



Icelandic Sheepdog International Cooperation

5th March 2016

Minutes of the 20th International seminar for the Icelandic Sheepdog, Kópavogur, Iceland, 23rd – 25th October 2015

Participants:

Club representatives:

DÍF, Iceland: Margrét Bára Magnúsdóttir
Helga Andrésdóttir

IF-DK, Denmark: Jørgen Metzdorff
Else Westermann

ISAA, USA: Spike Williamson

Islanninkoirat, Finland: Katariina Jarkko
Anne Vaskio

NIHK, Norway: Geir Steinar Henriksen
Linn Langset

SIFK, Sweden: Ingbritt Sannel
May Britt Sannerholt

VdIL, The Netherlands Natasja Hagemeyer

ISIC/Executive committee: Svend Brandt Jensen, chairman
Ingbritt Sannel, secretary
Katariina Jarkko, treasurer

Guests DÍF: Herdís Hallmarsdóttir, president of HRFÍ
Brynhildur Bjarnadóttir
Linda Björk Jónsdóttir
Sunna Líf Hafþórsdóttir
Þorsteinn Thorsteinson

Guest IF-DK: Tove Møller Christensen

Guest ISIC: Guðrún Ragnars Guðjohnsen

Guest ISIC – Sunday afternoon: Guðríður Þorbjörg Valgeirsdóttir

Guest lecturers: Guðni Ágústsson, data responsible for ISIC
Þórhildur Bjartmarz



Saturday 23rd October 2015:

1. Opening of the 20th ISIC seminar

Margrét Bára Magnúsdóttir, chairman of DÍF, welcomed all participants to the 20th ISIC seminar in Iceland and then gave the floor over to Svend Brandt Jensen, ISIC/Executive Committee (ISIC/exec) Chairman who formally declared the seminar open and especially welcomed the new members and Guðrún R. Guðjohnsen, their guest at the seminar.

2. Announcement of a Chairman and Secretary for the seminar

Herdís Hallmarsdóttir was appointed Chairman of the seminar and Þorsteinn Þorsteinsson Secretary.

Herdís thanked DÍF for inviting her to take part in the seminar and said it was a great opportunity for her, as the new president of the Icelandic Kennel Club, HRFÍ, to meet the group that is cooperating on behalf of Iceland's national breed. She said this was very important and that we have a huge responsibility to maintain and preserve the breed. The Icelandic Kennel Club has a good working relationship with DÍF and the breed club has the full trust and support of the board of the Icelandic Kennel Club.

3. Report of the ISIC/Executive committee

Ingbritt Sannel, secretary of ISIC/exec, gave a short introduction on what the committee have been doing this year. They sent out some newsletters to the clubs and had a meeting in the middle of the summer where they discussed and planned this seminar and how they are going to encourage group responsibility for the breed and to help every club to work together. The ISIC/exec also talked about economy and future meetings.

In order to save money the committee also communicated through the internet. They are now focusing on 2016 and 2017 and to keep the ISIC seminars going in the future. They have also tried to answer questions from some of the clubs; mostly about the database.

Two members of the ISIC/exec committee, Ingbritt Sannel and Svend Brandt Jensen also met at the Danish Træf in August, there they had a meeting with Hans Thollef Bergan, webmaster for the ISIC homepage, and Jørgen Metzdorff, both of whom are in the group working on the ISIC database.

Svend Brandt Jensen, chairman of ISIC/exec informed us that they tried to move the ISIC bank account from Denmark to Finland but did not succeed as it would have been too expensive, this was very time consuming.

Katariina Jarkko, ISIC/exec treasurer, informed us that in Finland ISIC would be treated as a company which would make everything more complicated. It would have cost about €500 just to open an account in Finland and therefore ISIC would continue with the bank account in Denmark.



4. Club annual reports – special matters

Each club was asked to present their reports and whether there were any special matters to discuss.

Helga Andrésdóttir from DÍF started. She talked about the suggestion from DÍF, that one member of the ISIC/exec committee should always be from Iceland, just as it has been for the last 20 years. She also informed us that DÍF has about 10 fewer members than the previous year.

Brynhildur Bjarnadóttir, also from DÍF, talked about „Víkingsveitin“, a group within DÍF with the aim to encourage people to work more with their dogs on various activities such as rally obedience, agility and tracking. She informed us that this group is looked upon as a prequel to continuing on to the official working tests available through the kennel club.

Jørgen Metzdorff, from IF-DK Denmark, said that the things they wanted to highlight were, just as discussed last year, a decrease of members in their club even though it has most likely become more stable this year. The Danish Kennel Club, DKK, had a seminar about how to increase the interest from members and how to help them to become more active members of the breed clubs. They are currently working with ideas discussed at that seminar.

In Denmark they have local regions within the breed club in different parts of the country and what is done in each region depends a lot on the people in that area, their particular interests and how much time they want to spend on them.

Jørgen also talked about breeding with dogs with C hips, which was discussed at the seminar last year that has not been the problem the Danish club feared it might be. About other activities in the Danish club Jørgen talked about the mental tests, they did not have to stop as many dogs during the test this year as before but they can see a difference between breeding lines. They have seen an increase in curiosity and are of course very happy to see that. ID-DK has to decide whether they want to continue to use their own herding test as they have done or start to use the official test used by the Danish Kennel Club.

May Britt Sannerholt, from SIFK in Sweden, informed us about mistakes in the figures that have been found in their club report, she said she will fix them and resend it to all the other clubs in ISIC.

May Britt also informed us that since 2008 the number of members in SIFK has decreased from 500 to about 250, so they have lost half of their members. The biggest reason for this is that people have given up on owning Icelandic sheepdogs and chosen a similar breed instead. For many people it does not matter if they have Icelandic Sheepdogs or for example a Finnish lapphund. She thinks this is probably not only happening in Sweden and is something that the clubs have to be aware of and work more to improve the mentality of the Icelandic Sheepdog.

May Britt talked about the small number of male dogs used in breeding and wants the clubs in general to work harder to rectify this. She pointed to the report from Germany and the fact that in Sweden they only used half the male dogs in breeding compared to Germany. The same applies to bitches, it is important to use at least 20 males and at least 3-5 bitches per male.

May Britt also sent greetings from Hans-Åke Sperne, former secretary of ISIC/exec, this was the first ISIC seminar he did not take part in.



Spike Williamson from ISAA brought best wishes from Terry Rooney Warnock and Peg Johnson from the USA who could not attend the seminar this year and also informed us that Wilma Roem from the Netherlands couldn't attend either as she was judging their National Speciality show that weekend.

Spike talked about the ISIC seminar which is planned to be held in America in 2018 and also that just as in most of the other countries the numbers of members in ISAA is going down.

Linn Langset from NIHK in Norway informed us that the biggest concern for their club in 2014 was that there were only 3 litters born in Norway that year and that is very few for them though 7 puppies were imported. They had 4 dogs diagnosed with Distichiatis, this is the first time this eye-disorder has been found in Icelandic sheepdogs Norway.

At the Norwegian Træf 14 dogs were shown, they also had agility and obedience competitions and 2 dogs were mental tested that same weekend.

Membership has also dropped in the Norwegian club and they now have about 270 members. Norway is a big country and in different areas the club has organized walks. More people in Norway do the recommended health tests and the club has made efforts to encourage it's member to do so.

Natasja Hagemeyer, from NdIL in the Netherlands, said the situation there was the same as before, with only a slight increase in litters, 14 instead of the 10 litters in 2013. Those litters were mainly shared between the same 4 or 5 breeders, one breeder had 6 litters and another had 3 litters. They have a slight decrease in members of their club but not enough to worry about. The club has decided that breeders have to make their puppy buyers members of the club for the first year and the breeders get a special price for that subscription. The club is hoping that those new members will stay members after their introductory year.

The club in the Netherlands is trying to be more active and is organising more activities for their members, for example, a special day for young dogs. There, all the puppies from the previous year are invited along with their parents and the litters are judged as a whole. They feel this is a very nice way to see what breeders are doing and the club has been organizing these events for 4 years now. It's always a qualified judge that does the evaluation, this year it was Wilma Roem. Now the club has started to organize more things around this to get more interest. They don't have mentality or herding tests in the Netherlands.

