

**Minutes of the regular online general meeting of Dogdance International e.V. on Sunday, June 6, 2021 from 10:23 a.m. to 5:04 p.m.**

Technical introduction - registration of participating members from 10:01 till 10:23 a.m.

Start at 10:23

38 Members entitled to vote are online

**Item 1 Welcome to the members**

Welcome to the general assembly by the 1st chairwoman of the association Katharina Henf

**Item 2 Opening of the meeting**

**2.1. Election of the meeting chair**

Katharina Henf proposes herself as a meeting leader. There are no further proposals from the plenary.

Election result for Katharina Henf as chairperson for the meeting:

For: 38

Abstention: 0

Against: 0

**2.2. Choice of moderation**

Katharina Henf suggests Axel Weber as an additional moderator. There are no other suggestions for moderation

Election result for Axel Weber as moderator:

For: 37

Abstention: 1

Against: 0

Axel accepts the election.

**2.3. Presentation of the meeting concept**

The meeting takes place via the Zoom Meeting App. There is a separate voting app, Vote-Box. Requests to speak must be announced in the chat. All participants have to give their consent to record the meeting for the minutes, after the minutes are finished this recording will be deleted. This year we have two simultaneous interpreters, who translate into English.  
No requests.

Election result for the meeting concept:

For: 38

Abstention: 0

Against: 0

## **2.4. Determination of the proper convocation and quorum of the general meeting:**

Katharina Henf notes that according to the statutes, the general meeting was duly invited by publishing the invitation on the DDI e.V. website and on Facebook in due time. All members were also invited by email, although this is not specified in the statutes.

## **2.5. This assembly has a quorum by adopting the assembly concept with 38 members entitled to vote.**

## **2.6. Approval of the updated agenda**

Katharina Henf: In the previous discussion rounds, it has become clear that some motions need to be reworded. Therefore, the agenda changes, this has to be voted on. This concerns TOP 11, here motions have been re-broken down.

Motion 1 with 2 variants was changed to 2 voting items.

Motion 3 was also changed to 2 voting points. Motion 4b will have 2 questions on the ballot.

The motion from Debra Bernard "Distance in HTM" was not submitted in time, but can now still be put on the agenda Just like the discussion point "Dogdance in Russia", also from Debra Bernard.

Election result for the updated agenda:

For: 38

Abstention: 0

Against: 0

## **Item 3 Report of the board of directors**

### **3.1. General report of the board for the period since the last general meeting**

Katharina reports the most important things from the last year. Due to the current Corona situation, unfortunately only very few tournaments have been possible. So we couldn't meet. And this is what makes our sport so special. Nevertheless, some tournaments could take place and creative solutions could be found.

The regulations were completely revised and are now available as a download on the DDI homepage. This took a long time, because it was a lot of work to fix all changes from all previous meetings in writing and to insert them into the regulations.

It was tried to work up the regulations from the starter's point of view, so that also new starters get a good overview. Changes were purely editorial, the content hasn't changed.

The test phase of class 0 will be prolonged until the next meeting, because there were hardly any tournaments due to Corona.

As decided at the last GM, the points Teamwork and Flow will now be doubled in the class Seniors and Handicap, the points Content and Difficulty will be dropped. This info will also be noted on the score sheets.

Also since this year, the ascent points are awarded based on points (minimum 150 points) and no longer by percentages.

Katharina asks the tournament organizers to update the ranking tables. It is also requested that the dates for tournaments be entered in the DDI calendar and that results be emailed to Axel as PDFs, as soon as possible after the competition. The website has been restructured and is still under construction. Some pages still need to be fed. For this also a Facebook action was started, where the members of the DDI could introduce themselves and show photos of themselves. With these contents one could also feed the homepage. Those who have desire and time to write texts may announce themselves gladly, it would be formed then working groups.

Topic country work

In the meantime, we have received many inquiries from non-DDI countries, which can imagine a cooperation also with regard to judging and judge training. This is a very positive development. The election of the country representatives has been pushed into the background by Corona. However, this should still happen this year, the vote about it already took place at the last MV.

