



## Minutes of the Council Meeting of the World Simmental-Fleckvieh Federation

Thursday, 26th June 2008, 10.00 a.m. – 3.00 p.m.  
Mariott Hotel, Huntingdon, UK

### List of representatives

Country	Representative	Proxy to
Argentina	-	
Australia	Bill Almond	
Austria	Johann Tanzler	
Brazil	-	
Canada	Bruce Holmquist	
Colombia	-	
Croatia	-	
Czech Republic	Josef Kučera	
Denmark	Henning Hansen	
France	-	
Germany	Franz Stürzer	
Hungary	-	
Ireland	Gerard Brickley	
Italy		Germany
Mexico	-	
Namibia		South Africa
New Zealand	Helen Ellis	
Serbia	-	
Slovakia		Czech Republic
Slovenia	-	
South Africa	Johan Kluyts	
Sweden	Bertil Rohlin	
Switzerland	Benz Brand	
United Kingdom	Dan Evans	
Uruguay	-	
USA	Fred Schuetze	
<b>Total</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>3</b>

**President:**

**Bruce Holmquist**

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## Agenda

1. Greeting and opening of the meeting, President Franz Stürzer
2. Ascertainment of the countries present and the quorum
3. Acceptance of the minutes of the meeting from May 29<sup>th</sup>, 2007 in Jihlava, CZ
4. Reorganisation of WSFF
5. Discussion about membership fees and budget 2009
6. Elections: proposal to the Members' Meeting
7. Decision about next Council Meeting and next Congress
8. Deliberations of the sub-committees
  - “Budget and Membership”
  - 8.1. “Breed Publicity and Promotion”,
    - 8.1.1. Country reports
    - 8.1.2. Website
  - 8.2. “Technical”,
    - 8.2.1. Herd-book rules
    - 8.2.2. Breed certificates
  - 8.3. “Beef Production”,
    - 8.3.1. Gen marker project in USA (F. Schuetze)
    - 8.3.2. Crossbreeding trials in South Africa
    - 8.3.3. SimBeef Information Kit (P. Speers)
    - 8.3.4. Member Reports on Beef Production Issues
    - 8.3.5. Appointment of new Chairman, Beef Production Committee
  - 8.4. “Simbra”.
9. Other business

## Deliberations

### 1. Greeting and opening of the meeting

President Franz Stürzer welcomes all the participants and opens the meeting. He especially welcomes the United Kingdom hosts and thanks them for the good organisation of the meeting.

Georg Röhrmoser suggests holding the meeting only in English. Motion is accepted.

### 2. Ascertainment of the countries present and the quorum

13 countries are represented by a delegate, 3 countries by proxy. With 16 out of 26 votes, the council can deliberate validly.

### 3. Acceptance of the minutes of the meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> May in Jihlava, Czech Republic

Peter Speers points out that the last minutes of the Council meeting held in the Czech Republic in 2007 didn't come within three months following the meeting. Georg Röhrmoser suggests accepting the minutes even if they were sent to delegates too late.

The minutes are accepted.

### 4. Reorganisation of the WSFF

Andreas Bigler explains reasons which led to reduced activities and termination of the Swiss Breeders Association as a secretariat of the World Simmental/Fleckvieh Federation. Switzerland had been involved in the administration since the start of the Federation in 1974. They have had less Simmentals/Fleckvieh recently and looked into how to proceed in the future. Czech Republic is ready to take over the WSFF administration.

Delegates thanked the Swiss Association and Andreas Bigler for all the work they did for the federation in the last 34 years. Swiss Association gets an official appreciation.

New motion to move the secretariat to the Czech Republic with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2008 is accepted. Josef Kučera introduces Kristýna Skopalová as a new Secretary General. 15 votes for the motion, 1 abstained from voting (Czech Republic). The decision includes that Andreas Bigler stays in charge of the WSFF budget until the end of 2008.

*New activities of the WSFF were discussed.*

Organisation of the congresses and council meetings, frequency of the meetings.

Youth program:

It is very important to involve the Young Members and as a result United Kingdom, Australia, Canada and New Zealand will help with the encouragement of the Young Members throughout the world.

All countries will be asked what they want for the future and feed back will be prepared to the next meeting. A questionnaire will be sent out to all countries as soon as possible. A much higher closer contact between the Federation and its members would be the primary objective of the Federation.

All member countries will have the possibility to express their opinion to some important WSFF matters.

#### **5. Discussion about membership fees and budget 2009**

Membership fees would stay the same this year. For the year 2009 a new proposal will be created. New fee structure model will be prepared by sub-committee "Budget and Membership" together with Presidency till the end of 2008.

#### **6. Elections: proposal for the Members' Meeting**

After 4 years Franz Stürzer ends with the President duty.

Peter Speers proposes Josef Kučera as a new President of the WSFF.

Josef Kučera, Henning Hansen, Johann Tanzler and Benz Brand propose Bruce Holmquist.

Georg Röhrmoser proposes Bruce Holmquist as the new President, Josef Kučera as the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President and Bill Almond as the new 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President of the WSFF.

This proposal is accepted by all member countries.

Fred Schuetze will present this motion during the elections within the Members' Meeting.

#### **7. Decision about the next Council Meeting and next Congress**

Fixed dates: Next Council Meeting in Namibia in 2009, next Congress in Australia in 2010.