Anne Vaskio from Islanninkoirat in Finland started by apologising for how late they sent in their report and promised it would not happen again. She informed us that in Finland there are now a lot of new breeders in addition to the older ones and the status is good. Litter size has increased slightly every year. In Finland they also have other breeds, similar to the Icelandic Sheepdog but in her opinion the Icelandic Sheepdog has a better mentality than the Finnish lapphund.

Anne also informed us that a lot of people want to be a part of the club in Finland and she is feeling very positive. She said that in Finland they have too many mandatory health checks for their dogs, but then by doing so they of course know the situation. Little by little they have made things easier for breeders and have lowered the breeding requirements.

She said that in Finland, as in the Netherlands, for the past 20 years they have had the first years membership deal for puppy buyers and most breeders subscribe to it.



They meet each other often, tell their members about the breed, about ISIC and do as much as they can to help breeders to keep the puppy buyers interested in their breed and she thinks that is very important. They even have an increase in the membership of the club in Finland. In 2013 they had a lot of litters and those new members have helped to increase the membership.

Jørgen pointed out that in some countries people automatically become members of a breed club when they join the kennel club, like in Iceland and Norway, but in Denmark for example people have to join both separately.

Geir Steinar Henriksen, from NIHK in Norway, informed us that they tried to start something similar to the Netherlands and Finland, i.e. the breeders paying the membership fee for the first year but they also had to pay the membership fee to the Norwegian Kennel Club and it stopped there.

Svend reminded everyone that the clubs had an agreement that the reports should be sent out at least 1 month before the seminar and the fact that most of them came very late. In order to prepare these meetings it is necessary to have the reports ready and sent in in time.

May Britt informed us about some of the things that the different countries wanted to discuss at the breeding group meeting:

1. The colour of the dog and diluted pigment
2. Dentition
3. Nearly white dogs
4. Shorter upper lips, so you can always see the teeth

Guðrún Guðjohnsen talked about the ISIC cooperation which was her idea in the beginning. She had been following the breed in the Nordic countries, she noticed there were different types between the countries and not all looked like the breed. She took it up within the Nordic Kennel Union, NKU, to seek cooperation to protect the breed and they said it would be acceptable to form a cooperation but not a club. She discussed this with Hans-Åke Sperne in Sweden and they talked to the other clubs. The breed club in Sweden had its 5th anniversary in 1995 and in connection with that the first ISIC seminar was held there. She said that every year since then the work within ISIC has been done in good spirit and friendly cooperation and asked everyone to remember that ISIC is not a club but a cooperation. Every national breed club within ISIC is on the same level, everyone is equal.

5. Presentation of the Database (Jørgen Metzdorff and Guðni Ágústsson)

Guðni Ágústsson, data responsible for ISIC, presented the ISIC database and the website program he has developed. After the presentation Guðni and Jørgen Metzdorff answered questions and informed us about the different aspects of the work with the database and the website.

Jørgen informed us about the status from last year where the need for the clubs to know how to use the data was explained. He therefore translated the article about how to use the database into English which has been sent to the clubs. He also informed us about other things that were discussed last year, issues with the database such as EU-regulations regarding publishing names and that is being corrected. Another issue from last year was that the inbreeding coefficient in the database was



calculated for 4 generations instead of 5 and a programmer is changing that. They have employed a new server for the database, located in Denmark. It now has its own domain name and all the data is secure. The database now has a location that will not change IP-address and will be up and running soon. Last year some errors were discovered in the data and Jørgen reminded everyone that the data in the database comes from the clubs, including the mistakes. Last year it was decided that each club is responsible for correcting their data and returning it to Guðni. If there are only a few errors they will type it directly in to the database but if there are many they will do some database merging to fix the problem. They also said that when they have all the data then they will send it to all the clubs and they can then use it in LatHunden, but they are not quite there yet.

Guðni reminded everyone about the history of the database. ISIC is the international cooperation about the Icelandic Sheepdog and the data collecting started in 1997 by Pieter Oliehoek, since 1998 Guðni has been responsible for collecting the data.

The new domain for the database will be www.islenskurhundur.com but the homepage is not up yet.

Guðni showed us how to use the database and informed us that the goal was to keep everything simple so everyone could work with it. He said that hopefully the inbreeding coefficient will change to 5 generations soon, and hopefully later it will be possible to calculate up to 10 generations.

He also informed us about the list of colours in the database, i.e. tan, red, reddish brown, chocolate brown, grey, tricolour, fawn and brown. These colours are the 9 most common in the database and that is why they were used.

Þorsteinn asked about the „Add news“ option in the database for the administrators, if the news they added would be public or just for the other administrators to see. Guðni and Jørgen informed us that the news will be public. Herdís said it might be useful for the administrators if they could communicate privately and Jørgen agreed and said he would take note of that.

Herdís asked what to do if a dog has more than 1 owner/breeder. Jørgen said it could all be written on the same line.

Sunna Líf Hafþórsdóttir asked about the dew-claws in the database. It is possible to choose, double, single or none, but what if a dog has, for example, a single dewclaw on one rear leg and double on the other. There was some discussion about this and it was pointed out that it is possible to add this as a comment with more detailed information.

Guðni said he would like to add an option for the testicles, i.e. if one or both are missing and said that the work with the database and the database homepage is never ending. He also said that he would like to change the „More information“ option to „More information from owner“. May Britt Sannerholt suggested that maybe there should be two separate boxes, i.e. „Official information“ and „More information from owner“. Jørgen added that it would be possible to have the original official documents on a pdf file and linked from the page but that would of course be more work for each country.

Katariina Jarkko asked if only Guðni and Jørgen can remove dog's information because of errors? They said yes, only they can do that. It makes the database safer, everyone of course wants to have it as correct as possible.



Jørgen said that each country will have a spreadsheet with their dogs' information to go over and Guðni asked the clubs to put emphasis on the registration number of each dog.

Helga Andrésdóttir asked if the „More information“ option in the database should just contain information the owner of each dog wants public. Jørgen said it should just contain important matters, it should be short and precise.

Geir Steinar Henriksen asked about the litters that are registered twice in the database? Guðni and Jørgen will look into that.

Guðni recommended that the clubs work regularly with the database, just like the Danish club does. They enter one litter at a time as and when they get the information. He recommended not waiting a whole year to enter everything. Jørgen added that if some clubs have a long list of dogs to add to the database maybe it would be wise not to start at the bottom of the list.

Helga wondered if it would be possible to have the gender marked, for example with different colours as sometimes people are looking especially for a male.

Guðni asked if there is nothing ISIC can do to get the dogs from Canada into the database. This was discussed but it was agreed that it was difficult.

Natasja Hagemeyer informed us that she imported a bitch from Canada and that it's very difficult to get puppies registered in Canada. She does not yet have registration papers for her bitch that is now almost 2 years old but is working on this with the Canadian Kennel Club.

Hans-Åke Sperne has contacted the Canadian Kennel Club many times without much success. Ingbritt and Spike have contacts in Canada and May Britt said that some breeders in Canada are cooperative.

Jørgen added that this all shows the importance of getting the correct data. He informed us that the layout of the database program can now adjust automatically to fit mobile phone screens so it will be easy to use on mobile phones or tablets.

Guðni recommended that the users of the database should not enter the database homepage through the ISIC homepage on their phones or tablets; it has to do with the way the ISIC homepage is constructed.

Þorsteinn asked if the new homepage for the database will open soon. Jørgen and Guðni said it will hopefully open next week but they will inform ISIC/exec when it opens.

Svend said he would like people to go to the database through the ISIC homepage. Guðni said then it would have to be a link, not to open within a frame on the ISIC homepage as it does today as then it will not work fully as intended.

Svend asked who the owner of the database and the data is. He said that of course ISIC/exec is responsible but they have to know who is the owner of the homepage. Guðni and Jørgen informed us that the program is owned by Guðni and that it is his project but he is letting ISIC use it free of charge. Jørgen promised that the server will be available for ISIC for a long time and that they can put this in writing if necessary. Both will do their best effort to update everything but they promised to make it free and available.



