

# Minutes

## ISG special meeting „How much ISG do the national associations want or need as a platform in the future?“

**Place:** Waldgasthof „Am Letten“, Letten 13, 91207 Lauf a.d. Pegnitz

**Date:** Saturday, 19th February 2005

**Start:** 10.15 am

**End:** 19.55 pm

**Keeper of the minutes:** Lea Ernst

### Attendees:

ISG executive board: Gabriele Conradty, Franz Hoppenberger, Walter Hecker

VZAP: Claudio Conradty, H-J Möller, Gabriele Möller, Wolfgang Psota, Jörn Kampermann

ZSAA: Carin Weiss, Udo Weiss, Ahmed Al Samarraie

NASS: Adele Furby

ÖAZV: Franz Theiler, Florian Adensamer, Josef Weiss, Franz Hoppenberger

MALE: Imre Parti, Walter Hecker, Tamás Rombauer

Bábolna: Tamás Rombauer

SAVS: Sigi Frei, Bruno Furrer (founding member), Lea Ernst

Others: Per Solaas, Sweden; Rudolf Meindl, ÖAZV; Helmut Au (founding member), Thomas Au, Hannes Au, Austria; Helmut Bechheim, Andrea Bechheim, VZAP

### Welcoming address by the president of ISG, Gabriele Conradty:

Mrs. Conradty announced that she will not be available for the coming elections for executive board this year. She wanted the special meeting to take place at the beginning term of a new executive board. Therefore she wanted to convene for a delegates' meeting with elections before the special meeting. There ensued a contentious discussion between Mrs. Conradty and Mr. Al Samarraie, as well as with Mr. Möller, about the sequence and the causes for the various announcements, invitations and retractions. Mrs. Conradty stated that she rescinded the elections after being informed by the working-group that at the delegates' meeting in November, 2004, no auditors were elected. Mr. Al Samarraie and Mr. Möller explained their common proposal of that time for a nearly simultaneous delegates' meeting and special meeting: to supplement the agenda by adding an election of auditors who could then have audited the bookkeeping during the delegates meeting, and afterwards they could submit their report, which would have fulfilled the requirements for release of the executive board. Mrs. Conradty emphasizes that the question of auditors was not part of the consideration to perform elections or not. It was a question of correct invitation. She refers to ISG statutes.

After short discussion the assembly agreed: there was some confusion caused by the invitation and the subsequent rescinding of the invitation by Mrs. Conradty and following invitation by Dr. Hecker, which was not consistent to statutes, but this special meeting shall now help to analyze and discuss the ideas of the member societies, so that a new executive board may start its constructive work with a good plan and clear responsibilities.

### Address of welcome to the special meeting by Udo Weiss:

Mr Weiss explains today's procedure with the aid of a 5-step flow-chart (see also report of the work group). In a first step the proposals and statements of the associations are collected and a

list of subject areas is made. In a second step this list is rewritten so that the subject areas are now in order of priority. The subject areas on that list are the specific topics of the special meeting:

- 1) **Work regulations**
- 2) **Definition of ISG**
- 3) **Relation ISG <-> member**
- 4) **Cooperation of members**
- 5) **Breeding**
- 6) **Exchange of information**
- 7) **Promotion / Public Relations**
- 8) **Executive board**
- 9) **Duties of members**
- 10) **Education**
- 11) **Supporting members**

The suggestion is made that „budget“ should be added as a 12th subject area. Instead of discussing the budget separately there is general agreement to discuss the financial aspects directly in their respective subject areas.

In a third step the contents of the subject areas are discussed. There are three areas into which the themes (content of the subject areas) can be divided.

- Consensus subjects
- Controversial subjects
- Open subjects

In a fourth step the deadlines and duties of the consensus subjects are defined in a schedule of implementation. In a fifth step the results of the discussion and the clearly defined duties have to be implemented in the associations and within ISG.

### 1) **Work regulations**

- Solve language problems: Several arguments and proposals are brought forth. The costs for professional interpreters are very high. Written contributions of the members should be composed in German and the responsibility for the accuracy of the translations lies with the respective member. It is important for the worldwide promotion of the Shagya Arabian to work in English.  
In the end it was generally agreed that: Legal language of ISG is German. Communication takes place bilingually in English and German. The minutes have to be translated into English by the executive board. There is a disclaimer for translations.
- Place of events: Events should take place close to international airports.
- Formalities of the meeting of delegates: All formalities should be followed according to statute.
- Establish committees: The executive board should decide about the formation of committees.
- Strategic plans: This point is put on hold as nothing could be concluded at this point in the discussion.
- Loyalty: Loyalty among the associations is enormously important, as the only way to further promote the race of the Shagya Arabian is to work jointly. Rivalry is out of place.

