

## Updated Invitation to the Annual General Meeting 2024

Nina Neumann  
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Deutschland

Dear members,

Email [n.neumann@dogdance.info](mailto:n.neumann@dogdance.info)

We are looking forward to our virtual general meeting with you.

As we have had such good experiences in recent years, we are confident that we will be able to successfully organise our General Meeting with you online via ZOOM Cloud Meetings again this year.

**The planned schedule is similar to last year:**

**Friday, 12.04.2024, 6 - 8 p.m. - Discussion round in English**

**Saturday, 13.04.2024, 4 - 8 pm - Discussion round in German**

**Sunday, 14 April 2024, 10 am - 4 pm - Annual General Meeting  
(lunch break from 12:30 - 1:30 pm)**

The discussion rounds can be used to discuss the individual items on the agenda of the Annual General Meeting. However, participation in the discussion rounds is NOT a prerequisite for attending the Annual General Meeting. However, we would like to avoid discussions during the Annual General Meeting.

As last year, we will endeavour to provide a direct translation into English for the Annual General Meeting. The meeting itself will be held in German.

Requests for additions to the agenda can be submitted in writing to the Executive Board up to one week (07.04.2024) before the meeting in writing to the Executive Board so that the Executive Board can still add them to the agenda (Section 10 (3) of the Articles of Association).

Important elections are due:

The election of the 1st Chairperson and that of the secretary.

As well as the election for the cash auditors and the country representatives.

We would be grateful if you could inform us of your wish to stand as a candidate as soon as possible, as we would like to enter the individual points for the operators of the professional voting tool the individual points in the best possible way. From a purely legal point of view, however short-term candidature at the meeting is also possible.



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1. Vorsitzende des Vorstandes

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Planned agenda:

**TOP 1** Welcoming the members

**TOP 2** Opening of the General Meeting

Election of the chair of the meeting

Presentation and approval of the concept of the virtual Annual General Meeting

Determination of the proper invitation

Determination of the quorum

Put applications that were not submitted on time on the agenda

Approval of the agenda

**TOP 3** Reports of the Executive Board

General report of the Executive Board on the past calendar year

Report of the treasurer

Report of the auditors

Questions on the annual reports

Discharge of the Executive Board

**TOP 4** Report of the advisory board

Report of the licence booklet issuing office

Report of the membership representative

Report of the judges' representatives

Report of the representatives for organisation and coordination (by the Executive Board)

**TOP 5** Acknowledgements

**TOP 6** Board elections

- 1st Chair

- Secretary

**TOP 7** Election of the Advisory Board (Honorary Member)

- Auditor

**TOP 8** Election of the country representatives

**TOP 9** Motions submitted by members in accordance with the Articles of Association

(attached)

**TOP 10** Miscellaneous

**TOP 11** Closing remarks by the Executive Board

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For the technical realisation, we need a relatively early registration for participation so that all relevant data can be entered. Of course, as always, it will also be possible to participate at short notice, but the less data we have to change in a short space of time, the better.

We look forward to a constructive exchange and a profitable meeting.

Nina Neumann

1st Chairwoman of the Executive Board

### **Motion 1**

#### **Change the number of HTM positions (Nina Neumann)**

I propose to change the HTM positions to the 10 internationally valid positions.

This would be a relief especially for starters who compete at international tournaments or in other associations. As well as for starters who want to start in the DDI from other associations.

Most of the 8 additional positions in the DDI are very rarely shown. An exciting and balanced HTM choreo can be performed with the 10 internationally recognised positions. Furthermore, the 8 additional positions are not positions in the sense that the dog orients itself with its shoulder to the leg of the human. As it should be according to the definition.

They can still be part of a choreo as a trick.

#### ***Vote:***

***Should the number of HTM positions be reduced to 10?***

Yes / No / Abstain

### **Motion 2**

#### **Submit tournament dates for the National Open and OEC Qualifiers by 30 June of the previous year (Board)**

We would like to set the deadline for National Open and OEC qualification applications to 30 June of the previous year. This would give starters and organisers better planning security. Many organisers have to plan in advance, especially for such important tournaments.

Applications should therefore be received by the board by 30 June of the previous year.

***Deadline for National Opens and OEC qualification 30.06***

Yes / No / Abstain

### **Motion 3**

#### **Increase in price of licence booklet if its lost (Board)**

We propose to increase the price for lost licences. Up to now, a new licence booklet costs 10 euros. We would like to increase the price to the amount of a new licence booklet. The effort and costs for a replacement booklet are just as high as for a new licence, so why should a replacement licence be cheaper?