Ingbritt asked what if something were to happen to either Guðni or Jørgen. Guðni said that the data itself belongs to each club. Guðrún said that she thinks it is important that ISIC owns the database. Guðni said that each club owns their data but he owns the program. There was some discussion about this.

Herdís pointed out that the database is a collection of data from the clubs.

Guðrún asked what if a club does not want to belong to ISIC anymore and wants their data to be removed. Jørgen said that the data is public so that will not be possible. If the kennel club in one of the countries were to ask them to remove their data then that would be a problem but a person or a breed club could not have anything removed, except for people's names.

Natasja wondered if the clubs could agree that it is their intention to continue with the database.

Herdís said it was the understanding that ISIC would be the owner of the database. Jørgen said that it is simply not possible as ownership is complex. Herdís said it would never be possible to take away the honour of the author or the person who created something, that would always follow the author; you cannot transfer that right but other property right is possible to transfer.

Guðni said that it is important to realise the difference between the database and database program. He added that he could for example sell the database program to a club with Irish setters and they could add their data to it.

May Britt mentioned that when Dr. Per-Erik Sundgren died, his database program LatHunden was sold to Svenska Brukshundklubben.

Ingbritt said that it was necessary to secure the future. Jørgen added that it is important to think about property rights.

Guðrún suggested that Herdís, who is a lawyer, could be asked to formulate an agreement about this for the future.

May Britt asked if this discussion was about the program or the data. Jørgen said there just needed to be a plan. Helga added that it should also be perfectly clear what ISIC can do with the data program.

Ingbritt said that as she sees it Guðni is making a gift to ISIC but he could sell the program to others. She added that everyone is proud of the achievement Guðni has made and also of all the effort the clubs have made entering their data to make it possible.

It was agreed that Herdís Hallmarsdóttir, Guðni Ágústsson, Guðrún R. Guðjohnsen and Svend Brandt Jensen should formulate an agreement about the database for ISIC and the use of the database program for the future.

The yearly running cost of the server and the database was discussed. At the moment it is funded by a sponsorship Jørgen has arranged.



Svend said that it is necessary to have something written down about this. Ingbritt said this can be discussed in the chairman meeting, what will happen if for example when the sponsorship ends, we need to know the situation in advance.

Jørgen informed us that he has found a sponsor for at least 5 years.

May Britt asked about the inbreeding coefficient in the data program and the importance of knowing how many generations the inbreeding coefficient is based on. It is not always 5 generation as intended because if some of the dogs are imported then it might be fewer generations.

Jørgen said that the inbreeding coefficient is typed in manually for each dog with their details and it is not always calculated the same way by each club, we should all use 5 generations in our inbreeding coefficient calculations.

May Britt said that this ISIC cooperation is unique. It has been working for 20 years and in that time we have made many small steps on matters the clubs can agree on.

Spike said that this cooperation is unlike anything any other breed in the USA has, it's the only breed where clubs try to cooperate between the countries, on a global scale.

Herdís thanked Guðni for coming and for all of his work and also Jørgen for all his work.

Svend asked if the database website would be running next week, Guðni and Jørgen said it might be running in 2 weeks or so.

Guðrún thanked Guðni for his marvellous job and asked everyone to applaud for him.

Linda Björk Jónsdóttir, on behalf of DÍF, gave every club copies of the DÍF yearbooks for 2013 and 2014

After lunch

6. Lecture on the history of the Icelandic Sheepdog (Þórhildur Bjartmarz)

The history of the Icelandic Sheepdog is closely linked to the history of the Icelandic people through the centuries. Þórhildur Bjartmarz, former president of HRFÍ, has gathered together information about the history of the Icelandic Sheepdog and dogs in general in Iceland and has given many lectures on the subject in Iceland, under the title *Hundalíf í sögu þjóðar*. Þórhildur was asked to give a summary of her lectures to the ISIC seminar. Brynhildur Bjarnadóttir translated the material to English for Þórhildur and read the lecture, *A Dog's life in a Story of a Nation*, for us.

After the lecture the group split up into the Chairman Group and the Breeding Group

7. Chairman Group

See notes from the Chairman Group, appendix 1 page 16.



8. Breeding Group

See notes from the Breeding Group (different document).

Sunday 25th October 2015

9. Herding (Sweden)

Ingbritt informed us that both Denmark and Sweden are getting an official herding instinct description from their kennel clubs. She said the question is if these tests can be used for the Icelandic Sheepdog, she said there will be small differences between the countries but wondered if that would matter. And if it still would be possible to see what is needed even though things are done a little differently.

Jørgen talked about the Danish herding instinct test. The first test was developed in 2008, it was very important to see the natural instinct in the test, without forcing the dog to do anything. There was some discussion about this.

Ingbritt wondered if the results would be comparable since the same method is not used between the countries. Jørgen said that they would be and it was the same with the mentality descriptions. He added that the board of the Danish club is evaluating the new official test to decide if the club should use the official description rather than the one they developed and have used because the one from the Danish Kennel Club will lead to official recognition by the club. Ingbritt said that this has to be discussed, to think about whether we should trust the different descriptions from different countries.

Jørgen showed the seminar delegates the form that is used in the club herding evaluation in Denmark.

Natasja asked if special sheep were used in these herding test or just any breed. Jørgen said they have mostly used sheep that have been trained with before. Natasja asked also if the clubs have special education for teachers and Jørgen said they do within their club and that there are always 2 test leaders present at each test.

Guðrún asked if this test is just to test the instinct and added that the breed is also a general farm dog. Jørgen answered and said this was an instinct test only. He added that in Denmark there are no large valleys where it would be possible to do herding so they always use the standard setup.

Ingbritt said that in Sweden they once tried herding cows in a huge field and added that one needs to have a brave assured dog to be able to work with such animals.

Jørgen showed a video of a dog herding instinct test with an Icelandic Sheepdog in Denmark.

Else Westermann and Jørgen informed us that they have seen a difference between different coloured dogs in the herding tests. In some cases the sheep react more to black tricolour dogs than lighter coloured dogs and in some cases the lighter coloured dogs have to be bolder towards the sheep.



Spike informed us that the American Kennel Club (AKC) has had herding tests for a very long time and that it is basically the same format as is used in Sweden and Denmark. He also added that the tests are always done by judges approved by AKC.

Ingbritt showed us the form for the herding instinct test in Sweden. She wondered if we could trust and compare the different tests and that is what is necessary to discuss and think about.

Jørgen said that it is possible to teach dogs to concentrate and informed us that he trains blood tracking once a week with his dogs.

There was further discussion about this.

Split up in Chairman Group and Breeding Group again (agenda point 7 and 9)

Lunch

Spike asked for donations to ISIC and passed the donation basket between the delegates.

Catarina, on behalf of ISIC, gave everyone at the seminar the ISIC pin.

10. Decisions from the Chairman Group and the Decisions

Ingbritt went over the decisions agreed upon by the Chairman Group meeting. See notes from the Chairman Group, appendix 1 page 16.

11. Suggested by the Breeding Group

May Britt summarised the discussions from the Breeding Group meeting and submitted their proposals:

1. Review of the Annual reports (exec)

The Breeding Group discussed the matter of dogs with only one or no testicles and how to get information from the breeders. In Finland this information is gathered when the puppies go for their 1 year old vaccination, the vets then send this information to the Finish Kennel Club. It's important to keep the data about this updated.

Jørgen asked how this would be done in practice and if the clubs should offer the breeders this possibility. May Britt said that the people coming with the puppies to the vet could ask for it. Else added that they also discussed whether it would be possible to call the breeders and ask for this information.

They also discussed question from Germany, about *Pannus* in the breed. One case has been found in Iceland with pannus, one in Finland and one in Sweden. All the dogs have been treated for it and none have gone blind.



2. Reports from the committees (exec)

The Breeding Group was not sure what to discuss under this point so they did not have anything to say on this subject.

Ingbritt said ISIC/exec were thinking about the committees.

3. The web-based Database now and in the future (exec)

The Breeding Group is very happy with the database, it has something for everybody in this cooperation. In the future they will try to add more official information about the individuals to the database.