Claudia Moser adds that the judges do not have to worry. No one will be removed from the list, because there were no workshops. Solutions will be found here. There will be no exclusion.

### **3.2. Report of the treasurer**

Silke Janiszewski reads out the cash report. Katharina Henf, at the request of Regula Albisser Strom, calls out the document and shares it with the assembly.

Dear DDI members,

At the General Meeting, an annual report on the finances of the Association is to be given to the members of the Association for the past fiscal year.

This is the report for fiscal year 2020.

As of 31.12.2020, the bank balance is € 31,611.67. With a beginning of the year balance of € 20,362.66, this results in a positive difference of € 11,249.01.

This is made up as follows:

The total income for the year 2020 amounted to € 18,445.00, which is distributed as follows:

- Membership fees: € 4,450.00
- license fees: € 1.255,00
- for conducted judge workshops and judge trainings: € 840,00
- received sponsorship money: € 10.000,00
- Value added tax: € 1.900,00 (on received sponsorship money)

Expenses totaled € 7,195.99 in the following composition:

- Costs for conducted judge workshops/training: € 1.814,46
- Judge booklets: € 648,56
- Room rentals: € 625,90
- lump sums for trainers + expenses: € 540,00
- Software and internet costs: € 1.764,35 in total
- Costs for redesigning the homepage: € 737,80
- Service maintenance homepage: € 423,00
- running internet costs: € 275,61
- zoom fees: € 194,76
- ongoing member software: € 133,18
- legal and consulting costs: € 1.137,16 in total
- legal advice: € 906,18
- notary fees: € 145,30
- tax consultancy: € 85,68
- Costs for tournaments: forwarded sponsor money: € 900,00

- Costs for general meetings: total € 898,43
- IT support for electronic voting: € 821,10
- zoom fees € 77,33
- Costs for license booklets: € 265,16 (printing of license booklets)
- Postage: € 292,67 (mailing of license booklets + DDI banner)
- Account management fees/return debit fees: € 123.76

This results in a profit of € 11,249.01 for the fiscal year 2020.

Beyond the report given up to this point, individual items are to be taken up and explained separately.

#### Membership fees:

The membership fees received in 2020 are distributed as follows:

subsequent payments for 2018: € 20.00

subsequent payments for 2019: € 100.00

for 2020: € 4.270,00 (of which GDS 1.350,00)

already for the year 2021: € 60,00

#### Sponsorship funds:

The balance of sponsorship money not yet paid out amounts to € 14,476.44 as of 31.12.2020.

The balance on 01.01.2020 was € 5,376.44. In addition, an amount of € 10,000.00 has been paid by Animonda in January 2020 for the previous year. In total we have been able to pay out € 900.00 to tournament organizers.

#### Paypal account

At the beginning of 2020 a Paypal account was opened for the club. As of 31.12.2020 there was no balance to report.

#### Report of the cash auditors:

The audit by our auditors Judith Loy and Denise Nardelli did not result in any objections. No changes or suggestions are made for the future work of the association. The auditors recommend the full discharge of the board.

The report on the cash audit is available as an e-mail. The original will be sent in the next few days.

The 2020 cash audit report is attached to this report.

Thus, I ask with acknowledgement of the cash report for the financial year 2020 for discharge of me and the remaining executive committee.

Berlin, June 6, 2021

Silke Janiszewski

### **3.3 Report of the cash auditors**

The auditors Denise Nardelli and Judith Loy are not present, but had emailed their report in advance. The cash register was audited and everything is correct.

Katharina adds that Animonda is no longer available as a sponsor. The contract has expired on 12/31/2020. The money from this sponsorship was paid out in 2020 and will still be paid out to tournaments in 2021. After the tournament, an application can be made to Jana Lorenz.

### **3.4. Questions**

No questions

### **3.5. Election to discharge the board**

Election result for the discharge of the board:

For: 36

Abstention: 2

Against: 0

Thus, the election is accepted and the board of directors is discharged.

### **Item 4 Report of the Advisory Board.**

Katharina explains that currently 3 advisory board positions are occupied. Vacant are the positions public relations and organization and coordination of events. These positions are currently taken over by the board.