Members receive the first booklet free of charge, if its lost, members must also pay the price of a new licence.

***Cost of licence in case of loss like new booklet***

Yes / No / Abstain



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#### **Motion 4**

##### **Titles and qualifications only awarded to DDI members (Kirsten Vrancken)**

The DDI currently awards the following titles and organises the following qualifiers: National Opens, i.e. national championships (e.g. German champion DDI). In addition, the qualification for the OEC (Open European Championship) takes place in the respective DDI countries.

##### **Vote a)**

I request that the title "... Champion DDI" may only be held by a member of the DDI.

##### **Alt:**

"Any person may participate in dogdance competitions which are organised according to the rules of the DDI e.V. and may win national and international DDI e.V. titles. Membership of Dogdance International e.V. is NOT required."

##### **New:**

"Any person may take part in dogdance competitions organised in accordance with DDI e.V. regulations **and may win national and international DDI e.V. titles**. Membership of Dogdance International e.V. is NOT required. In order to hold the title of German / Swiss / Austrian / Italian etc. Champion DDI. **In order to be allowed to bear the title German / Swiss / Austrian / Italian etc. Champion DDI, a membership in the Dogdance International e.V. association is required.**"

##### **Reason**

Anyone wishing to hold a title awarded by the DDI should be a member of Dogdance International e.V.. As a member, you are committed to the values of the association, the articles of association and the code of conduct, and support the association through the membership fee.

##### **Vote a)**

***I request that the title "... Master DDI" may only be held by a member of the DDI.***

Yes / No / Abstain

##### **Vote b)**

Competitors who wish to qualify for an international competition within the framework of a DDI tournament should be members of the DDI.

##### **Alt:**

"Any person may participate in dogdance competitions organised according to the rules of the DDI e.V. and may win national and international DDI e.V. titles. Membership of Dogdance International e.V. is NOT required."

##### **New:**

"Any person may participate in dogdance competitions organised in accordance with DDI e.V. regulations and may win national and international DDI e.V. titles. Membership of Dogdance International e.V. is NOT required. In order to qualify for international dogdance competitions that take place at DDI tournaments, membership of Dogdance International e.V. is required."

##### **Reason**

Anyone wishing to travel to an international competition as part of the team at a DDI event should be a member of the Dogdance International e.V. association. As a member, you are committed to the values of the association, the articles of association and the code of conduct, and support the association through the membership fee.

##### **Voting b)**

***Competitors who wish to qualify for an international competition as part of a DDI tournament should be members of the DDI.***

Yes / No / Abstain



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### **Motion 5**

#### **OEC qualification only for starters in the HTM3 and FS3 classes (Board)**

As there are discussions every year, we would like to put it in writing that only starters from classes HTM3 and FS3 will be admitted to the OEC qualification. If not enough class 3 starters take part in the qualification, no complete team can be sent. It is not possible to "fill up" from the HTM2 and FS2 classes.

#### ***OEC qualification only for starters in classes HTM3 and FS3***

Yes / No / Abstain

### **Motion 6**

#### **Claudia Moser: Senioren & Handicap-Classes**

I hereby propose to combine the two separate Senior-Handicap-Classes FS and HTM into one combined Senior-Handicap-Class.

If this proposal is accepted, this will also mean, that there will still be a record booklet needed to enter in this class, but it is not defined, if the competitor has a HTM- or a FS-record booklet.

**Reason:** In the Senior-Handicap-classes we usually only have a few competitors. Splitting those few competitors into two separate classes makes each class even smaller.

This makes it more cost intensive for the organiser (trophy and prizes) and at the same time it is less attractive for the competitors to enter really small classes.

As the judging-points for Senior-Handicap-Classes had been adapted (no points given for content and difficulty) there will be no problems when judging them in the combined class.

There is also no further problems expected in regards to the package-rules, as the competitor can still not return to the other official classes, once they have entered the Senior-Handicap-Class.

#### ***Vote: Should the Seniors/Handicap FS and HTM classes be merged into one class?***

Yes / No / Abstain

### **Motion 7 (lapses is motion 6 is accepted)**

#### **Change of evaluation senior class (Inka Burow)**

Change of evaluation in the senior/handicap class

Vote:

In the Senior/Handicap class, the evaluation point "Content" will be evaluated again. Instead, the evaluation point "Choreography" will no longer be included in the evaluation.

#### **Reason:**

The fact that the assessment point "Content" is currently not assessed in the Senior/Handicap class makes it virtually impossible to differentiate between the two categories Freestyle (FS) and Heelwork to Music (HTM). To make a distinction possible, the content should be assessed. To ensure that "teamwork" and "flow" - the two most important assessment points according to the regulations - can continue to be assessed twice and the maximum number of points to be achieved remains the same, there should no longer be an assessment for "choreography" in the senior/handicap class. This would mean that the two least decisive evaluation points according to the regulations would be dropped.