4. Genetic diversity and selection versus restrictions and recommendations (Sweden)

This was discussed in the Breeding Group. Iceland has applied to have the eye tests for dogs examined at 7 years of age and older to be valid for life. In Denmark a show qualification is no longer a demand. In Netherland they have changed the eye examination from being valid for 1 year to 2 years.

5. Translation of the FCI breed standard from English (Sweden)

There have been some translation mistakes between the English version and the Norwegian version of the breed standard. These mistakes are in the translation of the colour part of the standard by the Norwegian Kennel Club and the Norwegian club is working on rectifying this.

6. Closer cooperation on a „day-to-day“ basis between the seminars (exec)

During the last year there has been one case sent to the ISIC breeding committee, that was the translation error in the Norwegian translation of the breed standard and the breeding committee helped them with that.

7. Other matters? See also the notes from 2014 (breeding group)

The revision of the breed standard is still a work in progress in Iceland and they will inform us when the work is completed.

There was some discussion about white markings and dew-claws.

They also discussed diluted colour. There are cases of dogs with diluted colour in most of the countries, some are diluted black but also other colours. Our recommendation was not to mate diluted dogs to another diluted dog as the gene for this is recessive.

They also had a question about shorter upper lips. This condition can vary very much and some dogs can't shut their mouth completely and they always show their teeth, that is not healthy for the dog.

Jørgen asked if they considered this a problem or if it was just discussed. Natasja said it was necessary to inform people that this is a serious matter as some people think it is funny or cute. Jørgen wondered if an update was needed to the ISIC breeding recommendations but May Britt did not agree that it should.

Guðrún said that this is a fault. Helga added that it was discussed whether we should write something about this, saying it is not funny or cute and inform people about the danger to the dog's teeth and gums. May Britt wondered who is to say if this is not correct.



Jørgen added that within ISIC there are expert groups and that it would be very useful if the appropriate expert group could inform us about issues such as this and then each club could inform their members about it. He added that here is actually something positive that could come out of ISIC, use the cooperation to inform the clubs and inform their members. May Britt said that is what the clubs do when they come home, write an article in their club magazines and that is how they can be informed.

Ingbritt said that in Sweden they always present what is discussed in the ISIC seminars. In Sweden there was a litter with these kind of lips. She talked about this to the breeder and they know this is a fault, so we should talk to the breeders. Natasja said it would be great if this information about the lips could be collated by someone in the breeding committee and distributed to the clubs.

Ingbritt asked if the seminar should make a decision about this and give this to the breeding committee as an assignment. Helga wondered if this could be the first thing to work on under the new cooperation.

Guðrún suggested that May Britt write the article and send it to the clubs. Ingbritt said that if any other members of the breeding group want to take part in this they could write to May Britt, she thinks that anyone who has an opinion on this should be heard.

Herdís asked if it is the breeding group or the breeding committee that will be responsible for this. Jørgen said that the responsibility should be with the breeding committee with support from the breeding group.

Before May Britt writes the article she said she will contact the breeding committee of the Swedish Kennel Club (SKK) and ask what has been done concerning this in other breeds.

Agreed that May Britt Sannerholt together with Wilma Roem, who is also in the breeding committee, should write about the shorter upper lip which is a fault in the Icelandic Sheepdog.

May Britt informed us that the Breeding Group also discussed scissor bite and complete dentition, it was regarding a question from Germany. In Germany, Austria and Switzerland their national kennel clubs require them to have to have their dogs evaluated for breeding to be able to breed from them. She informed us that the scissor bite and complete dentition specification is a problem for them. If the dogs don't have scissor bite or are missing P1 then they don't get a breeding licence.

Jørgen informed us that in these countries they can get breeding licences for these dogs, just not for life! May Britt said it's very strict, they count and measure the teeth, those things are a problem for them and therefore they wanted this to be discussed at the seminar. She also said that the DÍF delegates will ask for this to be discussed by the breed standard committee.

Guðrún said that this is a very common fault in all breeds. Þorsteinn pointed out that loss of P1 and M3 is considered to be natural evolution and that is mentioned in the FCI model standard



for every breed. Jørgen said that Germany should talk about this with their kennel club, he added that since the FCI has accepted this then so should the German kennel club. Guðrún asked if Þorsteinn can find the FCI model standard and send it to the committee, she said she will also find an article she has about this.

May Britt said that Germany asked why dominant white is not a fault as is the black saddle. There was some discussion about this. May Britt added that in both Germany and America dogs that are predominantly white win rather often at show and Guðrún replied that then they don't read the breed standard. Helga explained that the black saddle has never appeared in the breed in Iceland and that is why it is a fault. She added that predominant white will appear with pied, it's in the breed and has always been seen in the breed. Jørgen said that the German breed club should be able to ask their kennel club to inform their judges about this. Guðrún said that Icelandic Sheepdogs with a white head could be deaf so a very white dog is a health risk.

May Britt said that we have to help Germany, Austria and Switzerland because their national kennel organizations work in other ways to ours. They have to start to talk to their spitz clubs and through them to their kennel clubs. Helga said that white should not be totally predominant and informed us that in the standard we talk about how the dog looks, not the genetics. The dogs with white on their ears have in most cases colour on their body (not pied) so it's not exclusive to pied dogs.

May Britt said it is sad to hear that those colours are not in Iceland and would like everyone to think about that.

Jørgen wants to get a conclusion for Germany and said ISIC should help them with the tools it has, the breed standard is for someone else to work on. May Britt asked what a saddle is and what a tricolour dog is. Jørgen asked again how ISIC could help Germany. May Britt said we should work on this with Susanne Schutte in Germany. She suggested that ISIC/exec should contact Susanne and ask how we could help with this and the ISIC breeding committee could also help. Helga said that the saddle is present in countries outside Iceland because people thought it was smart. She said that all these discussions are about the current breed standard which is being revised and will be replaced before too long.

Jørgen pointed out that as a group of people here we have no jurisdiction over the breed standard, that belongs to the Icelandic Kennel Club, therefore we should approach this with the tools we have and to what we can do to help our fellow ISIC countries, use the tools we can use.

Guðrún said that the breed standard is clear, patches should dominate the white because white is not a colour and she thinks the breeding committee should take it up, it does not have to be in both committees. May Britt thinks that ISIC/exec should be the one to contact and added that if more information on the breed standard is needed it is possible to ask DÍF and HRFÍ for help to understand what it means. Herdís agreed and said that would be the appropriate route.



Agreed to work with the guidelines we have which is the FCI breed standard for the Icelandic Sheepdog. If the clubs in Germany, Switzerland and Austria have questions on how that should be interpreted they can contact DÍF and HRFÍ but ISIC/exec should also be informed and it can go through ISIC/exec if the German clubs would prefer that.

May Britt informed us that the Breeding Group also talked about the form for the annual club reports. There is a 5 year overview in the report and a 10 year overview in the end of each report. The breeding group suggested that the 5 year overview be dropped and just have the 10 year overview in the reports. Most of the delegates liked this.

Agreed to drop the 5 year overview in the clubs annual reports to ISIC.

12. Announcement of a member of ISIC executive member committee and an auditor for 3 years

Herdís announced Guðríður Þorbjörg Valgeirsdóttir as a member of ISIC/exec Committee. Guðríður said she was proud to be a member of ISIC/exec and that when DÍF asked her if they could put her name forward she of course said they could and was honoured. Svend welcomed Guðríður to the ISIC/exec committee.

13. Next and future ISIC seminars (festival in Sweden 2016, USA 2017, 2018?)

Next ISIC seminars:

- ✓ 2016 Sweden
- ✓ 2017 USA
- ✓ 2018 Denmark

14. End of the seminar

Svend informed us that the seminar had finished earlier than normal. He thanked DÍF and the Icelandic-Kennel Club. He said the seminar was held in a beautiful place in Kríunes, Kópavogur, and added that it is always beautiful weather when he is in Iceland! He expressed thanks for the great arrangement and hoped to see people again at the open seminar next year which he very much looked forward to.



Appendix 1: Notes from the Chairman Group Meeting (agenda point 7):

Spike Williamson was appointed the chairman of the Chairman Group Meeting and Þorsteinn Þorsteinsson secretary.