#### **4.1. Licensing office**

Jasmin Cheema reads out the current figures of the license booklet issuing bodies, Katharina shares the document with the plenary.

Status of license booklets 01.06.2020 - 31.05.2021

Total licenses applied for = 132

Of which 2 that have not been paid.

One order is still open as the membership application is still being processed.

All others are complete, paid and shipped.

The 132 applications are made up as follows:

Germany = 33

France = 1

Italy = 69 (there was a really good order)

Austria = 3

Switzerland = 22

Czech Republic = 3

Hungary = 1

## **4.2. Membership administration**

Sandra Schneider's report of membership, Katharina shares the screen, the plenary has access to the document

Currently the DDI has 418 active members

For the first time we had more resignations than entries. This is also more Corona related, due to death of the dog or giving up the sport.

Membership statistics:

Austria 18  
Belgium 5  
Denmark 5  
France 13  
Germany 190  
Great Britain 1  
Italy 64  
Luxembourg 1  
Netherlands 6  
Poland 2  
Sierra Leone 1  
Slovakia 2  
Spain 2  
Sweden 1  
Switzerland 99  
Czech Republic 4  
Hungary 4

Total active members on 28.04.2021 – 418

New members since the last GM 16

## **4.3. Judge responsible**

### **Response Head of Judges Board 2020**

The judges board had a good start in 2020 and we held regular meetings where different topics and ideas were discussed and the board also developed proposals for the membership meeting.

One of those applications was the new class 0, where we discussed some interesting and varied ideas.

As there had already been some tryouts with a similar idea of a class, Alexandra Vavrova, Daniela Schleemann and Fruszi Willheim came up with a first version of the rules.

The complete board then developed the final proposal based on that version.

We were very happy to see that that proposal was received very positively by the participants of the membership meeting and the test phase and test rules for this Class 0 was accepted with some additions.

The Judges Board then incorporated those additions in the final set of rules which was then

presented at end of June for the test phase.

Due to Corona, unfortunately there weren't many competitions where this new class could be tested, so the DDI board has decided to prolong the test phase for another year until the end of 2021.

A definitive decision about Class 0 will therefore be discussed at the membership meeting in 2022.

A second proposal from the Judges Board was to change the moving-up rules. Not the percentage but a fixed score should decide about a moving-up point. This proposal was received well by the participants of the membership meeting as well and was accepted in general, but the exact amount of points necessary to move up was not fixed there.

The DDI Board and the Judges Board were given the responsibility to discuss the points further and then come to a conclusion. After some further discussion the DDI Board proposed 150 points and this was also unanimously accepted by the Judges Board.

So, for 2021 there is now a new rule:

A team will receive a moving-up point if it reaches 150 points or more in their class.

Important information's for competitors, organizers and judges!

- In the record booklet, where there is %, no entry is necessary.
- A moving-up point is given to any team that reached 150 points or more.
- The organizer should change their Software so the % is not used anymore to give moving-up points.
- The head judge should inform the organizer again on the day about this change.
- The judges that check and sign the license booklets must make sure that the moving-up points are given correctly before signing the booklets.
- The judges make sure that if their points reflect clearly, if the level of performance of the team is enough for the next higher class. This means, if a team receives 20 points or more in a certain judging category this means that the level in that category was high enough to move up into the next class.

## **Judges education**

Due to Corona most of the judge's workshops in 2020 had to be cancelled and even in 2021 it will still be quite difficult to work around the restrictions in some places. There were a few workshops held, one in Germany, Switzerland, Hungary and Italy, but the new judges aspirants will most likely still need some time to finish all their necessary shadow judging to finish their education.

I would like to thank all Judges Coaches that have been coaching and supporting the new aspirants and have been able to help them in these strange times. First experiences with the judges coaches have been very positive as the feedbacks from the new judges have shown. Since 2020 every judges aspirant is connected with a personal judges coach that is there throughout the whole learning time to help with questions, problems and giving feedback.