#### ***Vote: In the Senior/Handicap class, the "Content" evaluation point will be evaluated again. Instead, the evaluation point "Choreography" is no longer included in the evaluation.***

Yes / No / Abstain



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### **Motion 8**

#### **Change Age for class 3 (Lusy Imbergerova)**

I writing you for make a proposal for change a rules. I think that it isn't right have in rules DDI that in class 3 can compete the dog when have 3 years. We must to use rules of OEC and world championship where is write that the dog can compete when have 18 months. So this part of rules must be change so all dogs in all world have the same rules.

***Vote: should we change the Age for dogs in class FS3 and HTM3 to 18 months?***

Yes / No / Abstain

### **Motion 9**

#### **Definition Targets (Uta Opel)**

Clearly state under 6.3.2. that only target rods and floor targets "in their original condition" lead to disqualification.

Reason: There are often discussions about whether it is a target or a prop. We all know that any prop can be used as a target. Some are more similar to commercial targets (e.g. walking stick with knob and others less so). Of course, it also depends on the way a prop is used.

Maybe there is a better term than "in original condition", but you know what I mean, what I mean...

One more thought: sometimes judges take a negative view if a prop is only used once in the choreography. However, it can fit in with the choreography that a prop is only used once. I have also found no indication in the regulations that a prop should be used more than once.

***Vote***

***Definition of Targets***

Yes / No / Abstain



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## **Motion 10**

### **Skonto GDS (Verena Verones)**

The GDS (Gemeinschaft Dogdance Schweiz) board submits the following proposal to the DDI AGM on 14 April 2014;

Granting of a 5% discount on the total transfer of membership fees of Swiss members who are members of GDS and therefore also members of DDI; the discount amount will be deducted directly by the GDS treasurer. Our written request dated 13 September 2013 could not be decided by the DDI Board, which is why we are submitting the request for a vote at the DDI AGM.

#### **Background:**

The board GDS (Gemeinschaft Dogdance Schweiz) has sent a letter to the board of the DDI (Dogdance International) on 13.9.23 in the context of the membership fee increase from Euro 20 to Euro 30.

We have asked them to grant us a discount of 5% on the total transfer of membership fees. This amounts to approx. 70.00 - 100.00 euros per year, which we would credit to our association in Switzerland and could use for other opportunities such as workshop or tournament support or the AGM supporting programme. This currently amounts to 79 membership fees. Since 2015, GDS has been regularly transferring total payments from all GDS members, these are usually amounts between 1400-1500 euros per year since 2016 - 2023 (from 2024 it will be around 2160.00 euros)

#### **Reasons for granting a discount:**

1. guaranteed payment, as GDS bears the payment responsibility for its members and carries out reminders and debt collection for GDS members independently of DDI
2. collective transfer, less work with checks and reminders for the DDI treasurer
3. punctual receipt of payment as at 31 March xx by GDS

#### **Vote**

***Granting of a global 5% discount on the membership fees of GDS members for collective transfers***

Yes / No / Abstain

## **Motion 11a (Vinciane Vialettes)**

Dear members

I would like to put to the vote two amendments concerning the junior category.

Children are the future of our sport and I would very much like to encourage them as much as possible through these adjustments:

I think it's a shame that juniors can't keep track of their participation in the junior class in the workbook. I therefore propose that when a junior competes in the junior class, these results should be entered in the workbook starting from the end so as not to disrupt the order of his or her participation in the official class.

#### **Vote**

***Starts in the junior class are entered at the end of the licence booklet***

Yes / No / Abstain



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### **Motion11b**

If the junior competes in a zero class in order to start with the official class, he should have a special junior ranking within the classes.

Because today in the junior class treats are not allowed, whereas adults have this possibility. And it can be intimidating to compete with adults.

#### ***Vote***

***Junior get an own ranking in classes 0***

Yes / No / Abstain

### **Motion 12**

#### **Entering bitches in heat (Claudia Moser/Jugdes board)**

Bitches in heat can enter all competitions and are allowed in the venue of the competition. We expect all competitors to pay attention to each other, look ahead and be considerate and respectful with each other.

The bitch in heat must wear pants whenever they are near the ring, in the preparation area as well as in the ring. Wearing pants within the complete venue is recommended.

The bitch in heat will be competing at the end of the class they have entered (Funclasses and official classes). If a competitor does not report his bitch in heat, a disqualification may be given until the end of the competition day.