1. Approval of the register of participants (exec)

- ✓ DÍF – Margrét Bára Magnúsdóttir
- ✓ IF-DK - Jørgen Metzdorff
- ✓ ISAA – Spike Williamson
- ✓ Islanninkoirat and ISIC/exec – Katariina Jarkko
- ✓ NIHK – Geir Steinar Henriksen
- ✓ SIFK and ISIC/exec – Ingbritt Sannel
- ✓ VdIL – Natasja Hagemeyer

- ✓ ISIC/exec – Svend Brandt Jensen
- ✓ Guests DÍF – Herdís Hallmarsdóttir, Brynhildur Bjarnadóttir and Þorsteinn Þorsteinsson
- ✓ Guest ISIC – Guðrún R. Guðjohnsen

2. Presentation of ISIC/exec's activity report including balance sheet and profit and loss account for the previous year (exec)

This was discussed together with part 3 in the Chairman Group agenda, see notes from the discussion there.

ISIC/exec's activity report was presented and accepted but the Chairman Group asked for a budget for ISIC.

3. Presentation of the auditor's report (exec)

Katariina informed us that she forgot and did not send the financial annual report for ISIC as she should have. She had the notes and the auditor's report and said that if anyone wanted to see them and have a closer look that would be possible. Jan Erikson, the auditor for ISIC, has found all in good orders and according to professional book keeping standards.

The chairman group accepted the auditor's report.

Katariina said she would send the accounts for this year before the end of March next year. Wilfred Olsen, former ISIC treasurer introduced the annual report in Danish krona. Katariina went over the auditor's report.

Geir said he had ordered ISIC pins but was told they were out of stock and never got any more information. He asked if it would be possible to get more pins. There was some discussion about this.



Geir asked if ISIC had a budget and what it was for this year. Katariina informed us that ISIC had never had a budget before. Jorgen said having a budget was discussed at the ISIC meeting in Copenhagen.

Katariina informed us that the ISIC/exec committee had 2 meetings every year plus the seminar and the costs have been pretty much the same every year. Natasja agreed with Geir and said it would be good to have a budget for travelling costs and also for the database. Jørgen informed us that this was also one of the things that the Danish club had suggested and was to be discussed later in the meeting. Spike agreed with everything Jørgen said.

Guðrún said that the costs for ISIC are mainly the travelling costs. The ISIC/exec committee stay at each other's houses and pay for their meals to keep down costs as much as possible.

The ISIC/exec committee met in Sweden for a 3 day meeting in the summer. Jørgen pointed out that it cost money to run a committee and thinks it would be easy to use this year's figures to work out a budget for next year. Svend said that the figures for next year should be roughly the same as this year.

Katariina wondered if it would be possible to lower the contribution paid by the ISIC member countries to ISIC. Jørgen reminded us that every year in February each club should send their contribution to the treasurer based on the figures from the end of the previous year. Spike explained that at the end of each year the clubs should inform the treasurer of the number of their members and pay €1.2 per member to ISIC plus the base-fee of €50, Austria and Switzerland only pay the base-fee.

Katariina said that ISIC/exec have suggested that the fee to ISIC should not be raised for 2016.

Jørgen said that club members in different countries are asking what they are paying for. He said that based on the fact that next year there will be a seminar where people can come at their own expense he suggested that the fee should be lowered. He added that it would send a powerful message, for example, to lower the annual fee to €0.95 per club member.

Svend pointed out that the ISIC seminar will be held in the USA in 2 years' time which will be more expensive. Jørgen said that whatever they will be doing to promote ISIC might include some extra cost and Katariina added that the intention was to make ISIC as visible as possible.

Spike said he did not agree with Jorgen's suggestion. He said it would be nice to lower the fees and to get positive re-enforcement but going to the USA might mean they would have to be raised considerably for that.

Jørgen said it would be excellent if ISIC could use money, for example, for lectures. Svend agreed it would be great to have the money to make those kinds of arrangements.

Katariina talked about the 2017 seminar in America. She said that as it will be costly for the clubs to send people to the seminar, the clubs will need to have more money to afford it and with that thought in mind it might be a good idea to lower the annual fee.

Jørgen suggested that Iceland Air could be contacted and asked to support the travelling costs. He suggested it could be a project for ISIC/exec.



Spike asked if the clubs wanted to continue with €1.2 per member fee or to lower it. He also wondered if that should be shelved for now while other things are discussed first that might affect the discussion.

Katariina wondered if the fee could be lowered to €1.0 per member. Geir pointed out that it all depended on the decision about a budget for ISIC. He therefore also suggested that this would be shelved for now and other points discussed first.

Ingbritt pointed out that historically ISIC has been spending money on meetings and there is a desire to make it more open, therefore this question could be left for now and taken up again at the end of the meeting.

4. Adoption of the documents mentioned in item 2 and 3 in this list, as well as actions of ISIC and ISIC/Executive committee are not subject to personal liability (exec)

The chairman group accepted.

5. Decision upon the contributions to be paid the following year (exec)

This part of the agenda was discussed after part 11 about future seminars had been decided upon, see discussion below about part 11.

Katariina suggested that because of the budget it would be necessary to stay with the current contribution to ISIC of €1.2 per member in the breed clubs plus the €50 basic fee.

Katariina introduced the proposed budget for ISIC for 2016 and said that ISIC/exec would need to meet once before the festival in Sweden. She also said that the ISIC/exec committee hoped to keep the costs as low as possible.

Proposed budget:

- ✓ ISIC/exec meeting (travel and accommodation): €2500
- ✓ ISIC festival in Sweden 2016 (lectures): €1500
- ✓ Web page: €200
- ✓ Other expenses: €100

- ✓ Total expenses: €4300

Jørgen said everyone could trust ISIC/exec to do their best to cut costs. He added that it costs money to run an operation and that we can trust the ISIC/exec to use the money most efficiently.

Jørgen asked if they could elaborate more on each part of the budget. Katariina said that the lectures would involve travelling and hotel costs for the lecturers. She added that the money given in the memory of Catalin Westenheim was given in order to have lectures.



Margrét Bára asked why ISIC/exec would plan to have their meeting in Iceland as 3 people would have to fly there, it might be cheaper to have the meeting in Scandinavia.

Jørgen suggested that at least €1000 should be added to the budget towards the cost of lectures, there was some discussion about this. Geir said that Jørgen had a point and this was a good start. Jørgen added that putting more money into the budget now would give more room for flexibility so he suggested ISIC/exec add a little more to the budget.

Agreed to add to the budget for the cost of lectures, an increase from €1500 to €3000 in the budget.

Guðrún said that when ISIC/exec have had their meetings they have always stayed in each other's houses and wondered if that would be a problem. Jørgen said everyone trusted that ISIC/exec would do their best to keep costs low.

Katariina said that because of the budget it was necessary to stay with the current contribution to ISIC of €1.2 per member plus the €50 basic fee. She informed us that the total contribution should be €2811 for 2016

The Chairman Group decided that the contribution to ISIC would stay at €1.2 per member in the breed clubs plus the €50 basic fee.

The Chairman Group also agreed on the following budget for ISIC in 2016:

- ✓ ISIC / Exec meeting (travel and accommodation) €2500
- ✓ ISIC Festival in Sweden 2016 (lecture) €3000
- ✓ Web page €200
- ✓ Other expenses €100

Total expenses €5800

6. Presentation of an updated profit and loss account for the current year (exec)

This was discussed with part 5 of the agenda, see notes from the discussion there.

The chairman group accepted the updated profit and loss account for the current year.

7. Presentation of ISIC/exec planned activities for the next year and a cost estimate for these activities.

This was discussed with part 5 of the agenda, see notes from the discussion there.



8. The web-based Database in the future, discussion (exec/data group)

This was discussed in the joint meeting, after the presentation of the database by Guðni Ágústsson.

9. Translation of the FCI breed standard from English (Sweden)

Jørgen pointed out that the FCI breed standard for the Icelandic Sheepdog has nothing to do with ISIC and said that there was no point in discussing it in part 9 of the agenda.

Ingbritt said that they were not sure if the translation they are using is the same as in English. Katariina added that this same issue was discussed in the Breeding Group and wondered why this should be discussed separately. Ingbritt wondered if the standard was being used as it should be or are the translations misleading us.