In Italy we (hopefully) can restart the live judges further education, towards the end of the year there will be a workshop in Switzerland and more options are currently being planned. To ensure that all judges and organisers can plan ahead, the DDI Board has decided that all judges will be remain until the end of 2021 without the need for an update!

Updating workshops as well as judges workshops for new judges will be planned for the second half of 2021 and beginning of 2021 and we are setting up some online-options too.

### **New Judges**

2020 has been slowing down the education of our judges aspirants, but I am sure with the start of the competition season now in this year I am sure that we will see some more new judges finishing their education and we will be able to welcome them into the DDI-judges team.

### **International Development**

With great joy we see that more and more countries are interested in organizing DDI- competitions and want to educate their judges according to our rules.

In the Netherlands the first DDI-judges workshop was held in February 2020. Amongst the participants there were new judges aspirants as well as existing judges that wanted to make the transfer to the DDI-Rules.

And although the practical application was slowed down last year, I am very happy to say, that the list of DDI-Judges coming from other countries is going to grow in the near future!

At the moment there are also discussions held with organizations in Israel and Spain. Both countries want to start organizing competitions under the DDI rules and are therefore also interested in our judges education.

In both countries there were judges workshops planned in 2020 which unfortunately had to be cancelled. At the moment we are discussing options to offering at least parts of the judges education online in 2021 to get them started until travelling is again easier and we can do the practical parts in their countries.

And I was very happy to hear shortly before the Membership meeting that there is also a Russian Association interested to be working together with the DDI and that they would like to start using the DDI-rules for their competitions.

I am sure, that all these countries will be an enrichment for our sport as well as the DDI and I am very much looking forward to that international exchange.

My thanks go to Katharina Henf who has been managing the contacts to Spain as well as Israel and to Debra Benard who kindly agreed to assist with the coordination with the Russian Association together with Katharina.

### **Thank you:**

A big Thank you goes to all members of the judges board for their constructive work:

Anna Kraus

Chiara Meccoli

Daniela Schleemann

Fruszi Willheim

Katrin Stiller

Sasa Vavrova

Sonja Scheurer

Important: At the membership meeting in 2022 there are (re)elections of the members of the judges board. This means that all existing members can candidate for reelection.

At the same time new candidates can for the individual countries can present themselves to be elected too!

Any person applying for the judges board have to send in their application by the 31st of December 2021 to Claudia Moser / Head of Judges board.

### **Judges administration**

A further thank you goes to Annette Söll, who had been continuing the judges administration last year, updating the judges list, sending out judges booklets and helped with any question regarding judges administration.

### **Personally**

2020 was a difficult year for all of us and it was also a year full of uncertainties and difficult phases. This also has had an effect on my job as head of the judges board as well as the judges education where sometimes the energy and propelling force was lacking. One of the results of that was that the updating of the judges webinars have not yet been finished and haven't been reuploaded.

Thus, I apologize to those judges who wanted to stay updated even during this corona-phase and did not have access to all that information.

But I am optimistic, that now with the finished and updated set of rules we will be able to get the last updates into the webinars. They will then be recorded again in German and English as well as some further languages and will then be made available online for all the judges.

### **Outlook and To-Do's 2021**

We are in the process of reorganizing the judges education as well as judges further education to be held in parts online. This is to make the contents available for more judges in an easier way as well as making the Live-Workshops more efficient.

For the Judges education this means:

- Creating a concept for an Online-Judges-Education
- Starting to implement that new concept
- Updating the Judges webinars and publishing them until the middle of the year - Organizing Online-Updating events for our judges

Tasks for the Judges Board

- Developing a judges rule book
- Developing a job description for the individual functions:
  - Head of judges board
  - Members of the judges board (representatives from each country) o Judges educators
  - Judges coaches
- Discussing the structure of a judges education with online and live parts
- Adding information on the DDI-website about the judges, the education, ...

I now hope we can gain some momentum for the rest of 2021 and I am interested to see, what will happen in our Dogdance world in the next few months.

Positive Greetings from Switzerland Claudia Moser  
Head of Judges Board DDI e.V.