The head judge will discuss with the organiser, if there might be any restrictions (not much space, narrow corridors, etc.) as well as defining a possible rest area for the bitches in heat (ideally a bit separated from the rest areas of the other competitors).

Headjudge and organiser try to find the best possible solutions for all competitors. This might mean, that if there is not enough space, it might not be possible to have rest areas for the competing teams in the venue itself.

The organiser informs the competitors, if a bitch in heat is present and where the rest area for these dogs is. If participation of bitches in heat is explicitly not allowed according to hall regulations or regulations of the venue, this must be published in the announcement of the competition. The venue regulations must be published for this rule to be valid. In that case, entering an intact bitch is at the owners risk.

If a competitor withdraws a start due to the bitch being in heat, he will not get a refund of his entry fees. The organiser can (but is not obliged to) offer an alternative Funstart.

This offer also applies to any owner of a male dog who withdraws his dog from a class due to a bitch in heat being present.

Reason: at the first tournaments of the year there were different interpretations of the previous version, especially when it came to the exact whereabouts of the bitch in heat and who has to decide what. For this reason, this passage was formulated more precisely.

#### ***Vote***

***New wording bitches in season***

Yes/no/Abstain



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### **Motion 13**

#### **Expenditure for the homepage (Executive Board)**

The homepage must be brought up to date. This will cost approx. 4000 euros. According to the statutes, the members must vote on costs over 2000 euros.

#### **Vote:**

***May the board have the homepage updated, costs approx. 4000 euro***

Yes/No/Included

### **Motion 14**

#### **Annual starting licence for ....€ for non-members (Sandra Schneider)**

Justification:

The association is currently only financially supported by the members, although non-members benefit from the association to a similar extent (e.g. provision of the rules, judges and their extensive training and further education, tournament structures) in order to achieve a little more balance here, we have considered introducing an annual starting licence in addition to the one-off payment for the licence booklet. Members receive this licence free of charge - after payment of the membership fee at the beginning of the year (licence valid until 31 March).

A starting licence, like the licence booklet, is only compulsory for official starts.

The licence is related to the person, not to the licence booklet (one licence must be purchased per person) Depending on the budget, a sponsor key will be worked out so that the additional income benefits the tournament organisers.

#### **Vote**

***Should an annual starting licence be introduced?***

Yes/No/ Abstain

### **Motion 14A - If motion 1 is accepted:**

Variant A: 20€

Variant B: 40€

Variant C: Amount to be determined by member vote - amount to be determined during discussion rounds.

#### **Vote**

A/B/C/Abstain

### **Motion 15**

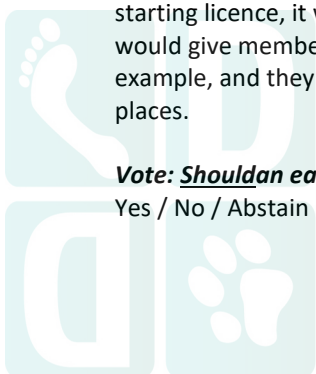
#### **Earlier registration deadline for members (voluntary for organisers) (Sandra Schneider)**

Justification:

Membership in the DDI should become more attractive. For very popular and heavily attended tournaments, we would therefore like to have the option of an earlier entry deadline for members. As this often means additional work for the organisers, this should be done on a voluntary basis by the organisers. With the annual starting licence, it would be easy to confirm membership and this could then be proven when registering. This would give members the opportunity to register a week in advance for the "Antanzen im Westen", for example, and they might have to worry a little less about whether they can get one of the coveted starting places.

**Vote: *Should an earlier registration deadline be introduced?***

Yes / No / Abstain



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### **Motion 16**

#### **Judges' clothing (Sandra Schneider)**

As there was some displeasure regarding the "dress code" for judges, this passage should be adapted and defined more precisely.

Judges will receive a voucher from Spreadshirt with each training and further training course after completing all modules, but only every 2 years, so that they can dress appropriately. If you do not wish to accept this sponsorship from the DDI, you can have your own clothing produced (print shop, plot yourself, etc.), we will be happy to provide the templates. After submitting the invoice, the €25 sponsorship will be paid out.

If the voucher is not redeemed, the DDI must be informed so that these vouchers can be allocated elsewhere. This sponsorship money is available to the judges; if the voucher is not redeemed, the money remains with the Spreadshirt shop, which is not the point.

If a judge does not wish to wear judges' clothing at all, they are required to at least attach a name badge with the DDI logo to their clothing. The template for the name badge is provided by the DDI, the design (to be pinned on, sticker etc.) is left to the judge. As judges, we should be recognisable during the entire tournament if possible, so that starters have the opportunity to recognise us and address us if necessary.