Georg Röhrmoser proposes Germany as a host country of the next Congress probably in 2012. The date is still open, it will depend on the ongoing discussion about reorganisation of WSFF.

Proposal is accepted and will be presented in the Members' Meeting.

Johan Kluyts introduces the next Council Meeting in Namibia. Council Meeting and farm visits (main part) will be concentrated in the first 4 or 5 days, accompanying program will be at the end. The whole Council Meeting will start on 11<sup>th</sup> October 2009 and end either on 18<sup>th</sup> October or on 19<sup>th</sup> October 2009.

Peter Speers and Bill Almond inform about the 18<sup>th</sup> Congress in Australia and about optional pre- and post-Congress tours around Australia and New Zealand. Optional pre-Congress tours will start on 12<sup>th</sup> September 2010, main Congress will be held in Melbourne from 19<sup>th</sup> till 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2010 which includes show and exhibition. Post-Congress tours will start on 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2010.

## **8. Deliberations of the sub-committees**

With the exception of the sub-committee “Budget and Membership”, there are no separate meetings of sub-committees. The topical subjects are discussed directly within the Council.

### **Budget and Membership (Hugo Valentin is absent; proxy to Franz Stürzer)**

The closing of accounts 2007 is presented and commented on. The accounts 2007 close with a benefit of CHF 9'783.90. On 31<sup>st</sup> December 2007, the capital amounts to CHF 168'284.40. Together with the funds for publicity (CHF 18'901.25) and meat projects (CHF 11'945.00), the fortune is CHF 199'130.65.

The working group wants to set some rules for the young breeders' participation. Support of the young breeders will be between CHF 3'000 and 5'000 this year.

Spending the money for recruiting new members is still one of purposes for using the financial reserve of the WSFF. Members of this working group must be informed at least.

Secretariat activities – divided between Switzerland and the Czech Republic. Financial part will stay in Switzerland till the end of the year. The Swiss personnel costs will be divided equally with the Czech Republic.

The accounts 2007 are accepted.

Budget for 2009: Till the end of the year the working group together with Presidency will draw up and send to other member countries a new structure of membership fees. This year the fees stay the same. The invoices dated 1<sup>st</sup> June 2008 have to be sent immediately.

### **8.1. Breed Publicity and Promotion (Josef Kučera)**

#### **8.1.1. Country reports**

Updated country reports from all member countries are required.

#### **8.1.2. Website**

New special section for young breeders will be prepared.

All delegates present are asked for more inputs for the internet. Newsletter (WSFF E-journal) will be uploaded four times a year. Content should be input from all member countries.

### **8.2. Technical (Georg Röhrmoser)**

#### **8.2.1. Herd-book rules, breed certificates**

All member countries are asked for sending their herd-book rules and breed certificates to the Secretariat. Additional topics were mentioned for future discussion: polled testing, diluter genes, crossbreeding.

### **8.3. Beef Production (Fred Schuetze)**

#### **8.3.1. Gene marker project in USA**

Fred Schuetze informed about the results of this project and expressed thanks of the American Simmental Association for the financial support of the project.

See the letter attached.

He also informed about diluter gene which means that the light coloured bulls, generally speaking produce grey calves or wirey haired calves on Angus base cows which make them unpopular. For more information look at the web sites from the University of Illinois or <http://greene.tennessee.edu/pubs/Greene/Cattle%20Color.doc>. In New Zealand on the other hand they prefer grey calves.

### **8.3.2. *Crossbreeding trials in South Africa***

Johan Kluyts – presents – “Preliminary Results – Fleckvieh Crossbreeding Trials – Elsenburg” by C. J. C. Muller, J. A. Botha, T. Grupp, T. Swart

20 milk producers in Western and Eastern Cape, with herds ranging from 200 to 2000 cows, currently use Simmental/Fleckvieh semen on their Jersey or Holstein cows. The project is not yet at the end, more data are needed. Positive: higher daily gains by Fleckvieh crosses, higher body weight at all ages.

### **8.3.3. *SimBeef information Kit (P. Speers)***

Peter Speers reported on the project to look at meat tenderness which was funded by the WSFF. USA now have a shearface data base bigger than any other in the world. Feed efficiency under the current climate, will become one of the most domination factors in the system. Feed efficiency and calving ease are also very important.

### **8.3.4. *Member reports on Beef Production Issues***

Some member countries gave short information about this issue.

### **8.3.5. *Appointment of new Chairman, Beef Production Committee***

Peter Speers discontinued his long lasting activities within the sub-committee “Beef Production” and Fred Schuetze is elected as the new Beef Committee Chairman. Steen Grunnet is elected as Vice Chairman of this sub-committee.

## **8.4. Simbra (Johan Kluyts)**

Simbra is the fastest growing breed in the world.

Johan Kluyts gave us a survey about Simbra. There are 219 Simbra herds with over 35 000 Simbra animals in South Africa and Namibia.

See his presentation attached.

## **9. Other business**

Josef Kučera informed about two meetings concerning to type classification of Fleckvieh within Europe – one was held in Slovenia, the other one in Germany in 2008, both of them organized by the European Simmental/Fleckvieh Federation .

Harmonization of type classification of beef herds started to be discussed as well.

At 3 p.m., the President Franz Stürzer thanks everybody for their contributions and closes the meeting.

For the minutes:



Kristýna Skopalová, Secretary General