## **Item 5 Thanks**

Katharina thanks everyone who is involved in the DDI, the board, the advisory board and all the people who help in the background. Everyone puts their heart and soul into their work, although this cannot be taken for granted. The association is grateful for any help.

Many thanks to Jana Lorenz, who supports Silke in the background.

Unfortunately, the board can't do everything, so if you have time and want to help, feel free to contact us.

Many thanks to the translators of the regulations: Debra Bernard, Silvia Sanchez and her husband and Chiara Meccholli. This will allow us to offer the regulations in different languages to the starters.

Axel will not stand for re-election. He will continue to take care of the website. Axel has been a great support to Katharina, thank you very much for that!

Axel also thanks Katharina for the cooperation and gives reasons for his departure.

## **Item 6 Board elections**

### **6.1 Explanation of the election periods of the Board of Directors**

In the odd years the 2nd chair, the treasurer and the advisory board are elected.

In the even years the 1st chair and the secretary are elected.

### **6.2 Elections of the Board**

2nd chair

Katharina proposes Sandra Roth as the new second chair. Sandra is not present due to illness, but has emailed her written application and consent in advance. Katharina shows the document of the meeting on the screen.

Further suggestions can be made.

No further suggestions are made.

Election result for the election of the second board:

For: 36

Abstention: 2

Against: 0

Sandra Roth is elected as second chairperson

### **Treasurer**

Silke stands for re-election.

There are no opposing candidates.

Election result for the election of the treasurer

For: 37

Abstention: 1

Against: 0

Silke accepts the election and thanks.

### **Assessor**

Sandra Schneider stands for re-election.

There are no opposing candidates.

Election result for the election of the assessor

For: 36

Abstention: 2

Against: 0

Sandra accepts the election and thanks.

### **Item 7 Election of the advisory board (honorary offices)**

Allocation of licenses

Jasmin Cheema stands for re-election.

There are no opposing candidates.

Election result for the election of the advisory board awarding of licenses

For: 38

Abstention: 0

Against: 0

Jasmin accepts the election and thanks.

### **Public Relations**

Currently this position is not filled, if no candidate is found, the position will remain unfilled.

Sarah Bernegger asks what needs to be done.

Katharina briefly explains the scope of duties. Administration and maintenance of the Facebook page, the website, press relations in consultation with the board.

Sarah Bernegger stands for election.

There are no other candidates.

Election result for the election of the advisory board public relations

For: 36

Abstention: 2

Against: 0

Sarah accepts the election and thanks. Katharina thanks for the commitment.

### **Judges**

Claudia Moser is standing for re-election.

There are no opposing candidates.

Election result for the election of the Advisory Board Judges

For: 37

Abstention: 1

Against: 0

Claudia accepts the election and thanks.

### **Membership**

Sandra Schneider stands for re-election.

There are no opposing candidates.

Election result for the election of the advisory board for members

For: 37

Abstention: 1

Against: 0

Sandra accepts the election and thanks.

### **Organization and coordination of events**

This position is currently not occupied.

The tasks of the post are explained by Katharina and Axel, as well as Claudia. It should be a kind of coordination post, which can make it easier for the organizers to plan tournaments.

Sabine Bräuniger takes the floor. She would try it, if nobody finds itself. She herself finds it annoying when tournaments overlap and therefore stands for election.

Election result for the election of the advisory board organization and coordination of events

For: 33

Abstentions: 5

Against: 0

Sabine Bräuniger accepts the election.

Break from 12.11 p.m. to 13.00 p.m.

After the break 37 members entitled to vote are present.

Melanie Felix has excused herself.

### **TOP 8 Election of the auditors**

Judith Loy and Denise Nardelli are standing for re-election, but both are not present. Their declaration of consent and application are available in written form. Katharina shows both documents on the screen.

There are no counter proposals.

Election result for the election of the cash auditors

Judith Loy

For: 37

Abstention: 0

Against: 0

Denise Nardelli

For: 37

Abstention: 0

Against: 0

Judith Loy and Denise Nardelli are confirmed as auditors. Thank you very much.

