

A report of the Workshop for the International Committee held at 10 am on Sunday 25th November, 2012 at the Hilton Birmingham Metropole Hotel, Birmingham

Present: **International Committee Welsh Pony and Cob Society**

Mr M.T. Daley (Chair), Mrs A. Kember

Overseas Societies

W.P.C.S. Belgium

W.P.C.S. Czech Republic

AFPCW France

W.P.C.S Germany

I.G. Welsh Germany

W.P.C.V. Holland

W.P.C.S Norway

WPCS Sweden

M. Aerts

Mrs A. Aerts

Ms A. Van Vuurenova

Ms M. Piskova

Ms L. Feret

Ms E. Alexander

H. Schroeder

Mrs C. Wallays

H. Van Dijk

G. Van Beek

Ms H. Solberg

Ms W. Lanner

Miss G. Johansson

Mrs I. Johansson

In Attendance

Anna Prytherch (Principal Officer), Bethan Jones (Assistant Principal Officer).

Welcome and Apologies

Mr A.S. Everitt, Mrs E. Russell, NWPCS (Mr E. Koele to join via telephone conference)

In the absence of Mrs Russell and Mr Everitt, Mr Daley took the Chair.

The Chair welcomed all to the workshop and informed the committee that a tele-conference call with Eric Koele WPCS Holland would take place at 10am to discuss items they wished to be raised.

Teleconference with Mr E. Koele

Mr Koele requested that notice of meetings were circulated earlier in order that travel arrangements could be done in plenty of time. Ms Prytherch believed confirmation notices had been sent in September, with final agendas sent in October.

Mr Koele was of the opinion that all stallions used for breeding should be parentage tested, as there was an instance where a stallion was imported and after parentage testing in Holland it was found that the animal had the incorrect sire; this has now been rectified. A number of Overseas Associations parentage test all stallions used for breeding and he felt that WPCS UK should follow this process.

Mr Koele felt it was beneficial to have a meeting in Europe with Overseas Associations prior to the International Meeting.

Declarations and items for any other Business

Letter from Michelle Baker – Australia – with correction to minutes and comments for Agenda 8

8681 Minutes of the International Committee Meeting held on 22nd July 2012 and Matters Arising

It proposed by Mr H. Van Dijk and seconded by Mrs A. Kember that the minutes be confirmed as correct subject to the following amendments;

p.1 – add in apologies – NWPCS (E. Koele, Alexandra van der Vis-Kruijswijk0

Matters Arising

p.2 – 8531 - WPCS Australia does not issue passports to equines at the current time.

Mrs C. Wallays asked how many members did each overseas association have, with the following noted:

Country	Number of members
Great Britain	7,500
Belgium	400
Sweden	300
Norway	100
IG Welsh	1390
Germany	100
AFPCW	160
WPCV	450
Czech Republic	100

Mrs Johansson stated that the minutes of the meeting had only been received recently and requested that they be circulated sooner. Ms Prytherch confirmed that the minutes were held until feedback from Council could be relayed; Council ratify proposals (or not) in the minutes, thus minutes are circulated after the Council meeting, however every effort will be made in future to send minutes as soon as possible.

8682 Overseas Judges

Following a discussion on allowing overseas judges to judge affiliated shows in the UK, it was noted that some overseas associations have judges' assessments that are conducted in a similar way to the UK,; the only difference being they did not have Society approved judges' assessors at their assessments.

It was proposed by Mrs C. Wallays and seconded by Mr H. van Dijk that if an overseas Judge can show evidence that they have judged 5 shows, or 3 shows and probationary at 2, and have been a member of the Society for 7 consecutive years they should be accepted to the UK Judges panel. Not carried.

**In Favour: 11
Against: 2**

It was proposed by Mrs G. Johansson and seconded by Mr H. van Dijk that assessors from the UK should travel to Europe to assess judges at an assessment day for overseas members wishing to apply for the judges panel, or that an individual could opt to attend judges assessments held in the UK. All in favour. Motion carried.

8683 Harmonisation Issues

Ms G. Johansson felt that WPCS UK should accept all animals that have been registered overseas directly into the Welsh Stud Book, as all descend back to animals registered in the UK. Spot checks could be done and any that are found to be incorrect could be removed, Norway was in agreement with Sweden.

Mrs Aerts confirmed that Belgium would be complying with any requests made by WPCS UK in order that all animals are accepted by the UK, and they are currently working to get their regulations to correspond with the Mother Society.

Ms Prytherch re-iterated that harmonisation was a two stage process; the first was to check that current regulations governing registration with Overseas Association are in line with the WPCS UK. The second stage is to check all historic stud book entries to verify that they complied with regulations governing registration in place in the UK at the appropriate time. The second stage could be a lengthy process and it is likely that Council will confirm that costs for staff time in undertaking this work should be paid by the relevant Overseas Association. Mr H. van Dijk and Mrs A. Aerts confirmed that their associations would be prepared to pay for this to be done.