## 2) Definition of ISG

- ISG is wanted:
- Umbrella organisation for the associated societies:
- Consider actual statutes and articles:

A consensus has been reached in the three topics above: ISG is wanted as an umbrella organisation by all the members. ISG is defined according to statutes. Members and executive board shall fulfil their duties and tasks according to statutes.
- ISG History: Past ISG activities shall be documented.
- ISG Headquarters: This question is clearly answered: Headquarters of ISG is Hamburg as long as the registered office of ISG is in Germany. In case the registered office is transferred to another country, there still must be an adequate post address for delivery in Germany.
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- ISG stallions: From among the associated societies comes the proposal ISG should own stallions. The present company meets the proposal with criticism. Due to the high costs associated with the proposal the point is not agreed to and left undiscussed.
- Which image does ISG want: There is general agreement. ISG itself as well as the associated members have to work on the image of ISG all along.
- ISG as leader of the studbook of origin (breeding sovereignty): This point is still open. After thorough consideration of the circumstances (especially the legal grounds) this point shall be discussed and a decision made. This subject has priority and it shall be dealt with immediately in the new legislative period. Gabriele Conrady emphasises that she never claimed the studbook of origin for Germany and that the new sketch of RZBO was created by a committee that was nominated by the delegates meeting in 2001 and that this is not a definite version but a basis for discussion.

## 3) Relation ISG <--> member

- Democratic developement:
- Observe statutes and articles:

The statutes are democratic, they have to be recognised and followed by the members and the board of directors likewise.
- Consideration of national circumstances: National circumstances should be considered. The question unanswered is: Who can/should consider these “national circumstances”? The executive board? The assembly of delegates? The statutes?
- ISG must be present: ISG should not influence the associated societies more than is prescribed by the statutes. Wherever support through ISG is wanted it will be given, the initiative for such action has to come from the associations.
- ISG intervening in the work of societies: ISG shall be able to make use of the associated societies. How far ISG can intervene into the societies is not yet clear. It is also not yet clear what means can be used by ISG if a society neglects its duties. Under no circumstances shall ISG have to deal with the quarrels of the member countries as these are just a hindrance to the work of ISG.
- Recognition of conformation with ISG rules: The discussion mainly concerns the certification of studbooks / pedigrees and the studbook rules (ZBO). The minimum standard defining the Shagya Arabian shall come from ISG. A certification is useful so that all the associated societies can work with methods that are compliant with ISG.

#### 4) Cooperation of members

- Cooperation society - society:  
The cooperation between the members of ISG shall improve.
- Approval of scores:  
Scores and discriptions shall be mutually approved of. The basis is the minimum standard.

#### 5) Breeding

- General studbook regulations (RZBO): The minimum standard is the basis for a mutually accepted, consistent General Studbook Regulations (RZBO).
- Breeding programme and breeding goal: The breeding goal as actually defined in the General Studbook Regulations (RZBO) does not need to be changed at this point in time as it is sufficient. It will be a matter of further discussion and it will be adapted when needed. There is general agreement so as to constrain the breeders as little as possible. The speciality of the Shagya Arabian is its versatility. This many-sidedness shall be further promoted.
- Documentation of breeding: The assembly consensus is: Documentation of breeding is important as everyone wants to be informed about the breeding (especially) in the other societies. Important data (for example concerning the acceptance of stallions) shall be available to all other associated members.

#### 6) Exchange of information within ISG

Ahmed Al Samarraie gives a short demonstration of the database of ZSAA. This database exemplifies what an ISG-database, which would inventory the breeding stock of Shagya Arabians and make that information commonly available to all members of ISG, could look like. Such a database would improve the exchange of information between the members.