### **TOP 9 Discussion and vote about the future election periods of the advisory board (honorary positions) and auditors**

The election periods of the advisory board should be adapted to the periods of the board and be set to 2 years. The advisory board is elected in the odd years for 2 years. The auditors are elected in the even years for 2 years.

Election result for the election periods of the advisory board and the cash auditors

For: 37

Abstention: 0

Against: 0

The motion is accepted.

## **ITEM 10 Regulations Discussions**

(Remark: List of exact discussion points will be published after the deadline for accepting membership applications, i.e. 7 days before the meeting.)

Heike Vetter would like big dogs to be allowed to enter the senior class earlier, the entry age should be lowered.

Katharina explains that this has already been covered in the current and revised regulations. She calls out the passage in the regulations and shares her screen with everyone.

No further discussion of regulations.

## **Item 11 Motions submitted in accordance with the Articles of Association Motions received see Annex.**

### **Motion 1 Item 1 Claudia Moser**

Claudia reads out her motion.

Topic: Selection of judges for qualification tournaments & National Opens.

Justification:

At the moment only the judge responsible is responsible for the approval of the judges and I think it would make sense to extend this decision to the complete judges committee, also because the members of the committee can estimate the judging system in their countries better than the judge responsible, who may not know all judges personally.

Furthermore, the regulations currently only state that the judges of the Qualifier/National Open are subject to approval. The aim of this regulation was to invite enough experienced judges for bigger and important tournaments, who on the one hand can handle big classes and on the other hand have the necessary experience to decide which teams can qualify for international tournaments. With the approval of the judges, it can also be guaranteed that the organizers cannot influence the outcome of the tournament with the selection of judges.

However, since more and more judges are invited for a large tournament, variant 1 still cannot guarantee that the qualifying classes HTM3 and FS3 will be judged by experienced judges, so I recommend the adoption of variant 2.

This would have the advantage that only a part of the judges have to be approved and at the same time it could be guaranteed that the qualifications are judged by a balanced team of judges.

Variant 1:

The judges for Qualifiers & National Opens are always subject to approval by the DDI. The planned judge selection is sent (before booking) to the judge in charge.

He will present the selection to the Judges Panel and the Judges Panel will vote on the selection.

The organizer receives within 14 days the feedback, whether the judges were approved and can then book them as usual.

Variant 2:

The judges for Qualifiers & National Opens are always subject to approval by the DDI. The planned judge selection for the qualification classes HTM 3 and FS 3 will be sent to the judge responsible.

He will present the selection to the Judges Panel and the Judges Panel will vote on the selection.

The organizer receives within 14 days the feedback, whether the judges were approved and can then book them as usual.

Heike Vetter asks if it makes sense to involve the whole panel.

Claudia explains that it makes sense especially for big Opens. More international judges should be invited, and here the whole committee would also have more know-how.

Election result Motion 1 Point 1 Claudia Moser

For: 36

Abstention: 1

Against: 0

The motion is accepted.

Election result Motion 1 Item 2 Claudia Moser

For: 34

Abstention: 3

Against: 0

The motion is adopted.

## **Motion 2 Claudia Moser**

Claudia reads out her motion

Criteria for the selection of judges at qualifying tournaments / National Opens.

Reason:

Up to now there were no criteria defined by the general meeting, according to which the selection of judges for qualification tournaments / National Opens should be made.

As a judge responsible person, I have so far checked the selection of judges according to the following criteria and would now like to put these up for discussion and election.

Proposal:

To be a judge for a Qualifying Tournament / National Open (if variant 1 is accepted) /.

In order to be invited as a judge for the classes HTM 3 and FS 3 at a qualification tournament / National Open, the judges should fulfill the following requirements:

- Active judge for at least 2 years
- Has already judged the classes HTM 3 and FS 3 several times
- Has already judged at larger tournaments / larger classes
- The judge panel is as balanced as possible = judges come from different countries / regions.
- Ideally only 1 judge from the hosting country on the panel in classes 3.

Sonja Scheurer points out that it will be difficult to find English speaking judges. Many good judges do not speak English

Jana Lorenz thinks that it should be ensured that everyone at the judges' table understands everything, be it by translation by the other judges.