Mrs Johansson asked why were Overseas registrations being checked when there are errors with animals registered with WPCS UK, there is one which is incorrect because of colour and all the progeny from him are now incorrect.

Ms Prytherch asked if there are queries with pedigrees that the Overseas Associations are concerned about, they should write to the office. Mrs C. Wallays stated that there are 16 different organisations that issue passports in Germany.

Ms E. Alexander asked what would happen if Overseas Associations would not comply, Ms Prytherch confirmed they would not be recognised as official Daughter Societies, however there was no obligation for all overseas associations to become official Daughter Societies and it is likely that only those in Europe who operate their own stud books would be interested in doing so.

A number present felt that due to the unknown cost they could not agree to participate.

8684 WPCS Australia

i) Review of the timing of the International Workshop

The Australian society had requested that a workshop be held immediately prior to the RWAS. Ms Prytherch felt that it would be very difficult to have a full day's workshop preceding the Royal Welsh as it is a very busy time for the Society office. Many noted that they would be otherwise engaged on that day due to the close proximity of the Show.

It was proposed by Ms H. Solberg and seconded by Ms E. Alexander that the date of workshop should remain in November to coincide with the Royal Welsh Winter Fair and the next workshop should be held at the Society Offices in Bronaeron. Majority in favour.

It was further agreed that the International meeting would be held on the 21st of July 2013 on the Royal Welsh Showground, Builth Wells. All in favour.

ii) Request that WPCS UK recognises overseas assessment programs.

It was proposed that the WPCS UK recognises overseas assessment programs of relevant overseas societies, when those assessment programs have equal requirements and conditions to those of the WPCS UK, subject to the earlier proposal regarding assessors.. All in favour.

8685 Welsh Belgium

i) WPCS relations with Overseas Societies

It was requested that the WPCS UK place a statement on the website that there are no officially recognised overseas Daughter Societies; a declaration has been placed on the website of the WPCV that they are a recognised Overseas Society. Ms Prytherch confirmed that WPCS UK does recognise the Overseas Associations but there are no recognised Daughter Societies as yet.

It was proposed by Mrs A. Aerts and seconded by Mr H. van Dijk that a statement be placed on the website to confirm that there are no recognised Daughter Societies. Not carried.

It was further proposed by Ms G. Johansson and seconded by Mrs I. Johansson that a statement is not placed on the Society website. Proposal carried.

In Favour: 7; Against 7; Abstention: 4

ii) Meeting of European Overseas Associations

It was proposed by Mrs A. Aerts and seconded by Ms A. Van Vuurenova that a meeting should be held on the continent with all European Societies prior to an International Meeting to discuss proposals and a report prepared.

**For: 4
Against: 9**

Proposal not carried

8686 International Shows

Ms A. Prytherch gave an update on a proposed International Show to be held at Peterborough, UK on the 24th & 25th August 2013. Mrs C. Fell had proposed in a recent Council meeting that an International Show should be held in 2013 to ensure continuity before 2015 and agreed to source funding. Council agreed that if sufficient sponsorship could be sourced that the Society would support the show. It would be reported at the next Council meeting held on the 3rd of December if the sponsorship could be obtained and if the show would proceed.

Following a show of hands it was agreed unanimously that the overseas associations present would support the show. There was concern as the proposed date clashed with a large show held with WPCS Germany.

Ms Prytherch requested that all overseas associations forward lists of judges to the office in readiness should the show proceed.

[Note: At the Council meeting held on 3rd December 2012, it was decided that the proposed 2013 International Show would not proceed due to time constraints and insufficient guaranteed sponsorship to fund the event. The next International Show will be held in Denmark in 2015.]

a) International Show Funding

Ms Prytherch asked whether any overseas associations had an opportunity to have discussions regarding the contribution towards future International Shows.

WPCV Holland	No contribution
WPCS Germany	Yes
Sweden	Yes
Belgium	Yes
Czech Republic	Yes
Norway	To be discussed at meeting December 2012
IG Welsh	To be discussed at meeting in near future
AFPCW	To be discussed at meeting December 2012
Australia	No – due to distance

8687 Any Other Business

Ms Prytherch asked that all Overseas Associations forward any editorial reports to be included in the Spring Society magazine to the office by 31st December 2012.

Overseas Silver Medal

It was proposed by Mr H. van Dijk and seconded by Ms E. Alexander that an Overseas Silver Medal should be made available. All in favour.

The Chair thanked everyone for attending the workshop and wished those attending the Royal Welsh Winter Fair an enjoyable time. There being no other business the meeting closed at 2.40 pm.