***Vote: Should the section on judges' clothing be amended?***

Yes/No/Abstain

### **Motion 17**

#### **Judges' committee (Sandra Schneider)**

In order to speed up the flow of information, one person from the Executive Board and one person from the judges' administration should always sit on the committee. This can also be one person who fills both positions.

No voting rights, but admitted to discussions.

It is only about a simpler exchange of information.

***Vote***

***Should one person from the Executive Board and one person from the judges' administration sit on the judges' panel as a panellist?***

Yes/ No/ Abstain

### **Motion 18**

#### **Addition to OEC qualification (Sandra Schneider)**

If a team does not qualify for the OEC (cancellation, injury, disqualification...) but there is still a place available in the national team for the OEC, this team can still move up if it wishes.

Justification:

The OEC is a major event that cannot be financed if fewer and fewer teams are travelling. As the number of Class 3 starters is already regulated, we would like to avoid a situation where there are even fewer teams due to a snapshot of the qualification process.

However, if there are more teams than free places available, the national team cannot be filled for reasons of fairness to all qualifying starters.

In special cases, the board decides by vote.

***Vote: Should this addition to the OEC qualification be added to the regulations?***

Yes/ No/ Abstain



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## Applications after 07.04.2024, not submitted by the deadline

### **Motion 19**

#### **New definition of "end of the dance" (Judges Board / Verena Verones)**

The "end of the dance" is not defined precisely enough and can be interpreted in different ways. This concerns the passage under disqualifications point 6.3.3 of the DDI regulations.

Therefore, in order to clarify whether a disqualification must be pronounced, I would like to propose the following motion for a more precise wording "end of the dance"

Old:

After the end of the dance, the dog still deals with the prop, performs a trick with it, plays with it. with it.

#### **My suggestion new:**

After the end of the dance, the dog still deals with the prop, performs a trick with it, plays with it.

**The end point of the dance is defined by the team's final position and does not have to coincide with the end of the music.**

**Explanation using an example:** The music is finished, the team is too late, but they complete their planned choreography. In this part of the choreography, which is completed without music, it may be planned that the dog still has to retrieve something, e.g. a basket, a flower, a prop in short, which only then results in the finished final picture. However, if the end of the dance is defined as the end of the music, the retrieve would lead to a disqualification as the dog is still working on the prop. The new regulation would not justify a disqualification, but only a lower score in the choreography category (= poorly planned structure). This view is also conveyed in the workshops for the judges.

#### **Voting**

***The end of the dance ends with the final pose***

Yes/No/Abstain



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## Editorial changes

### HTM-Deductions:

On the judging sheet a box will be added which is named: Too much Freestyle. The judges make a cross there, if they feel the team has shown more than the allowed 25% of Freestyle content.

The deduction itself will be incorporated in Content. The rules are as follows:

0% HTM and 100% Freestyle → The Team can reach a max. of 10 points in Content.

25% HTM and 75% Freestyle → The Team can reach a max. of 15 points in Content.

50% HTM and 50 % Freestyle → The Team can reach a max. of 20 points in Content.

75% or more HTM → The Team can reach up to 25 points in Content.

Smaller oversteps → 0,5 - 1 points of deduction in Content.

Slightly bigger oversteps 1-5 points of deduction in Content.

The deductions are at the judges discretion and are made by estimation = there is no timer used, etc.

### Attack of a dog – Definition

1. Dog jumps out of the ring  
**-Disqualification**
2. Dog jumps out of ring and attacks another dog  
**-Disqualification and exemption from competition. The Judges at table can see and decide if it is an attack or not.**
3. Dog jumps into the ring - Disturbance from outside  
**-The team in the ring gets the option for a rerun right away or at the end of the class.**
4. Dog jumps into the ring and attacks competing dog  
**-Disqualification and exemption from the competition for the attacking dog.  
If the competing dog in the ring defends himself and in the course of that hurts the attacking dog, there is NO Disqualification, as it was not the competing dogs fault, that the situation was happening.**
5. Dog jumps out of preparation ring and attacks another dog – but there are no visible wounds  
**-no Disqualification**
6. Dog jumps out of preparation ring and attacks another dog - with visible wounds (blood, scratch, bite marks) = Level 2 or higher on Bite Scale  
**-Disqualification and exemption from the competition  
Decision about severity can be made by Bite-Scale**

**If a dog is exempt from the competition, it can remain in the venue of the competition, but it must be under control and on leash at all times!**



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