Heike Vetter agrees

Claudia Moser thinks Jana's point is good. Andrea Katz thinks this is the responsibility of the organizers.

Claudia Moser would like to pass the discussion on to the judges' committee.

Election result Motion 2 Claudia Moser

For: 33

Abstention: 3

Against: 1

The motion is accepted.

### **Motion 3 Claudia Moser**

Claudia reads out her motion.

Membership in DDI before judge training (After discussion with GDS).

Reason:

Nowhere in the regulations does it explicitly state that an aspirant must already be a member of the DDI in order to start the judge training. So far it is only stated that the judges become a free member after finishing their training.

Variant 1:

Before starting the judge training, the person must already be a member of the DDI.

Variant 2:

Before the start of the judge training, the person must already be a member of the DDI for at least 1 year.

Debra Bernard asks if this is a problem in the bookkeeping if a member then becomes a free member.

Jana Lorenz negates this.

Heike Vetter suggests becoming a free member 1 year after training. This would be a new proposal to be discussed next year.

Jana Lorenz: Judges only become a free member when they are active judges. This is already practice, but not fixed in writing.

Election result Motion 3 Claudia Moser

For: 36  
Abstention: 1  
Against: 0

The motion is accepted

Election result motion 3 variant 2 Claudia Moser

For: 25  
Abstention: 3  
Against: 9

The variant is accepted

#### **Motion 4a by Claudia Moser**

Claudia reads out her motion and adds that it would only be the formal implementation of what is already practice anyway.

Definition for application for National Opens & Qualification Tournaments (addition at 7.2.)

Justification:

Organizers should find directly in the regulations the things they have to consider if they are interested in hosting a National Open or a Qualification Tournament: Currently, the issues are found in different places (4.3. Tournament Ring Size / 10.1. Qualifications & Championships).

Suggestion addition at 7.2.

Organizers wishing to host a Qualifier or National Open must submit an application to the DDI Board to host the event. The application must include details of the tournament (venue, date) and details of the tournament ring (size, flooring, expected level of distraction e.g. exhibition, running crowd, grandstands, etc.).

In the event of multiple applicants, the DDI Board will award the event to the organizer with the best qualifications for such an event. For title competitions and qualifying tournaments, the applicant with the larger ring will be considered if the requirements are the same.

Election result Motion 4a

For: 30  
Abstention: 7  
Against: 0

The motion is accepted

## **Motion 4b Part 1 by Claudia Moser**

Claudia reads out her motion

Follow-up motion

Justification:

The wording 10.3. "In title competitions and qualification tournaments, the applicant with the larger ring will be considered if the prerequisites are the same" is not clearly formulated.

Because what does equal preconditions mean?

Variant 1:

If Motion: definition for application is accepted, the sentence "In title competitions and qualifying tournaments, the applicant with the larger ring will be considered in case of equal prerequisites" will be deleted.

Variant 2:

If Motion: definition for application is accepted, the sentence "In title competitions and qualifying tournaments, the applicant with the larger ring will be considered, all things being equal" will be deleted.

New addition:

In addition to the matching prerequisites, the Board also considers that the tournaments are held in different regions / by different organizers over the years in order to enable a balanced distribution in the respective country.

Heike Vetter asks if these are informal applications and if certain key data are not written?  
Katharina explains that it will be written in the regulations if the motion is accepted.

Election result motion 4b part 1

For: 30

Abstention: 4

Against: 3

The motion is accepted

## **Motion 4b part 2**

It is asked whether it is obligatory that different organizers or clubs are the organizers?

Katharina denies this, it depends on the number of applicants.

Claudia thinks that it is also about equal opportunities, just because a tournament has always been a qualifying tournament, it does not mean that it will always remain so. So, the board would have more freedom in the choice....

In the meantime, Jessy Lang has left the meeting, Ilona Debona has joined, but cannot vote yet. She renounces her vote. 36 are entitled to vote

Election result motion 4b part 2

For: 26

Abstention: 5

Against: 5

The motion is accepted

### **Motion 5 Claudia Moser**

Claudia reads out her motion

Creation of an info sheet regarding the eligibility for international (non DDI) tournaments (non DDI) tournaments like OEC, Crufts, WM, ...