Guðrún said that the Icelandic version of the breed standard had been changed. Þorsteinn informed her that it had not been changed. Herdís said that from her own experience she had some problems with the translation, namely the ears, that is why she preferred to use the Icelandic version.

Svend asked if the May Britt put this on the agenda.

Jørgen suggested that ISIC ask HRFÍ to check the translation of the standard and also that each country will check their translation. translations are correct. He added that the Norwegian translation is not correct and that is why

The chairman group agreed to ask HRFÍ to check the translation of the breed standard for the Icelandic Sheepdog and also that each country will check the translation in their own language.

Geir added that the translation from Icelandic to English has to be as correct as possible.

Jørgen asked ISIC/exec to please write more detail in the future in the agenda so everyone knows beforehand enough about the topics. Geir added that this topic came little and late, Svend said that the reason for this was that the reports came late.

10. ISIC festival 2016 (Sweden)

Ingbritt informed us that the club in Sweden offered to host the seminar in 2016 because the plan is to go to America in 2017. They have offered a one day ISIC festival, Natasja, Else and Ingbritt were given the task of coming up with ideas. The club in Sweden will be celebrating their 25th anniversary and ISIC was founded on their 5th anniversary. Ingbritt added that the club in Sweden always has it's meeting on the first weekend in August and this usually includes a big dog show. The festival will cover 3 days, on the first day there will be herding, the second day will be the ISIC meeting and on the Sunday there will be the dog show. It will be called something on the lines of "The ISIC Championship Show". This festival will be held



on 5th-7th August 2016 in Sweden. Ingbritt added that there will be lectures and that Wilma Roem has agreed to give one of the lectures. She also said that the ISIC delegates that come to the festival will be given identity tags that show they are ISIC members so people can ask them about ISIC. She added that they plan to send special invitations to breeders inviting them to take part in the event.

Jørgen said it sounds fantastic but asked when more information will be available to the clubs so they can send it to their members. He added that as this is high season summer holiday time that it is important to let people know about this as soon as possible. Ingbritt said they plan to put advertisements in the Christmas issue of their magazine. She added that the festival will take place in Ulicehamn, about 1 hour from Gothenburg.

Guðrún asked if the plan was to have a summer meeting every year and Ingbritt said they want to make ISIC more visible.

Jørgen suggested that the ferry companies could be contacted to try and get better prices on the ferries.

Svend asked about the practicalities, if it would be possible to order camping facilities, he added that everyone should get an equal chance and suggested it should be organised like the Træf held every year in Denmark. He suggested that if there are no cabins there that it would be important to have hotels nearby for those who do not want to stay in a tent. Ingbritt said that there are a lot of camping places and hotels in the area.

Spike asked how much will be spent on promoting ISIC at this festival, such as a seminar fee. Ingbritt said that that is the tricky part, she said that if Wilma Roem and Hans-Åke Sperne both give lectures they will not charge much, most likely only their travelling cost.

Ingbritt added that if the show is called "The ISIC Championship Show" then part of the fee could also come to ISIC, and could be used for ISIC purposes. She said she does not have an idea yet of how much it will cost, she has to talk to the planner. Katariina added that they can't come up with a figure straight away. Svend said that they should have thought about the cost and budgeting earlier and in the future that has to be thought about beforehand.

Ingbritt said that the club in Sweden is organizing all this but that ISIC will have the responsibility and hopefully they can give out more details about this by the end of November. Natasja suggested 15th November as that is the deadline for their magazine and Ingbritt agreed.

Jørgen informed us that Wilma Roem judged in Denmark recently. She drove up from the Netherlands and stayed for 3 nights in a hotel, the total cost was about €1000. He therefore predicted that the cost would be about €1500 from the Netherlands to Sweden. Ingbritt said they are trying to get sponsors for the hotels. Katariina added that ISIC/exec will have to sit down together and discuss this.

Natasja asked if there was a plan yet for the ISIC festival and Ingbritt informed us that it was not ready yet.



Spike asked if there would also be an ISIC meeting in October 2016. Ingbritt said that last year it was decided that the meeting in Sweden in August would be instead of the meeting in October. Svend added that because of this it would be good to get the reports in by the end of March next year. Katariina said that one of the reason for having the seminar together with the Swedish festival next year was to save money for the clubs.

Margrét Bára asked if it will be enough to have just a 1 day ISIC seminar next year instead of 2 days as it has always been. Jørgen said it should be enough if everyone is well prepared. He added it would just be the chairman group meeting and no breeding group and that because of that it would be enough to send only 1 delegate from each club. Svend agreed with Margrét Bára adding that so much more time is used every year and wondered if only 2-3 hours would be enough next year. Jørgen said that next year it should be possible to follow the rules of procedure more closely and not to put up too many subjects for discussion, then this should be possible. Svend then asked if there should be no suggestions for discussion next year. Jørgen said that that could be risky but the clubs should make effort to do that if possible.

Jørgen suggested that the ISIC meeting next year should be open to everyone, all were agreed.

The chairman group decided that the ISIC meeting in August 2016 will be open to everyone.

11. Seminars 2017 (USA) and 2018 (exec)

Spike said that the club in America would gladly host the 2017 seminar and they are not trying to back out. He informed us that they are looking at venues in the Seattle area. He said that they are willing to host the seminar but it would be a shame if only very few delegates attend and he added that if the American club didn't host it then some other club would have to. He also added that maybe some members in the Seattle area could offer accommodation to the delegates on the non-seminar dates.

Ingbritt asked if all the clubs would send delegates to the seminar in America. Jørgen said the Danish club would send 2 people but added that their club probably had a little more money than most of the other clubs and felt that the clubs that have less money should decide for themselves. Svend wondered if the Danish club would still be interested in hosting the seminar in 2 years' time and said that this needed to be discussed further.

Geir pointed out that nobody mentioned the cost to the club in America to send a delegate over to the seminars. Spike said that the club in America incurs no travelling cost for of the ISIC seminars. Geir said he was pretty sure the club in Norway would send a delegate.

Spike informed us that a professor who lives near San Francisco and worked with Pieter Oliehoek is willing to give a talk. Another person is Pat Putman who worked and lived at Mark Watson's farm in California as a young girl.

Svend asked if the seminar would be in America or not. Natasja said that the club in the Netherlands would be sending a maximum of 1 person. Jørgen reminded us that some ISIC



member clubs are not present at this seminar. Margrét Bára said that Iceland would like to attend and Ingbritt said the same for the club in Sweden. Geir added that he will work towards a budget to send 2 delegates and said that there should be enough time to save money towards this. Katariina said that Finland would try to send 1 person.

Svend suggested that maybe the seminar should be over 3 days instead of 2, especially if fewer people were attending.

A total of 8-12 participants could be expected at the seminar in America.

Jørgen asked people to think about the clubs that could not take part and wondered if it would be possible to have the lectures with live streaming, to have the lectures open through the media. Ingbritt agreed and thought this was an excellent idea.

The seminar in 2018:

Jørgen suggests that the seminar in 2018 would be held at the same place as 2 years ago, 5 minutes from Copenhagen airport. He added that it does not always have to be the Swedish or Danish clubs that organize the seminars though they are held in Denmark or Sweden alternately. Ingbritt said that maybe the smaller clubs that are not present here could hold the seminar jointly. This was discussed for a short while.

Ingbritt suggested making a decision on two points, firstly that the 3 clubs that could not take part in this years' meeting should be ask if they could host the seminar jointly in 2018 and secondly if they can't then it will be held in Copenhagen. Spike added that the seminar was held in Copenhagen for 3-4 years in a row because of its central location but then it was taken to other countries because of anniversaries and other activities in different clubs.

Svend reminded us that it is a lot of work to prepare the seminar every year. Guðrún said it was a very nice place where the seminar was held 2 years ago in Copenhagen. Jørgen said that he would not organise picking people up as it was so close to the airport.

The chairman group decided that the 2018 seminar would be held in Denmark.

Spike reminded us about the raffle ISIC organized 4 or 5 years ago and informed us that since then new prizes have been collected. Ingbritt said that a new raffle/lottery would have to be promoted better and if enough prizes are available it would be possible.