- Meet the demand of information - how? There is general agreement of the necessity for an inventory of the breeding stock. An ISG database would be of great use, the societies shall however still produce a print version of the studbook. From among the present company it is pointed out that SAVS possesses an online database featuring 15'000 horses. This databank is based upon the ISG data. Over the last years the executive board of ISG observed that many of the associated societies have difficulties with publishing a studbook.
- Events with horses: Events and journeys are very expensive. It would be ideal to find sponsors for the events, this is however a difficult task. Events will have to become more attractive so as to address a wider (also non-arabian) audience. Associated members should coordinate their dates of events avoiding clashes with events of other members. Tamás Rombauer points out that on the 4th and 5th of June there is an event (presentation of various lines of stallions, riding competitions, show) in Bábolna.
- Events without horses: It is important that breeders when speaking of the same things also understand the same. A unification of the horses within the lines seems desirable to many participants
- Advice to societies and breeders: ISG cannot advise individual breeders. The information given to the societies make up the advice ISG can give.
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## 7) Promotion / Public Relations

- PR for the breed:
- Events for promotion:

The ideas collected in this special meeting have a certain potential for development. The financial situation of ISG does not allow advertising campaigns, fairs or the hiring of an expert for PR at this point. It is pointed out that the “Shagya Arabian Project” (appearance at Equitana) is still going and that regional, national and international events also have a promotional effect.
- Support for societies and breeders: There are regulations concerning the support for national events through ISG.

## 8) Executive board

The organisation charts proposed by SAVS and ZSAA are briefly explained by the respective delegates. The scheme of SAVS is in principle the statutory model of ISG, which is currently not totally utilised. It is about having more people and a clear division of responsibilities in the board of directors to better cope with the work. The organisation chart of ZSAA aims at a clear division of work and responsibilities. In this scheme there are two areas, breeding information and public relations. It is not yet clear whether this scheme would necessitate a change in the statutes.

- Organisation of the executive board: According to the statutes the executive board can be expanded. The executive board has to decide on that itself. An expansion of the executive board is generally wanted. From among the present company it is pointed out that in the past there had been an information office in Bábolna and that such an office could be started up again there.

In consideration of the upcoming elections for the executive board a date shall be fixed for the next assembly of delegates. There shall be enough time between this special meeting and the assembly of delegates so that the delegates are able to confer with their societies. The date fixed for the next assembly of delegates is 28<sup>th</sup> of May 2005, the venue is still open. If this date has to be changed the meeting of delegates will be held on 4th of June 2005 in Bábolna.

## 9) Tasks of members

- Positive attitude:
- Annual submission of all information:
- Transparency of and respect for regulations:
- Pay on time:
- Permanent duty to exchange information:
- Permanent improvement of their own capabilities:
- Specific collaboration:
- PR-service for ISG:

It is observed that many of the proposals from the associated members are not lived and put into action by themselves. The supply of breeding data is necessary. Fees / contributions shall be paid on time. The collaboration in committees as well as the collaboration in the world-wide promotion of the Shagya Arabian are desired.

## 10) Education


- Education of judges:
- Education of breeders and other interested persons:
- Use course of training for protocol for selection of judges?  
According to the executive board there used to be some problems concerning that theme however it is believed that these problems can be mastered now. It is desired to create/hold a conference of judges in order for synchronisation in judging. Uniform education of judges is indispensable.

## 11) Supporting members

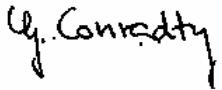
- What do supporting members mean for ISG?
- Financial support of ISG:  
The supporting members are first of all sponsors of ISG, their support however shall not be limited to the financial aspects.
- Supply of information from ISG to supporting members: Supporting members shall receive annual reports of ISG, as a service in return so to speak.
- Representation of supporting members in the executive board: There are various opinions on this matter. The majority of the present company believes it is not reasonable to have the supporting members represented in the board of directors. Supporting members have the possibility to act as delegates of the associated societies.

After the discussions the delegates are asked to briefly state their personal impressions of the outcome of today's special meeting and if they believe the results can be realised. From all sides contentment is expressed, and the day comes to a close in a positive mood, with optimism and motivation to set things in motion. Carin and Udo Weiss, who professionally prepared and moderated this meeting, are sincerely thanked by all of the attendees!

CH-4204 Himmelried, 21th February 2005

  
Keeper of the minutes:  
Lea Ernst

D-91284 Neuhaus, 23th March 2005

  
Vorstandsvorsitzende  
Gabriele Conrady