Justification:

The following question needs clarification and clear definition:

Who is entitled to enter teams in the respective championships?

Depending on the event regulations, different rules apply here as to who is entitled to enter teams and individual competitors in international tournaments.

- Organizer of the qualification?
- DDI Board
- National Dogdance Federation (e.g. GDS)
- National FCI Association (e.g. SKG)
- Team leader confirmed by the board

Since the individual events and also partly the individual countries bring along different preconditions, this leads again and again to questions, problems and different registrations.

Therefore, we think it would make sense for the DDI Board to create an information sheet for each country and each major event (OEC, Crufts, World Championships), where it is defined who is authorized to carry out the qualification / selection and then who is authorized to register the teams / individual starters.

Election result Motion 5

For: 31

Abstention: 5

Against: 0

The motion is accepted

Mary Alicia Aberico cannot vote due to technical difficulties

### **Motion 6 Debra Bernard**

Debra reads out her motion or her proposal

Proposal for distance work

After the section titled "Props" there should be a new section titled " Distance Work".

1. distance work can be done in the freestyle component of HTM (25%). This is the only exception to the definition of Dogdance Heelwork to Music on page (XXX) of these rules.

2. distance work ("run-outs" or large circles around the ring; dog working on opposite sides of the ring from the handler) does not constitute "ring use" as judged under "choreography". However, it may be considered under "Difficulty".

Substantiation: The first paragraph of this proposal simply incorporates into the rules something that was said in the judges webinars. The purpose is to make sure that all participants have received this important information.

The second paragraph is in response to some of the recent developments and questions from competitors. Many competitors try to perform movements where the dog is parallel to them, but at a great distance (e.g., across the ring). But they ask, "Is this considered using the ring?"

From discussions among the judges, it appears that this is not enough and that the team itself must move in the ring. Otherwise, the point of "ring use," which is to show a nice balance of movements inside and around the ring, would be lost. On the other hand, it would only be logical to raise the grade under "difficulty" for such moves.

She then thanks the interpreters.

Point 1 is already anchored in the regulations and is therefore no longer relevant.

Katharina asks if it doesn't make more sense to take this discussion to the judges panel.

Claudia agrees. It is an important question, but rather not for the rules but to the judges and should be discussed in the judges' panel.

Katharina also sees it that way. Accordingly, the motion does not need to be voted on.

Debra withdraws the motion and Claudia takes it up for the judges' panel.

### **TOP 12 Miscellaneous**

Information about Dogdance in Russia (by Debra Benard)

A Russian organization called the All-Russian Dogsport Association (VSKO, its website is quite impressive, but only in Russian! <https://vsko-russia.ru/> ) is very interested in cooperating fully with DDI, including using DDI rules to conduct competitions in Russia and using DDI rules for qualifying events for the OEC.

This association is a member of the International Federation of Cynological Sports (ICFS) and accredited by the Russian Ministry of Sports.

VSKO would like to work closely with DDI, among others, to allow Russian competitors to participate in the OEC, which is highly regarded by many.

They oppose efforts by the Russian Kennel Club in Russia and the FCI worldwide to prevent competitors and judges from freely participating in non-FCI events, including the OEC. In addition, they say that FCI rules are unacceptable because of the restrictions they impose (presumably against non-breed dogs, although a workaround was found for the "EOC" this year). Finally, they declare themselves against monopolistic practices in dog sports and advocate the participation of competitors in any events worldwide.

Annette Söll leaves the meeting.

Katharina is happy about the development and thanks Debra for facilitating.

Axel Weber: should we put this on an official track? It would be nice if the association approached us directly.

Debra explains that this is difficult because of the language barrier. She offers herself as a link.

Katharina thanks.

### **TOP 13 Closing words of the board**

Katharina thanks the interpreters and the gentleman from Vote Box for the good cooperation.

Claudia Moser thanks the board.

Over the chat there are further acknowledgements.