12. Follow up from last year: „Why should I be a member in your club? “ See the 2014-notes (exec)

Discussions about the status in different countries.

Ingbritt said that „Víkingsveitin“ in Iceland is a good idea and talked about the importance of the clubs to be seen.



Jørgen said that every year ISIC put emphasis on breeding, health and those kind of matters but maybe there should be more information about other activities, it might give ideas for the other clubs to use.

Katariia asked Ingbritt about Sweden and Ingbritt informed us that the Swedish club tries to have local activities and that there is always a member of the club board taking part in the activities.

Jørgen informed us that the weekend before, the board of the Danish breed club took part in a seminar held by the Danish kennel club, DKK, about this subject. He said that one of the main topics was how to attract members and put emphasis on the importance of offering things that people can take part in. The suggestion from that seminar was that the clubs should try to involve their members in all the day to day jobs and plan things in good time. He added that this plan has worked for the majority of breed clubs in Denmark.

Ingbritt agreed on the importance of giving more people responsibility and said it was always important to accept that things may not be done the way you would have done it yourself.

Svend noted that there are also members that are not active and that it is important to keep them as well.

This was all discussed a little further.

Guðrún said that the most important thing is to get the members to understand that we are working for the benefit of the dogs.

Brynhildur said that since „Víkingasveitin“ was formed in Iceland there has been some progress. One of the members has now rented a riding hall for people to practice in that would not have happened if it were not for „Víkingasveitin“.

13. Follow up from last year: Closer cooperation on „day-to-day“ basis between the seminars (exec)

Svend informed us that the suggestion about this came from Jørgen last year or the year before, to have more contact between the seminars. Jørgen said that he has had some good informal communication between seminars but it would be good to make it more official concerning the more important matters.

Guðrún said that Jørgen is talking about the clubs but ISIC is to get reports from the clubs. Jørgen said that a follow up on these things is needed. The club's breeding committees especially need more support and the chairman group should help them to get started. Guðrún then asked about the kennel clubs and their committees that deal with these kind of matters. Jørgen informed us that in Denmark they have asked their kennel club to have a breeding committee seminar but the idea is just forming. Ingbritt said that she teaches a group of breeders over the internet, they read a particular book and then discuss it and she suggested that ISIC could offer that kind of platform and that it should be free. Jørgen said



that we as chairmen should ask ourselves how we could support the breeding committees in the clubs, which would also send a strong signal from ISIC.

Ingbritt said we should form a small group and Jørgen said he would like to discuss this with Hans Tollef in Norway. Jørgen added that that on the ISIC homepage there could be a closed platform for the breeding group.

Þorsteinn asked if a closed group on Facebook could work for this. Geir said that the board of the Norwegian breed club has that kind of group for their board and Þorsteinn said that so do the DÍF board.

Jørgen suggested it would be preferable to have it on the database homepage because of internet security. Geir said that the information in this group would not be that sensitive. Jørgen said that if this were not done correctly then we could get side-tracked from our members and Natasja added that it's also a cultural thing. Jørgen suggested that Google Drive could also be a suitable platform.

Jørgen said that when the database is up and running, perhaps in a months' time, he will be able to present something and added that he will do his best to be quick.

Ingbritt said that the chairman group might also need a similar kind of platform.

The chairman group is interested in having a platform for both the breeding group and the chairman group for the cooperation on a day-to day basis between the seminars. Jørgen will look into this for ISIC, it might be a google group or a closed group on Facebook.

14. Overhaul of the ISIC RoP, discussion (Denmark)

This was discussed together with point 15 of the agenda.

15. Appointment and the election of members to ISIC Executive Committee, discussion about the process (Denmark)

This was discussed together with point 14 of the agenda.

Spike proposed that a committee be formed to review the rules of procedure. He said the objective of the committee would be to make suggestions on possible changes. The goal would be to present suggestions to the ISIC/exec committee by the end of March 2016 and Spike suggested the committee would be made up of three persons, himself, Jørgen and Jan Erikson.

Ingbritt said this was a very good proposal as this kind of wording can be complicated and she said she was sure Jan would be willing to take part in this committee.

Everyone agreed with Spike's suggestion.



The Chairman group decided to form a committee to review the ISIC rules of procedure. The objective of the committee is to make suggestions of possible changes and the goal is that the committee will present their suggestion to ISIC/exec committee by the end of March 2016. The committee is to be made up of three persons, Spike Williamson, Jørgen Metzdorff and Jan Erikson.

16. Should the Executive Committee be rooted in Iceland? Discussion (Iceland)

Margrét Bára asked Herdís to speak on DÍF's behalf.

Herdís asked if everyone was familiar with the content of the letter DÍF sent that was signed by Margrét Bára. See appendix 2, page. 31.

Herdís said that over the weekend everyone had been reminded that ISIC is a cooperation and not a club and she agreed with that but added that the aim of this cooperation is to preserve Iceland's national dog breed that we all love so much. It needs to be recognised within ISIC that the ultimate responsibility for the Icelandic sheepdog is fundamental to and at the heart of the Icelandic Kennel Club that was founded to preserve the Icelandic breed.

Herdís added that it was a brilliant idea that Guðrún Guðjohnsen had 20 years ago but asked how the cooperation could be used more efficiently today. With a better link to the Icelandic Kennel Club we should be able to do that. She also said that in order for ISIC to work within the rules of procedure it would be best to have an Icelandic member in ISIC/exec and that that is what was at the heart of the suggestion from DÍF. She added that they wanted to emphasise that this was nothing personal, it is more to be looked upon as an opportunity to take the cooperation to the next level and to have a connection to the Icelandic Kennel Club, the ultimate decision maker for the breed.

Jørgen said that he completely agreed with what Herdís said and specially about getting a direct link to those that are ultimately responsible for preserving the breed. He added that here we have an organisation that was founded with the aim of preserving the breed and by having that organisation onboard it would be possible to take the whole cooperation to the next level.

Guðrún said she thought there was a little misunderstanding here, Iceland has the responsibility for the breed because it is the national breed of Iceland, but the three people in ISIC/exec take care of the seminars, they are not a board but a working committee. Jørgen said he understood what Guðrún said but that he sees more opportunities with the suggestion from DÍF.

Spike said that having an Icelandic representative in ISIC/exec committee is a requirement of the suggestion from DÍF. He said that from his experience you don't want to impose restriction on things you may in the future have a hard time fulfilling, it might be better instead to have a goal instead of a rule. He therefore asked what would happen if no Icelander were to put themselves forward for ISIC/exec. Herdís said that then the club in Iceland would be in an awful situation. She added that it would be very farfetched to imagine that no



Icelander would step up. She said that many Icelanders who have Icelandic Sheepdogs ask why we are allowing this special organisation that has the aim of preserving the breed and added that we need to have that link to Iceland. An Icelandic member of ISIC/exec that has very close contact with the Icelandic Kennel Club would have better access to the board of HRFÍ. She feels that this should be thought of as a platform that can be used in a positive way.

Guðrún said that when this cooperation was started then we of course looked to Iceland, Iceland made the decisions about the breed and the other countries followed what Iceland decided. She added that this cooperation is more like meeting and talking about the breed and preserving it for the future and now we have been meeting for 20 years. She said that of course it would be good to have an Icelandic person in the committee, when we vote for members then we could just vote for someone from Iceland.

Herdís said that this is the first time she has got to know ISIC. She said Guðrún has been our esteemed judge of the breed for many years and has been on the ISIC exec committee. Guðrún said that Herdís needed to understand what ISIC is, she said that each country is on an equal footing within ISIC and they are following what Iceland says. Guðrún said that if DÍF wants to go into ISIC/exec then they should simply put themselves forward.

Geir said he fully understood what Guðrún and Herdís said. He added that if there were always one exec member from Iceland then there would always be one person from Iceland at the meetings, then we would have to come back to the rules of procedure. He added that according to paragraph 8 in RoP then it should be known 2 months before the meeting if someone wanted to be re-elected. ISIC/

Jørgen said that the topic he would like to discuss from the Danish club was sent to ISIC/exec the 7th of September and that it was necessary to follow the deadline better, we should be on the same level and share the same information.

