in so that the list could be updated

R Thorley said that this could be sent out with club schedules and with clubs cooperation this could greatly assist in updating the list also a form put in the journal as well.

It was also decided to put an article in the journal telling judges that they must exhibit and fill in a form in 2020 to be eligible to judge in 2021.

16. OAT HUSK

A question had been received from Jimmy Aitcheson on whether we could guarantee a supply of oat husks for the future as they were not available in Scotland now, A discussion took place on whether we should look at an alternative in case the supply was lost, it was pointed out by the fanciers from North Staffs there wasn't a problem, Adam Pearce said he would collect a number of sacks (25kg) and bring them to them to the AGM for clubs to pick up and distribute. The chairman also said in the future we could get a 25kg bag and take it to shows to sell to fanciers who have trouble getting them.

17 AOB

Colin Egner pointed out that now Malcolm Scott is retiring from the committee and standing down from the treasurer/ring scheme and minutes secretary and that these jobs were going to be split up we would also have to split up the honorarium which would now be £300 for the treasurer and £200 for the ring scheme secretary.

Nigel Leader brought up a point on the vets page in the journal pointing out that the vets was suggesting we use products that were not available without a vets certificate .Nigel went on to say could the Vet give alternative products that were freely available in the future or tell us how to get them .

Meeting Closed 4.15