Ingbritt agreed and said the information should be sent out in a proper manner. She informed us that she had a computer problem and added that she has not been to many ISIC meetings. She said that she sees this as a development, we need to think about the future, things have been done in a certain way but maybe it has to develop and grow along with the modern world. She said that, for instance, we were now discussing a budget, Wilfred Olsen did not have a budget for ISIC, and we may have to look into things and change a little bit and she thought it would be wise for us to do that. She added that when Svend and Katariina came onto the board of ISIC/exec then there were 4 members at first and wondered if a 4th member should be added now so that the transition should continue and take in new blood. She asked if we should vote on the suggestion. Guðrún said that in ISIC we have always voted.

Spike said that the job of the ISIC/exec committee is to keep track of and collect information and Herdís added that it is an administrative body. Spike noted that right now there are 3 people on the ISIC/exec committee and Herdís said that is how it is right now in the rules of procedure but added that the question was if there should be 3 or 4 members in the future. Guðrún said that if ISIC can afford to have 4 people in ISIC/exec then she had no problem with that.



Geir asked people to think about travelling cost and asked how costs could be kept down to afford to have a fourth member. He added that in the end ISIC could end up as a Scandinavian organisation if we do not think about it, with Iceland on the side-lines. Ingbritt said that that should not happen because Iceland owns the breed. Geir said that the people at the ISIC seminars could, in the worst case scenario, be only from Scandinavia.

Katariina said that the idea is that if an ISIC/exec member represents his own club at the meeting then the club in their country pays half the travelling costs.

Jørgen saw no problem with expanding the ISIC/exec committee but said that we should ask what the ISIC/exec committee is and if there is a need for this committee in the future. He added that we are talking about modernizing and if the ISIC/exec committee should only organize the next seminar and what is being talked about there.

Spike asked if we were accepting the idea from Iceland and if we were to make it a 4th person. Guðrún asked if Iceland should always pay for the Icelandic member. Herdís said that then she would get a lot of questions from the club in Iceland, if everyone else were to be paid for by ISIC.

Spike asked if the idea from Iceland was accepted. He added that there is no requirement that the members of the ISIC/exec committee must be delegates from their breed club. Ingbritt noted that the Swedish club did not decide that she was to be in the ISIC/exec committee. Herdís said that this was a moot point if the answer to the first question is no and said that the chairman group can influence what people were voted onto the ISIC/exec committee. Ingbritt said that for her it was important that the person would work with the clubs in Iceland and Spike noted that the person would still have to be accepted by the chairman group.

Svend asked how the Icelandic committee member should get onto the ISIC/exec committee and said that there was another question pending.

Everyone agreed that there would always be an Icelandic representative on the ISIC/exec committee.

The chairman group decided that there would always be an Icelandic representative on the ISIC/exec committee

The other question was whether the ISIC/exec committee should be expanded to 4 persons for a transitional period.

Jørgen pointed out that this had been done before, when Svend was elected as the fourth member of ISIC/exec for one year.

Herdís said that in general it is always better to have 3 persons in an administrating body because then there will always be a majority. She said she was just thinking of whether it should be for a temporary period or if the rules of procedure should be changed, but then it would be better to have 3 or 5 member on the ISIC/exec committee. Svend said that the



people on the ISIC/exec committee know and said that Herdís said that there cannot be 4 persons on the committee. Herdís answered that she was speaking in general and asked Svend not to put words in her mouth. She reminded us that she was speaking on behalf of DÍF and asked if anything was being gained by having four persons on the committee.

Ingbritt said that for her it was important to get the thoughts of those who have been on the ISIC/exec committee for a while and added that it was important to have someone who knows how it has been done before.

Ingbritt explained that Svend wished to stay on the ISIC/exec committee and she felt it would be good to have him there, he has experience that can be transferred and therefore she supported the idea of having 4 persons on the ISIC/exec committee.

Geir suggested that it is not necessary to sit in the same room to have a meeting, everything should be possible and people just need to find a way to see it. We should do what is best for ISIC and maybe we should keep a 4th member for some years.

Katariina pointed out that financially there was no obstacle to having a 4th member. She added that in her opinion there should be 1 meeting face to face each year for the ISIC/exec committee.

Guðrún asked people to remember that we are working for the dog and that no country is more important than any other. She said that preserving the breed was the most important thing and if DÍF wanted to have a member on the working committee then we should just vote.

Jørgen asked if the chairmen were ready to vote on this. Jørgen asked whether the ISIC/exec committee could have, for example, internet meetings. He added that the ISIC/exec committee is responsible for the money ISIC has and usually have an influence on the chairman group. Jørgen suggested that a fourth member be accepted to the ISIC/exec committee for 3 years but that it should be evaluated each year.

Natasja said that the focus should not just be on the cost but also on the work.

Herdís repeated that this proposal from DÍF was not intended to be a personal attack on anyone, she thought that Jørgen's suggestion was a very good one and that it would ensure that this change would run smoothly.

Ingbritt said that we should be able to accomplish more for the breed with this and therefore she supported it. She said that the breeding committee could work more with matters like the standard.

Katariina said that she hoped that whatever was decided upon that the atmosphere would continue to be as it has been for the last 20 years within ISIC.

Everyone agreed to add a fourth member to ISIC/exec for a maximum period of three years and that it should be evaluated each year, both the cost and the work.



The chairman group agreed to add a fourth member to the ISIC/exec for a maximum period of three years, it should be evaluated each year (cost and work).

17. Appointment of a person to be one of the three members of ISIC/exec for three years.

Svend Brandt Jensen is willing to be re-elected (exec)

DÍF proposed that Guðríður Þorbjörg Valgeirsdóttir, former chairman of DÍF and former vice president of HRFÍ be elected onto the ISIC/exec committee.

Svend asked what will happen in three years' time and asked who would appoint this member. Both Herdís and Jørgen said that the chairman meeting would do that, just as they do with the other ISIC/exec members.

Herdís said on behalf of DÍF that there should be equality but it would be beneficial for the organisation to have an Icelandic member on the ISIC/exec committee. She added that all the chairmen here could propose an Icelandic person and said that if more than 1 person were to be proposed there would simply be an election.

Svend said that he had nothing against having a fourth member but added that we have to think about how to elect those people again in 3 years' time. He asked if it was fully democratic if the person has to be Icelandic. Jørgen said that it was, because Iceland is the home country of the Icelandic Sheepdog.

Guðrún said that clubs are often quarrelling but ISIC is a cooperation, not a club.

It was agreed to elect Guðríður Þorbjörg Valgeirsdóttir to ISIC/exec for 3 years.

It was agreed to re-elect Svend Brandt Jensen to ISIC/exec for 3 years.

The Chairman Group elected Guðríður Þorbjörg Valgeirsdóttir from Iceland to the ISIC/exec committee for 3 years and re-elected Svend Brandt Jensen to the ISIC/exec committee for 3 years.

18. Appointment of an auditor for three years (exec). Jan Erikson is willing to be re-elected -

Ingbritt met Jan Erikson and he said he was willing to continue as auditor and he might even come to the seminar in the USA at his own expense. It was agreed to re-elect Jan Erikson as auditor for three years.

The Chairman Group re-elected Jan Erikson as auditor for three years.



Appendix 2: DÍF's Topic for Discussion by the Joint and Chairman Groups:

ISIC meeting, Iceland, 2015

DÍF's Topic for Discussion by the Joint and Chairman Groups.

Dear ISIC exec.,

We, the DÍF board feel that as Guðrún Guðjohnsen is no longer on the ISIC exec., at least one member of the committee should be from the Icelandic sheepdog's homeland, Iceland.

DÍF are charged with the responsibility for the conservation, breeding and health of our national breed by the Icelandic Kennel Club and ISIC was formed with the Icelandic sheepdog's future and welfare in mind. We are aware that the ISIC exec. is not a decision making body but for the reasons stated above we feel it is important that the ISIC exec. should be rooted in Iceland.

We ask that this subject be discussed at the Joint and Chairman meeting at the upcoming ISIC seminar and voted on by the Chairman group.

Best regards,

Margrét Bára Magnúsdóttir

Chairman of DÍF